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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

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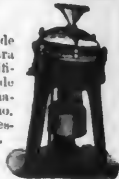


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Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

JANUARY, 1901.

WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A. :
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1901.

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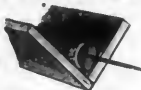
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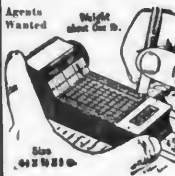


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MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,

International Union of American Republics.

Vol. X.

JANUARY, 1901.

No. 1.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1900.

According to data published by the Argentine press, the foreign commerce of the country during the first nine months of the year 1900 was as follows:

Importations, \$87,461,371 gold; exportations, \$122,518,293 gold. Compared with the same period of 1899, the imports of the Republic show an increase of more than \$200,000. There was a considerable decrease, however, in the value of the exports, the amount of the exportations being about \$5,000,000 less than the value of the exports during the same period of the previous year. The following table shows in detail the movement of the foreign trade of the nation:

Countries.	Imports.	Exports.	Countries.	Imports.	Exports.
Africa		\$2,518,388	France.....	\$8,724,739	\$11,550,856
Germany	\$12,566,877	16,511,128	Italy	11,699,361	3,213,665
West Indies	17,830	246,438	Netherlands	136,317	3,515,111
Belgium.....	6,985,157	16,169,445	Paraguay	1,371,337	131,082
Bolivia.....	92,042	530,368	Great Britain	30,111,521	16,432,663
Brazil	2,882,373	4,045,250	Uruguay.....	335,611	1,728,115
Chile	114,465	571,968	Other countries.....		5,625,345
Spain.....	2,851,622	1,722,671	Consignments abroad.....		30,266,312
United States.....	9,321,475	1,733,185			

That there is such a large total as \$30,266,312 enumerated as "consignments abroad" is due to the fact that shipments of grain are forwarded from Argentine ports without specifying their ultimate destination, the captains of the vessels being afterwards instructed,

according to the conditions of the cereal markets, where to deliver and sell such shipments.

The considerable decrease in the exportations is largely attributable to the falling off of exports caused by the prevalence of the foot-and-mouth disease among the cattle of a part of the Republic. This terrible epidemic resulted in a temporary paralyzation of one of the most important industries of the country, and, as a consequence, greatly diminished for the time being the exports of the nation.

It will be seen from the table that the imports from Great Britain were in excess of those from any other country, the next nations, in the order of their importance, being Germany, Italy, the United States, France, and Belgium. The countries receiving the largest amount of exports were Germany, Great Britain, Belgium, France, the United States, and Brazil. A very large item of export to Brazil consisted of wheat and flour, the trade in these products between the two countries having rapidly increased during the last few years.

EXPORTS OF CEREALS.

The "Review of the River Plate" states that there are three compilers of cereal export statistics in the Argentine Republic, namely, the National Statistical Office, the Commercial Telegram Bureaux, and the "Review." Their respective returns (in tons) for the first nine months of 1900 are as follows:

	Wheat.	Muize.	Linseed.
National Statistical Office.....	1,729,681	509,609	199,837
Commercial Telegram Bureaux.....	1,922,211	523,112	212,807
Review.....	1,856,288	543,763	197,464

The "Buenos Ayres Standard" says the Argentine linseed crop may amount to 600,000 tons, while the usual crop is 300,000 tons or less. Early in November the price dropped from \$5.60 gold per 100 kilograms to \$5.25 on board in the rivers, sellers, however, demanding \$5.40.

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The Government has resolved to erect near the port of Buenos Ayres a live-stock quarantine *lazaretto* and a bacteriological laboratory, which will cost about \$300,000. The plant is to include all modern appliances, the majority of which will have to be imported. The technical officials who will have under their charge the direction of the *lazaretto* and laboratory will be appointed from the Argentine Republic if the proper persons can be secured; otherwise they will be sought abroad.

SHIPMENT OF FLOUR TO PARÁ.

The "Rio News" reports that the first direct shipment of Argentine flour to the city of Pará was sent from Buenos Ayres on November 29, 1900. It consisted of 200 barrels. The Argentine millers recently began putting their flour for export into barrels made from native material, instead of in bags, as heretofore. This is due to the discrimination in favor of the former method of packing in the schedules of the Brazilian Customs Tariff Law.

CENSUS OF ROSARIO.

A census of the city of Rosario, taken in October, 1900, shows that the municipality contains 112,461 inhabitants. The increase since the previous census (1895) is 20,792. Over 2,000 houses were erected in this city within five years.

BOLIVIA.

PRODUCTION OF TIN.

The August, 1900, number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN contains a notice of the pamphlet recently published at La Paz, entitled "Tin in Bolivia," under the joint authorship of Messrs. MANUEL V. BALLIVIAN and BAUTISTA SAAVERDRA. Mr. BALLIVIAN is Director of the Bolivian Bureau of Immigration, Statistics, and Geographical Propaganda and an honorary corresponding member of the International Union of American Republics. Mr. BAUTISTA SAAVERDRA is professor in the Law Faculty at La Paz. Mr. BALLIVIAN has also prepared, in collaboration with other scientists, monographs on gold and copper in Bolivia, and has under preparation two more works on silver, and papers on the geology of the country.

Mr. BALLIVIAN says, in the above-mentioned publication, that the Bolivian tin mines are situated about 14,000 feet above sea level, between 16° and 21° south latitude in the Departments of Oruro, Potosi, La Paz, and Cochabamba. The quality of the tin varies according to the location of the mines. There are several reasons for this: First, the geological state of the ore. Sometimes the ore is found in an isolated state in a character nearly pure. Sometimes, on the contrary, as at Oruro and Potosi, it is found at a certain depth mixed with silver ores or iron pyrites in the proportion of 5 to 20 per cent. It is in washing the silver that tin of a generally inferior quality is obtained as a subsidiary product.

It is also found sometimes in the form of *palla*, or of very compact metal, or again in the form of *llampu*, or small metal mixed with clay.

Linseed.

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In the first case the tin so obtained will be rich; in the second, on the other hand, on account of its alloy, it will fluctuate between 10 and 15 per cent. The degree of pure metal in this ore is very unequal in the different deposits. Compared with the insignificant regions like those in Cochabamba, the tin mines in the districts of Potosi, and especially in Oruro, are of much greater importance. Of 37 veins which are actually being developed in Bolivia, 25 are found in this last-named Department.

In Oruro the mining machinery used is much superior to that employed in the other Departments. It is at Huanuni, the most important of the Bolivian tin mines, that the methods of working are the most perfect. With the use of more modern machinery the production of *barilla* will reach 6,000 quintals per month. The Antofagasta railway is another great advantage for this district, thanks to the great saving in transportation expenses. It is due to this fact that the Department of Oruro contributes a large third of the total exports of ores, which have considerably increased in the last half century.

In 1846 the export of tin *barilla* amounted to 920,000 kilograms. During the period from 1846 to 1897, the yearly average rose to 1,824,550, and in 1899 the total exports were 5,240,455 kilograms, of which 3,339,995 were *barilla*. According to the official figures communicated by the Customs Bureau to the Statistical Bureau of La Paz, the exports of tin ore reached 2,346,000 kilograms during the first quarter of 1900, which, if maintained during the year, will give a value double that for 1899.

"The county of Cornwall, England, has already been practically exhausted, and if its mineral yield continues to increase the day is not far distant when the Republic of Bolivia, which can yearly produce as much as 100,000,000 kilograms of this ore, will rival the Dutch East Indies and Australia, which are at present the most important tin-producing countries."

But in order to obtain this result there are many difficulties to be overcome and numerous obstacles to be surmounted. First of all, the means of transportation must be enlarged and cheapened by an increase in the ways of communication, which at present are wholly inadequate to meet the demands. On the other hand, the mine owners or their engineers should have the machinery of their establishments rejuvenated. Foreign capital should be enlisted. The increase in the price of tin alone from £85 to £152 per ton during the last fifty years should be sufficient to attract the attention of capitalists to a region where tin is so plentiful.

The extraction and exportation of tin ore in Bolivia were exempt from fiscal charges until June, 1863. But the law of September 12 of that year subjected the exportation of tin bars and *barilla* to special taxes of 10 and 5 *centavos* per Spanish quintal (46 kilograms),

respectively. In 1890 the great development of the industry brought about the law of October 25, which raised the rates to 50 and 35 *centavos*. Finally the Government promulgated, May 26, 1899, a decree which raised the tax on tin in bars to 1.60 *bolivianos* and that on tin ore *barilla* to 1 *boliviano* per quintal.

The duties collected by the Bolivian custom-house on the exports of bismuth and tin during the decade 1889-1899 are shown in the figures given below. The sextuple increase in these taxes at the end of ten years is another eloquent demonstration of the continued development of this industry.

	Bolivianos. ¹		Bolivianos. ¹
1889.....	19,000	1895.....	37,440
1890.....	20,000	1896.....	35,800
1891.....	21,000	1897.....	67,730
1892.....	23,000	1898.....	80,000
1893.....	25,400	1899.....	120,000
1894.....	31,960		

EXTRADITION AND PARCELS POST TREATIES WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Bolivia has duly sanctioned, and the President of the Republic has promulgated, the decree approving the Extradition Treaty which, under date of April 21, 1900, was signed in the city of La Paz by the Minister for Foreign Relations of the nation, and Mr. GEORGE H. BRIDGMAN, Minister of the United States near the Government of Bolivia. The decree orders the respective ratification of the treaty referred to. The decree sanctioning the Parcels Post Treaty, signed by the same diplomats, was also duly promulgated by the President of Bolivia on November 3, 1900.

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROADS.

The President of the Republic has promulgated a law passed by the National Congress providing that the receipts from the tax on alcohol and distilled liquors and the product of the tax on crude rubber produced in the Department of La Paz be applied, for a period of three years, to the construction of a railroad from Lake Titicaca to the city of La Paz, in conformity with the plans approved by the Government.

The Executive has also been authorized to formulate the conditions of a contract for the construction of a railway from Viacha to Oruro in connection with branch lines from Guayqini to La Paz and from Oruro to Cochabamba, offering as a guarantee for the building of same the first section of the Titicaca to La Paz Railway that may be constructed, together with the receipts from the tax on alcohol for such a time as may be necessary, paying interest on the amount invested at the rate of 6 per cent per annum.

¹ A boliviano is worth \$0.468 United States currency.

NEW TRADE ROUTE.

A Corumbá correspondent of the "Jornal do Comercio," of Brazil, writes that the projected exploration of the Upper Paraguay River and Lake Gaiba is designed to open up a new trade route for Bolivia. Owing to the uncertain nature of navigation on the Paragnay to Corumbá, which is frequently unnavigable because of low water, the Bolivian town of Puerto Suarez, opposite Corumbá, is closed to trade for the greater part of the year. With a port at Gaiba the river route will be reduced by from 20 to 30 leagues, and the land journey to the interior will also be shortened. The land is also higher and healthier. It is believed that the creation of a port of entry at that point will be of the greatest benefit to Bolivia, and will also tend to benefit the river trade.

BRAZIL.**BOUNDARY WITH FRENCH GUIANA.**

The award of the Swiss Federal Council in the matter of the boundary question between the Brazilian and French Republics, growing out of the frontier line of French Guiana, the origin of which dates back to the latter part of the seventeenth century, was delivered in Berne to the interested parties on the 1st of December, 1900. The boundaries, according to the award, are on the one side the Oyapoc, and on the other the division line of the waters of the Amazon basin from the head source of the Oyapoc to the frontier of Dutch Guiana, or, in other words, the line of the Tucumaque range.

By this decision Brazil obtains the maritime boundary which Portugal has steadily claimed since 1688. France had always claimed the Araguay River, a parallel line to the Amazon, and the left bank of the Rio Branco.

The award allots to Brazil 147,000 square miles of the disputed territory, and about 3,000 square miles on the north side of the Tucumaque Mountains to France.

As translated, the decision of the Federal Council of Switzerland was as follows:

"1. That the Japoc or Vincente Pinçon of article 8 of the Treaty of Utrecht is the Oyapoc that debouches to the west of Cape Orange, as has been established by the documents which Brazil has submitted to the tribunal, and that the thalweg of that river, from its mouth to its source, definitively constitutes the first of the frontier lines between Brazil and French Guiana.

"2. That the other frontier line, from the source of the Oyapoc to the point of junction with the Dutch territory, will be that which article 2 of the Treaty of Arbitration indicated as an intermediate

solution—that is to say, the line of division of the waters in the Tumuc-Humac Mountains forming the northern limit of the Amazon basin.”

COMMERCE OF RIO DE JANEIRO AND SANTOS.

According to the “Boletín del Servicio Comercial,” published in Rio de Janeiro, the exportations for the first half of the year 1900 through that port and Santos amounted to £6,035,866. The exportations are divided into four principal classes, as follows: The first consists of animals and animal products, the second of minerals and mineral products, the third of vegetables and vegetable products, and the fourth is classified as “values.”

The same publication states that the coffee shipped from Rio de Janeiro and Santos during the time referred to was valued at £5,490,638. The number of sacks containing 60 kilograms each exported was 1,309,248 from the port of Rio Janeiro, 1,458,670 from Santos, 108,191 from Victoria, and 53,150 from Bahia, or a total of 2,292,259 sacks. The exportations of coffee to the United States during this period were as follows: To New York 1,493,460, to Baltimore 161,305, to New Orleans 67,236, and to Galveston 21,905 bags.

During the first six months of 1900, 691 steamships and 203 sailing vessels entered the port of Rio de Janeiro, and 704 steamships and 218 sailing vessels cleared from that port. At the port of Santos the movement during the same period was as follows: 257 steamships entered and 261 cleared, while 27 sailing vessels entered and 30 cleared.

SUMMARY OF THE CONSULAR INVOICE LAW.

The new consular invoice law, which was to have come into effect on January 1, 1901, is summarized as follows:

All merchandise, including specie and bullion, dispatched from foreign countries for Brazilian ports must be accompanied by the corresponding consular invoices, with the exceptions enumerated in article 3.

These invoices may be made out in Portuguese or in the language in use at the port of shipment, and must be legalized exclusively at that port.

The declarations contained in the invoice shall determine:

(1) Name of the ship in which the goods are shipped; (2) port of shipment; (3) port of destination; (4) value of the goods; (5) freight and expenses; (6) premium on the money current at the port of shipment, if any.

On the back of the invoice the goods are to be detailed, giving marks and numbers of the packages, specifications of the merchandise, its net and gross weight; value, including or excluding freight and expenses, of each different kind of goods, and country of origin of same.

These data are obligatory, including the statement of approximate freight and expenses, and omissions will make consignees liable to fines.

Description of the merchandise may be either specific, giving the name of each separate article, with the material of which it is composed, or may be generic, in accordance with the official nomenclature organized for that purpose. It is, however, absolutely forbidden to make use of generalizations, such as "cotton textiles," "ironware," etc., not admitted in this nomenclature. Infringement in this respect will subject the consignee to fines.

Translations have been prepared of the nomenclature and regulations into English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish and will be shortly available.

Although declaration of origin is exacted, proofs will not be demanded at present, nor until a differential tariff be enforced against the goods of any country, of which there is no immediate prospect.

The routine to be followed with regard to these invoices is as follows:

(1) The invoice must be filled up by the merchant and forwarded to his agent (if shipped at another place) to be legalized (*viséé*) at that consulate. The original, of which three copies are to be made, must be stamped and, after being *viséé*, be handed to the shipper to be forwarded with the bill of lading to the master of the vessel, who, in his turn, must return it with the corresponding invoice and manifest to the Consul to be forwarded to the respective custom-house. The captain must note in the margin of his manifest any goods shipped for which no invoices have been received, his notes being certified to by the Consul, as also the cause of nonreception of the invoices by the captain. On this being done, the captain will have no further responsibility on arrival; otherwise he will be liable to fine for nondelivery of invoice.

(2) Of the three copies of the original invoice, one will be forwarded by the Consul to the Statistical Bureau, a second will be retained at the consulate, and the third handed to the shipper to be forwarded to the consignee to accompany dispatch of the goods at the custom-house. Without the corresponding invoice, no dispatch can be granted except on signature of a bond (*termo de responsabilidade*).

(3) The declaration of the invoice may be made in the language used at the port of shipment or in Portuguese, as desired, a translation of same being in the former case presented by the consignee on dispatch of goods at the custom-house; this translation need not necessarily be by public translator.

The fee for legalization of consular invoices will, for the current year, be 5 *milreis* gold (\$2.73), payable in stamps to be applied to the original only. This, of course, does not exempt from payment of the tax on bills of lading (2 *milreis*). It is, however, proposed to reduce

the dues for consular invoices to 3 *milreis* (\$1.64) only, and an amendment to that effect has been introduced into the estimates by the Senate.

THE NAVAL FORCE FOR 1901.

The National Congress has decreed and the President of the Republic has sanctioned the following law:

"The Naval force for 1901 shall consist—

- "1. Of the regular officers of the Navy and subordinate departments.
- "2. Of cadet midshipmen to the maximum number of 180.
- "3. Of a force of 4,000 national sailors, including 300 men for the three companies unattached and 100 for the company of the State of Matto Grosso.
- "4. Of 700 men to be enlisted in accordance with the regulations promulgated for the supernumerary force.
- "5. Of 1,500 sailor apprentices.
- "6. Of 450 men of the marine corps.
- "7. In time of war, of double the number of men mentioned in sections 3, 4, 5, and 6.

"ART. 2. Marines and ex-sailors who shall enlist and serve for more than three years and then reenlist for at least two years more shall have the right at each enlistment to the value in money of the uniform which is distributed free of charge to recruits."

IMMIGRATION CONTRACT.

The Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works of Brazil, in accordance with act No. 710, of August 28, has called for proposals for the introduction into Brazil of 30,000 immigrants. Proposals must be delivered to the Department by noon on the 19th of February, 1901, and must be accompanied by a certificate of the deposit in the State Treasury of the sum of 5,000 *milreis*. Bidders may present proposals for the whole number of immigrants to be introduced or for a part of this number. They must state in their proposals the nationality of the immigrants they intend to introduce, the country of origin, the time during which the number of immigrants proposed are to be introduced, and the price of the passage of each. The latter must include all expenses incurred in the transportation of immigrants and their baggage to the port of Santos, together with the cost of disembarkation. Immigrants and their baggage will be transported from Santos to Rio de Janeiro at the expense of the State. Immigrants must be constituted in families and must devote themselves exclusively to agricultural pursuits. They must be of good character and each family must have at least one member who is competent to perform manual labor. Able-bodied persons over 12 and under 45 years may be considered as laborers.

NEW STEAMSHIP LINE.

The Governor of the State of Pará has promulgated a law establishing a line of steamships between Pará and Europe. According to the terms of this law the Government will receive bids for the founding of said line of ships between Pará and a Russian port on the Baltic Sea, with stopping places at different points along the route. The ships must have a velocity of 14 miles an hour, a minimum capacity of 2,000 tons of freight, and accommodations for 300 passengers.

PROJECTED ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

A project is on foot for the construction of an electric railroad from Piraciçaba to Villa Americana, in the State of São Paulo. The last-named station is in the old American colony of Santa Barbara. The estimated cost of the line is said to be \$2,500,000. Permission to construct it has been asked of the São Paulo Legislature.

CHILE.**PRESIDENTIAL CABINET.**

The Bureau of the American Republics has been advised by the Department of State that the United States Minister, under date of Santiago, November 9, 1900, reports the formation of the following Presidential Cabinet:

Minister of the Interior, Señor MARIANO SANCHEZ FONTICELLA.

Minister of Foreign Relations, Señor EMILIO BELLO CODESIDO.

Minister of Justice and Public Instruction, Señor FRANCISCO HERBOSO.

Minister of the Treasury, Señor NICOLAS GONZALEZ ERIZURIZ.

Minister of War and Marine, Señor ARTURO BESA.

Minister of Industry and Public Works, Señor MANUEL COVARRÁBIAS.

SULPHUR DEPOSITS.

The German Consul at Taena has made a report to his Government which contains the following with reference to the sulphur deposits of the Republic:

Sulphur has been mined in Chile since 1888, and the deposits have been developed to such an extent that Sicilian sulphur, which has hitherto been imported in large quantities into the neighboring Province of Tarapaca, where the world's largest supply of nitrate of soda is found, has been gradually and almost entirely superseded by the home market. Large and partly open layers of the almost pure product are present in extensive stretches. The average percentage in the raw material amounts to 80 per cent of pure sulphur. Although the mate-

rial has to be transported to Tacna on mules, it there competes with the Italian article, and would soon supplant the latter if better facilities for transportation were provided.

The deposits in the Province of Tacna are located around the Tacora and on the mountain of Chipiquina, two high cliffs, distant about 21 Spanish miles from Tacna. So far three sulphur-producing enterprises have been started. They are owned, respectively, by a Spaniard, a German, and a Chilean. Owing to the lack of a road, except a mule-way, these producers can ship only a very limited quantity to the seacoast; yet their enterprise is highly profitable, and has attracted the attention of United States and German capitalists. A New York syndicate has already been started with a capital of \$5,000,000, and proposes to extend the mines which are in operation on the Tacora and Chipiquina.

The syndicate sent out a commission in 1899 composed of three mining and railroad engineers and a lawyer, who, after investigation, made proposals to the owners concerning the acquisition of their claims. The Spaniard and Chilean have accepted. The syndicate has proposed to pay the appraised value of the claims in stock or shares, to be placed on sale in the exchange markets. It contemplates the establishment of very extensive works and the building of a cable road 6 miles long across the mountains to San Francisco, in the Province of Tacna, or to construct a railway from the mines to Tacna, in order to ship the sulphur from that port in sailing vessels to New York. The syndicate calculates upon a monthly product of 10,000 tons of raw sulphur, in which case the cost of a ton would figure about \$15, delivered in New York.

It is not certain, however, that the Government will grant a license to build a road, as a license was granted to a railway company to build a road to San Francisco years ago. The export of sulphur to the nitrate mines during the three years was: 1896, 1,016 tons; 1897, 1,639 tons; 1898, 2,060 tons.

COSTA RICA.

THE PRODUCTION OF COFFEE.

The article on "Coffee in Costa Rica" here presented is based upon data taken from an interesting and useful publication recently compiled by Señor DON JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Costa Rica near the Government of the United States. A number of comprehensive statistical tables illustrative of the subject were prepared by Mr. CALVO, and valuable comparisons were made therefrom.

These show that the exports to Europe from the coffee-producing

countries of the world during the year 1899 consisted of 9,165,700 sacks, of which there were consumed 8,867,400 sacks, leaving on hand at the close of that year 298,300 sacks of the 1899 crop, which, added to the stock on hand of the previous years, 3,816,500 sacks, makes a total reserve of available coffee in the markets of Europe of 4,114,800 sacks. The importations into the United States during the same period were 6,433,900 sacks, 6,271,900 of which were consumed during the year, leaving a balance on hand at the close of 1899 of 162,000 sacks, which, added to the stocks of the previous years, 918,000 sacks, makes the total stock of coffee at the beginning of 1900 on hand in the United States equal to 1,080,000 sacks. Comparing the consumption of 1899 with that of the four preceding years, an increase is noted in the amount of this product consumed during the period named of nearly 1,000,000 sacks annually.

Costa Rican coffee is quite similar in appearance to the celebrated Java coffee, the grains of both varieties being thick, oblong, and of a yellowish and sometimes greenish hue. It is a well-known fact that in Europe, and to some extent in the United States, Costa Rican coffee is often sold under the name of "Java" or "Mocha," which it very much resembles, not only in appearance, but also in the delicacy of its flavor, which is so highly relished and appreciated by the consuming public. The Agricultural Department of the United States, at the solicitation of the Costa Rican legation, analyzed a number of samples taken indiscriminately from different lots of coffee from that Republic, and found them to contain from 1.16 to 1.27 per cent of caffeine. The quality of the coffee, however, does not depend upon the greater or lesser percentage of caffeine that it contains, but its great desirability and popularity is due to the rich flavor of the extract.

The consumption of Costa Rican coffee in the United States as well as in Europe is constantly increasing, and the high prices it commands compared with those obtained for coffees of the same grade from other countries is proof of its growing popularity in the coffee-consuming countries of the world.

ECUADOR.

COMMERCIAL SITUATION.

The "Revista Comercial," of Guayaquil, in a recent number contains an article on the mercantile situation of the country during the months of September and October, 1900. Said publication refers to the activity with which the works of the Southern Railway and the contract approved by Congress for the construction of an iron highway between the Bay of Caraquez and Quito have been pushed forward.

The plan for the construction of an iron wharf at the port of Guayaquil, submitted to Congress by Messrs. MARTIN REINBERG & Co., is also discussed and commented upon.

Referring to the crop of cacao harvested up to the 31st of October, 1900, it is estimated at 315,094 quintals, as against 466,647 quintals produced during the same period of the previous year. The exportation of this fruit during the first ten months of 1900 is estimated to be 13,626,412 kilograms, 6,176,422 kilograms of which went to France, 2,055,362 to the United States, 2,035,909 to England, 1,742,168 to Germany, and 1,370,029 to Spain. None of the other countries to which this fruit was exported took more than 57,000 kilograms.

The exportations of coffee during the same period amounted to 1,406,367 kilograms, the first market of importance being Chile, which took 601,471 kilograms, and the second the United States, to which country there were sent 295,249 kilograms. The next countries in importance with respect to the coffee trade were Germany, England, and France, in the order named.

In the city of Guayaquil the street railway companies did a large and profitable business during the period in question, their receipts for September and October being 203,628 *soles*.

The law imposing an importation tax of 23 per cent on the value of imports and 50 per cent on the amount of the exports was duly sanctioned by the President. The first percentage named governs all the articles brought into the country on and after the 1st of January, 1901, and the second applies to all products exported since the 15th of December, 1900, with the exception of coffee, "toquilla" straw for the manufacture of hats and ivory nuts.

DISPOSITION OF EXPORT TAXES.

"El Registro Oficial," of Quito, publishes a decree of the National Assembly, promulgated under date of October 12, 1900, declaring that the tax of 80 cents per quintal of coffee laid upon this article in the Province of El Oro shall be invested as follows: One-half shall be applied to the continuation of construction of the Machala and Cuenca Railway, and the remainder to the canalization of rivers and the erection of a hospital and municipal building.

GUATEMALA.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

The Belgian Chargé d'Affaires at Guatemala writes, in a report to his Government, that among the leading articles imported by Guatemala are, first, cotton goods, used principally by Indians and the poorer classes of the population. Then follow material for railways, tele-

graph and electrical supplies, woolen goods, flour, building materials, manufactured iron, canned goods, wines and liquors, brandies, silks, drugs and medicines, beer, machinery, paper, sheet iron for roofing, leather articles, glassware, crockery, terra cotta, etc.

Cotton goods come principally from England, the other important sources of supply being Germany, the United States, and France. Material for railways and telegraph and electrical supplies are especially imported from the United States. England and Germany, however, also furnish a large part. Woolen goods come from France, Germany, and England. Switzerland also sends a certain quantity of woolen goods. Flour is imported almost entirely from the United States, as well as are building materials. Manufactured iron is imported from the United States, Germany, and England.

Canned goods are for the most part imported from the United States, Germany, and France. Spain, Italy, and England also contribute to this importation. Wines and liquors come especially from France. Spanish, Californian, Italian, and German wines, however, figure largely in this importation. About one-half of the brandies are furnished by France; the United States, Spain, Germany, England, and Italy furnishing the remainder. Drugs and medicines are imported from the United States, France, Germany, and England. Beer comes mostly from Germany and the United States. England also furnishes a certain quantity. Machinery is principally imported from United States factories, but Germany, England, and France also supply the market to some extent. Paper comes in great part from Germany and France. The United States, Spain, England, and Italy also furnish paper in small quantities. Sheet iron for roofing comes principally from England and Germany. France and the United States figure for very small quantities in the importation of this article. Silks are imported from several countries. These countries, according to the quantities furnished, are France, United States, England, Germany, Japan, China, and Italy. Leather articles come almost entirely from German, North American, English, and French factories. Glassware, crockery, and terra cotta are imported from Germany, Belgium, France, and the United States.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

On the 3d of December, 1900, the President of the Republic of Guatemala, Señor DON MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA, delivered to the National Legislative Assembly, at the opening of its special session, a notable message, referring exclusively to affairs of the Northern Railway, the completion of which, the President states, will be a most important event and one of far-reaching consequences with respect to the future development of the country. He submitted to the consid-

eration of the Congress a contract for the completion of construction of this important iron highway, which, commercially speaking, is an undertaking of the greatest interest, and one closely connected with the material progress and welfare of the Republic. When this railway is completed and opened to traffic it will place the northern part of Guatemala in direct communication with the principal commercial nations of the world. The contract was subsequently ratified.

The contract referred to was made with Mr. RICHARD BARTHEL who represented "The Central American Company, Incorporated." According to the conditions of this contract the railroad must be completed from its actual terminus, at a place called "El Rancho," to the city of Guatemala, a distance of about 60 miles. As a guaranty for the cost of construction the Government of Guatemala proposes to issue \$4,000,000 6 per cent gold-bearing bonds, redeemable within ten years from the date of the signing of the contract. At the expiration of ten years, and upon the due compliance of the terms and conditions of the contract, the railroad, with all of its rolling stock and appurtenances, will become the property of the Government.

NEW MINING LAW.

"El Gualtemalteco," official organ of the Guatemalan Government, in its issue of November 19, 1900, publishes the important mining law which was promulgated by the President on November 12, 1900. The mining industry of Guatemala is a branch of the natural wealth of the nation that offers exceedingly favorable and flattering opportunities for the profitable employment of both capital and labor, and is capable of being greatly developed. With an earnest desire for the protecting, fostering, and placing upon a better and more solid basis this promising industry, the National Legislative Assembly has passed the following law:

"ARTICLE I. No person shall hold in his own name the title to more than one mine.

"ART. II. Corporations consisting of three or more persons may obtain a concession for the exploitation of not more than three mines.

"ART. III. Under the limitations established by the law now in force, the owners of mines the titles to which have already been granted shall conserve the rights they may have acquired.

"ART. IV. All the legal requirements of the mining code not in conflict with the present law shall remain in force."

MEXICO.

THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET.

With one exception the Cabinet of President Díaz remains as during the last year of his previous term. The personnel of this able body is now as follows:

- Señor DON IGNACIO MARISCAL, Minister of Foreign Relations.
 Gen. BERNARDO REYES, Minister of War and Marine.
 Señor DON JOSÉ IVÉS LIMANTOUR, Minister of Finance.
 Señor DON MANUEL GONZALEZ COSIO, Minister of the Interior.
 Señor DON JOAQUIN BARANDA, Minister of Justice and Education.
 Gen. FRANCISCO Z. MENA, Minister of Communications.
 Señor DON LEANDRO FERNANDEZ, Minister of Fomento or Encouragement.

The last named is the only new Cabinet officer. Señor DON MANUEL FERNANDEZ LEAL, who had been connected with that branch of the Government for nearly forty years, and had been Minister of Fomento for ten years, resigned and took the less exacting position of Director of the Mint.

The new Minister of Fomento is about 50 years of age, and is a civil and topographical engineer. He perfected himself in his studies in the United States, and since 1874 has been a professor in the National College of Engineers. He served for one year as Governor of the State of Durango. He has visited the United States frequently in a professional way.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, 1899-1900.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN for October, 1900, referred to the finances of Mexico, and gave the approximate receipts of the nation for the fiscal year 1899-1900, stating at the time that the disbursements were not then obtainable. The "Diario Oficial" of the City of Mexico has just published the official figures for the fiscal year 1899-1900, giving the total receipts from all sources as \$64,261,076.39 and the total disbursements as \$57,944,687.85, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$6,316,388.54. In addition to the usual receipts, the special receipts, including the return made by the Government of the United States of the Abra mining claim, amounted to \$720,477.11. Comparing these figures with those of the five preceding years, it is seen that the excess of receipts over expenditures has fluctuated considerably, the greatest excess having been in 1898-99 and the smallest surplus in the year 1897-98.

BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1901-2.

On the 14th of December, 1900, the Minister of Finance, Mr. José IVÉS LIMANTOUR, submitted to the National Congress the budget for the fiscal year 1901-2.

In this report the receipts for the year are estimated at \$61,694,000 and the disbursements at \$61,577,990.24, which leaves an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$116,009.76. The importations, which in 1897-98 amounted to \$97,000,000, increased to \$107,000,000 in 1898-99, while the exportations were \$137,000,000 and \$148,000,000, respectively. In the fiscal year 1899-1900 the importations reached the enormous sum of \$129,000,000, \$22,000,000 more than those of the previous year. The exports in 1899-1900 were \$158,000,000, or \$10,000,000 more than those of the previous year. These exports were divided into two classes: (1) Precious metals, the value of which was \$79,200,000, and (2) other articles, the exports of which were valued at \$79,000,000.

The exportation of Mexican dollars in 1900 from July to October, inclusive, through the custom-houses of Ciudad Juarez (El Paso), Vera Cruz, Mazatlan, Progreso, Nogales, and Laredo amounted to \$10,600,000; that is to say, an increase of \$8,600,000 more than the exportations of coin during the same months of the previous year. The coinage during the months referred to amounted, in 1900, to \$5,184,534, or \$1,200,000 less than the coinage of the same months of 1899.

The amount of silver on hand in the authorized banks of the Republic during the first ten months of the year 1900 has fluctuated between fifty and fifty-seven millions of dollars, this fluctuation being due to various causes, one of which was the scarcity of fractional coin and the decreased introduction into the mints of the nation of bar silver for coinage. This latter occurrence was not due to any falling off in the output of the mines, notwithstanding the fact that the increase in the production of bullion was not quite as pronounced as in former years. What has happened is that the large metallurgical establishments of the country are diminishing daily the output of the smaller smelters which operate according to the old system, and the large smelters, being situated near the border or the coast, export their products direct. Two causes have materially increased the exportation of Mexican dollars. One of these is the increased demand for this coin in Asia on account of the Chinese war, and the other is the rise in the value of silver due to the heavy consumption of this metal in India.

The importation duties for 1899-1900 amounted to \$27,696,979, and in the budget for 1901-2 they are calculated at \$26,000,000, the exportation duties for 1901-2 being estimated at \$691,000. The duties on foreign commerce from all sources are calculated at \$28,016,000;

receipts from stamps and other taxes, \$26,024,000; taxes in the Federal District and Territories, \$3,288,000; receipts from public service and minor revenues, \$4,366,000, or a grand total of \$61,694,000.

SILVER BARS FOR COINAGE.

During the latter part of November the Minister of Finance issued a printed circular letter regarding the receipts of silver bullion at the mints for coinage. This is self-explanatory, the translation reading as follows:

“With the object of increasing the facilities which the regulations of March 27, 1897, afford to the producers of silver bullion for the introduction into the mints of bars for coinage, the President of the Republic has been pleased to direct that, until further orders, the Director-General of the Mints shall give instructions for the admission into those establishments and into the Federal assay offices of bars eight hundred and fifty one-thousandths fine, in lieu of the standard of nine hundred one-thousandths in fineness established as a minimum by article 9 of said regulations; provided that, in the opinion of the Director and in consideration of the object sought, the nature of the bars in question does not hamper the work of the mints.

“In order to increase the coinage of the national money and to relieve as far as possible the uneasiness caused by the scarcity of currency, which is exported in abundance, due to the premium commanded by our dollars in foreign markets, the President of the Republic, desiring to stimulate the introduction of mixed bars into the mints, has been pleased to direct that from December 1, 1900, until March 31, 1901, the tariff of separation dues (*derechos de apartado*) established by Section IV of Article 1 of the Decree of March 27, 1897, shall be reduced to the following rates:

When the proportion of gold does not exceed two hundred one-thousandths per kilogram	\$0.75
When the proportion of gold exceeds two hundred and does not exceed four hundred one-thousandths	per kilogram .. 1.20
When the proportion of gold exceeds four hundred but not six hundred one-thousandths	per kilogram .. 1.00
When the proportion of gold exceeds six hundred one-thousandths per kilogram	2.00

“In no case shall less than 50 cents be collected.”

FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR THREE MONTHS.

During the first quarter of the fiscal year 1900-1901—the months of July, August, and September—the résumé published by the Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Mexico shows that the foreign commerce of the nation was as follows:

Importations, \$13,965,793.38, as compared with \$12,797,434, for the same period in 1899. The importations are given in gold at

the declared invoiced value. During the months mentioned Mexico imported from the United States goods to the value of \$6,562,113.93, Mexican silver, as against \$6,266,409 during the same period of the year 1899, and exported to the United States during July, August, and September, 1900, products valued at \$29,537,986.24, Mexican silver, as against \$25,187,680 during the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

The bulk of the importations were made through the maritime custom-houses of the Gulf of Mexico, the value of the products thus imported amounting to more than \$9,000,000, Mexican silver, while the importations through the custom-houses of the northern frontier exceeded \$4,000,000, Mexican silver. The same conditions apply to the exportations, the exports through the Gulf ports during the period in question having amounted to more than \$22,000,000, while those through the frontier custom-houses were about \$4,000,000.

PROMOTERS OF INVESTMENTS.

A company has been organized in the city of Monterey, State of Nuevo Leon, Mexico, under the direction of Señor Don JULIO GALINDO, a lawyer and jurist, for the purpose of promoting the investment of foreign capital in that Republic. As the prospectus of the company shows, it will pay especial attention to the registration of foreign trade-marks, the securing of patents, the obtaining of titles to mines, the procuring of concessions for waterworks, drainage and sanitary installations, railways and tramways, industrial and electrical enterprises, the solicitation of franchises for industrial establishments, the furnishing of reports on mines, plantations, etc., the making of abstracts and the registration of real estate conveyances and transfers, and, in a word, the transaction of all kinds of business that may be thought of interest and importance to investors.

COTTON MANUFACTORIES.

The "Diario Oficial" of December 18, 1900, contains a complete list of the 133 cotton, yarn, and cloth mills engaged in the manufacture of these articles in the Republic, together with the names of the owners and their post-office addresses. These mills will pay into the National Treasury, as a stamp tax for the half year commencing January 1, and ending June 30, 1901, the sum of \$788,244.90.

"El Hacendado Mexicano" calls attention to the fact that a number of the cotton manufacturers of the Republic have been compelled to temporarily close their mills, due to the great scarcity of raw cotton. The cotton crop of the United States for 1900 was below the average, and this, together with the small production of Mexican cotton during that year, has caused a rise in the price of cotton goods. A consider-

ble quantity of raw cotton will have to be imported into Mexico from the United States in order to supply the large consumptive demand of the manufactories of cotton fabrics in that Republic.

PRODUCTION OF RICE.

The following figures, taken from "El Hacendado Mexicano," show the production of rice in the different States of Mexico during the year 1898 to have been as follows:

Morelos.....	\$685,000	San Luis Potosí	\$47,000
Vera Cruz.....	539,000	Guerrero	46,000
Michoacán.....	306,000	Tabasco.....	23,000
Colima.....	202,000	Territory of Tepic	153,000
Oaxaca.....	123,000		
Puebla.....	91,000		2,291,000
Jalisco.....	76,000		

The number of kilograms produced in the Republic was about 21,000,000, the State of Morelos being the largest producer not only of rice but also of sugar.

PREVENTION OF INSECT DEPREDATIONS.

The Minister of Fomento last year appointed a committee bearing the title "La Comisión de Parasitología" to investigate the depredations committed by insects in the orange and other fruit-growing districts and to adopt measures for their eradication. One result of the work of the commission is already apparent in the Yautepec orange-growing district. Through the destruction of the insect that caused such loss to the orange crop the depredations there have decreased over 40 per cent. The insects are killed by means of a liquid spray.

NEW SUGAR REFINING COMPANY.

"El Correo de Sotavento," an important publication of Tlacotalpam, State of Vera Cruz, is authority for the statement that there has been organized in New Orleans a company known as the "Mexican Sugar Refining Company, Limited," with a capital of \$600,000, gold. This company proposes to engage in the cultivation of sugar cane and rice in the vicinity of Tlacotalpam. It also has in contemplation the erection of a paper factory, using as fuel bagasse and rice stalks. Irrigation canals will be opened, railways constructed, and a line of steamships operated when the necessities of the business so require.

SMELTHER FOR SULPHUROUS ORES.

The Mexican Government has made a contract with the "Compañía Ferrocarrilera y Minera de Azufre" (Sulphur Mining and Railway Company), by which the latter agrees to establish a smelter at Carbonera, district of Cerillos, State of San Luis Potosí. The most com-

plete machinery and processes will be used in the equipment of the plant, which will make a specialty of the reduction of sulphurous ores and the treatment of the by-products.

NICARAGUA.

IMPORTANT STEAMSHIP CONCESSION.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN for December, 1900, mentioned the fact that a steamship concession had been granted to Mr. JOSEPH FRYE, of Boston, by the Nicaraguan Government. Since then the contract has been published in full and shows that the concession is a very important one.

The concessionaire binds himself to establish within six months, on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua, a line of steamers to ply between Bluefields, San Juan del Norte, Limon, Bocas, and Colón; and between Bluefields, Corn Island, Great River, Prinzapulca, Cape Gracias a Dios, and Ceiba, or Puerto Cortez, for the term of twenty-five years, commencing from the date of the ratification of this contract by the assembly.

The steamers in service between Bluefields and Colón are to be not less than 80 feet in length by 16 feet beam and 45 tons burden, and those between Bluefields and Puerto Cortez not less than 110 feet in length by 22 feet in beam, and from 85 to 100 tons burden, and the steamers of both lines are to be appropriate for the service on the coast. These steamers are to be replaced by larger ones when the increase of traffic and necessities of commerce on the coast demand it.

The steamers are to make at the very least the following trips: Between Bluefields, San Juan del Norte, Limón, Bocas, and Colón, and vice versa, three trips a month; between Bluefields, Corn Island, Great River, Prinzapulca, Cape Gracias, Ceiba, and Puerto Cortez, two trips a month; between Bluefields and Rama, two trips a week; between Bluefields and New Orleans, 6 trips a month. The concessionaire contracts to carry the mails of the Government from Bluefields to New Orleans at least 8 times a month; between Bluefields and San Juan del Norte, Limón, Bocas, and Colón, 3 times a month; between Bluefields and Corn Island, Great River, Prinzapulca, Cape Gracias, Ceiba, or Puerto Cortez, twice a month; and between Bluefields and Rama twice a week without any remuneration whatever. But it is understood that the mail bags will be received by and delivered to the agent of the company in the respective post-offices.

To the Government is conceded annually the following free round-trip passages, 24 in each instance: First class from Bluefields to New Orleans; between Bluefields and Colón or any intermediate port; first

and second class between Bluefields and San Juan del Norte; first class between Bluefields, Ceiba, or Puerto Cortez, or any intermediate port; also 100 first-class passages between Bluefields and Rama and return, and 300 passages between Bluefields and the Bluff and return.

The contract is very explicit and complete and covers every possible contingency. Mr. FRYE is to receive from the Government a monthly subvention of \$1,000, gold. Six months have been conceded to him for the organization of the line of steamers between Bluefields and Puerto Cortez and between the port of San Juan del Norte and bar of said port, it being stipulated that during these six months the subvention of the Government will be \$500 United States gold per month.

On his own part Mr. FRYE was required to deposit the sum of \$20,000 for the faithful performance of his contract.

THREAD AND CLOTH MILL CONCESSION.

The Consul of the United States at San Juan del Norte states that on September 22, 1900, the Government of Nicaragua granted PEDRO MAS, a native of Spain, a concession to establish a factory for the manufacture of cotton yarns and cloths, such as prints, percales, etc.

This concession is made an exclusive privilege for a period of five years. It may be transferred (but not to another Government), and shall at all times be subject to the laws of Nicaragua. Questions arising shall be settled by arbitration and in no case shall be foundation for a diplomatic claim. The right to form and legalize foreign corporate associations is permitted, such associations to have a representative with full power domiciled in Nicaragua.

TOTAL DEBT OF THE REPUBLIC.

The interior debt of Nicaragua January 1, 1900, as published in the "Diario Oficial" of December 2, 1900, amounted to, in round numbers, 8,000,000 *pesos* (or about \$2,666,000 gold). Of this sum about 5,400,000 *pesos* (about \$1,800,000 gold) depends solely on the Government's "promise to pay." The remainder is secured by the law requiring that a certain percentage of the custom-house duties on imports and exports be paid on these bonds.

The exterior debt is in railroad bonds issued in 1896 and now amounting to about \$1,300,000 gold, the semiannual 6 per cent on which sum is now being paid promptly, and 1 per cent, sometimes more, of the principal is being redeemed annually by an export tax of 1 per cent gold per pound on all coffee exported. Therefore, the total debt of Nicaragua is about \$4,000,000 gold. The desire of the present Government of the Republic is to get out of debt. Nicaragua's exterior debt bonds are quoted now at \$58 to \$60 (par \$100) in London.

PARAGUAY.

FUNDS FOR WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the Department of State for copies of translations of laws enacted by the Congress of Paraguay forwarded to Washington by Hon. WILLIAM R. FINCH, United States Minister for Uruguay and Paraguay. The following law relates to the creation of funds for public works or public utility:

"The Senate and Chambers of the Paraguayan Nation, united in Congress, sanction with force of law (June 13, 1900):

"ARTICLE 1. To establish in the Administration of Public Debt a fund destined to the service of works, public utility, to be derived from the following sources:

"First. The net utilities of the Bank of Agriculture from the current year.

"Second. The net utilities of the Administration of Public Debt which have been reserved for the object by article 23 of the law of November 18, 1899.

"Third. The storage duties of all the custom-houses.

"Fourth. The product of port and wharf duties to be created by special laws.

"Fifth. The product of reclaimed lands by the constructions in the port of the Capital.

"Sixth. The amount which is yearly assigned to this section by the General Budget.

"ART. 2. The resources created by the preceding article shall be applied in this proportion:

"(a) Thirty per cent to the construction of bridges and roads.

"(b) Seventy per cent to dredging the pass Angostura and the river San Miguel, to the canalization of interior river, to the construction of the wharves and customs warehouses, to continue the wall of the custom-house, of the capital on the left of the battery of 'San Gregorio,' and on the right to Berjesue.

"ART. 3. The execution of the works relative to the bridges and roads will be under the charge of the Council of Agriculture and Industries, the others under the charge of the Committee of Public Works, and all of them with the intervention and under the direction of the National Department of Engineers.

"ART. 4. The Executive Power will order the execution of these works by public competition as they are required, and according to the plans already prepared, or which may be prepared in future, and have been approved.

"ART. 5. The Executive Power is authorized to draw upon the funds created by article 1 of this law, and for the object for which

they are destined, up to 500,000 dollars in coin per year. The check which the Executive Power may issue for this object will undergo the same formalities as those established by article 4 of the law of November 18, 1899, for the payment of ordinary expenses.

"ART. 6. The Executive Power will in due time submit to the consideration of Congress a project of law which will contain: The classification of the public roads of the country; ways and necessary conditions of constructing them; regimen relative to their preservation; manner in which the State, municipalities, and parties are to contribute toward the construction and preservation of bridges and public roads."

EXEMPTION OF DUTIES ON STONE.

According to the terms of a law enacted by the Paraguayan Congress on August 4, 1900, a translation of which was forwarded by the United States Minister under date of October 22, encouragement is being given to the quarrying industry. Article 1 of this law reads: "Exemption from duties of importation on machinery and of exportation on stone is conceded to companies that are dedicated to the working of quarries for the term of ten years."

PERU.

COMMERCE DURING 1899.

Recent statistics issued by the Peruvian Government show that the foreign commerce of that nation during the year 1899 amounted to 54,854,494.59 *sols*. The importations during the time mentioned were 21,230,183.10 *sols*, while the exportations for the same period reached the sum of 33,615,311.49 *sols*. The coastwise trade for the year (with the exception of Iquitos, data for which are not at hand) was 25,916,919.28 *sols*, making the total commerce of the Republic in 1899 80,762,413.87 *sols*.

Comparing the importations of 1899 with those of 1898, it is found that the importations of 1898 exceeded those of 1899 by 562,323.42 *sols*, as will be seen from the following table, which shows the principal articles imported, together with their values in *sols*:

Articles.	1899.	1898.	Articles.	1899.	1898.
Cotton goods	3,770,317.57	4,067,668.82	Medicinal and chemical products.....	927,720.62	799,797.00
Woolens	1,451,361.96	1,376,643.32			
Linen goods	233,073.42	259,128.23	Importations through Iquitos.....	18,734,948.71	2,495,234.39
Silks	292,533.66	293,509.55			
Furniture, etc	1,324,489.95	1,273,244.28	Total.....	21,230,183.10	19,297,272.13
Hardware, etc	7,988,644.72	8,456,067.90			
Provisions, etc	2,380,950.24	2,261,453.65			
Wine and liquors....	365,856.57	509,758.69			

During this period the following were the principal countries that exported goods to Peru, together with the value of their exports expressed in *soles*:

Country.	1899.	1898.	Country.	1899.	1898.
Germany.....	3,451,516.01	3,401,887.91	Spain.....	146,621.68	155,941.28
Argentine Republic.....	370.20	115.20	United States.....	2,183,109.90	2,078,376.42
Austria.....	425.25	805.62	France.....	1,793,951.87	1,554,004.61
Belgium.....	591,919.11	600,393.90	England.....	7,571,151.30	8,682,771.19
Bolivia.....	52,133.19	82,513.19	Italy.....	765,532.04	661,694.55
Brazil.....	.....	146.16	Japan.....	8,094.50	.....
Central America.....	49,186.25	73,166.01	Mexico.....	.....	19,876.36
Colombia.....	29,704.39	9,245.89	Portugal.....	385.80	150.00
Cuba.....	3,358.71	.....	Switzerland.....	.....	577.50
Chile.....	1,525,056.80	1,368,530.44	Uruguay.....	10,139.61	28,447.71
China.....	534,415.05	526,649.35	Total.....	18,734,948.71	19,297,272.13
Ecuador.....	81,276.55	101,978.84			

The exportations from the Republic during the fiscal year 1899, not including the exports through the port of Iquitos, amounted to 30,725,910.99 *soles*. Deducting the value of the exports for 1898, 30,274,775.89, leaves a net gain in the exports for 1899 of 451,135 *soles*. The following is a résumé in tabular form of the exportations of 1899 compared with those of 1898:

Countries.	1899.	1898.	Countries.	1899.	1898.
England.....	<i>Sols.</i> 14,854,540.12	<i>Sols.</i> 17,153,939.97	Spain.....	<i>Sols.</i> 29,903.07	<i>Sols.</i> 40,012.36
United States.....	5,146,531.62	2,873,526.01	Mexico.....	7,533.00	31,579.28
Chile.....	4,940,373.97	4,588,479.28	Cuba.....	4,757.50	.....
Germany.....	3,357,231.28	2,703,772.79	Central America.....	2,596.00	19,978.20
France.....	799,626.00	820,952.25	Japan.....	259.17	.....
Bolivia.....	626,066.84	628,926.57	Argentine Republic.....	225.00	8,500.00
Colombia.....	390,139.78	441,944.38	China.....	150.80	30,202.10
Ecuador.....	335,416.00	892,006.07	Uruguay.....	19.00	1,041.43
Belgium.....	197,379.08	12,065.21	Total.....	30,725,910.99	30,274,775.89
Italy.....	33,162.76	27,819.99			

From these figures it will be seen that while the exports to Great Britain were 2,299,399.85 *soles* less in 1899 than were those of 1898, the exports to the United States in 1899 were 2,273,005.61 *soles* more than those of 1898. There were also considerable gains in 1899 in the amount of the exports to Germany, Chile, and Belgium as compared with 1898, the exports to these countries having steadily increased.

The principal articles exported by Peru during the year 1899 were, according to the Peruvian classification, ores, 10,677,013 *soles*; sugar, 10,103,519; wool, 3,118,076; and cotton, 1,787,478, which, compared with the respective figures for the year 1898, show an increase of over 1,000,000 *soles* over 1898 in the item of ores, while the increase in the export of sugar was more than 882,000 *soles*, there being a decrease of over 682,000 *soles* in cotton. The custom-house duties collected in the Republic, except in the Iquitos custom-house, amounted to 6,210,898 *soles*.

SALVADOR.

THE CUSTOMS TARIFF LAW.

Mr. JOHN JENKINS, United States Consul at San Salvador, has forwarded to the Department of State at Washington a complete translation of the new tariff law of Salvador. To publish this in full requires 32 pages of the Consular Reports, so that some idea of its extent may be realized. The present law is much more comprehensive than any formerly promulgated, and shows a general moderation of specific rates.

Although the import duties have increased somewhat in Salvador during the last few years, it has been due rather to the frequent changes in the method of taxes than to an increase of the specific duties on certain articles; therefore a comparison with the last tariff as published would be of no practical value, especially as since that time (1891) the relative values of gold and silver have changed considerably. In the tariff published by the Bureau of the American Republics the *peso* was then worth 72.3 cents, whereas in the consul's translation the calculations have been based upon the *peso* being worth 40 cents gold, which is a fair average commercial valuation, United States coin being generally quoted in Salvador at about 150 premium.

In the new law the following articles no longer appear on the free list: Anchors, beans, boats or launches, corn, crucibles, diamonds and precious stones, hay or fodder, hops, houses, kettles and molds for sugar, magnets, models, music, photographs, printing presses, portraits, quicksilver, quinine, rice, and rye. The following articles have been added to the free list: Agricultural machinery, apparatus for extinguishing fires, barbed wire, iron cans for balsam, carbide of calcium, chalk for schools, raw cotton, filters and distilling apparatus, gasoline, hair of rabbits and hares, ink for printing and lithographing, looms, mining apparatus, platinum, silver, sulphide of carbon, surgical instruments, vaccine fluids, and serums.

The tariff of Salvador in general is protective; that is to say, raw materials that might, with the facilities of abundant cheap labor and water power which Salvador enjoys, be elaborated or manufactured there are scheduled at low rates, while manufactured articles of the same materials are scheduled at higher rates, according to the amount of mechanical or other labor necessary to produce the finished article.

CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL BOARD.

The December, 1900, number of the "Bulletin of Agriculture of the Republic of Salvador," published at San Salvador, contains a decree providing for the establishment in the capital of the nation of a

Central Board of Agriculture, whose duties shall be to put into practice the provisions of the Agricultural Code with respect to the encouragement, development, and protection of this important branch of national wealth.

MODIFICATIONS OF THE TARIFF LAW.

The Republic of Salvador has imposed a direct tax of \$3, silver, on each 100 kilograms of merchandise brought into the country, with the exception of steam engines, hydraulic and agricultural machinery and utensils, iron drums for balsams, all kinds of filters, rabbit skins and other furs for the manufacture of hats, looms of all kinds, printing and lithographic ink, and chalk for the use of schools. This tax is temporary and is rendered necessary owing to the large amount of funds required for the amortization of the consolidated and floating debt.

In a published decree the President exempts, for a period of ten years, from the payment of municipal and fiscal duties now in effect or which may hereafter be imposed, the exportation of all kinds of construction and dye woods, tobacco, sugar, potatoes, rice, corn, beans, and all kinds of cereals, tailings containing gold, silver, copper, etc., with the object of promoting and favoring in every way possible the principal agricultural, industrial, and mineral productions of the country, and which constitute such a large and important part of the nation's wealth.

CANCELLATION OF FOREIGN INDEBTEDNESS.

During the month of November, 1900, according to a leading newspaper of the Republic, bonds to the value of £716,860, corresponding to the English debt made in 1889 and 1892, were incinerated at the Palace of Justice by the authorities. Salvador is now free from foreign debt.

NEW CENSUS.

In conformity with a decree passed by the Congress of the nation, the President has ordered a new census of the Republic. On March 1, 1901, the enumerators appointed for the purpose will begin the work of taking this census in accordance with the provisions of the law. The Government has made the necessary preparation, and has taken great pains to obtain complete, full, and detailed statistics, which will, when concluded, furnish a vast amount of valuable information respecting the Republic.

CONSULAR INVOICES.

Under date of November 2, 1900, the President modified the decree of the 20th of October of the same year, which decree was published

in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for December, 1900, by the addition of the following articles:

"4. The Consuls of Salvador shall charge \$5 gold for the certifying of manifests on all freight destined to our ports and which does not cross the Isthmus of Panama.

"5. If the said freight should be transferred at any of the ports of the Pacific, certified manifests from the port of embarkation are unnecessary, as the Consul of Salvador at the port of transshipment will certify the four copies of the respective manifests, charging for such service \$10 silver.

"6. The Consuls at Salvador at any Latin-American point from which freight may be dispatched destined to this country, and which does not cross the Isthmus of Panama, shall likewise charge \$10 silver for the certification of the manifests already referred to."

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

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

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (<i>Palo campeche</i> ; <i>Puo de campeche</i> ; <i>Campêche</i>):				
Mexico		\$779	\$11,995	\$16,230
Coal, bituminous (<i>Carbón bituminoso</i> ; <i>Carvão bituminoso</i> ; <i>Charbon de terre</i>):				
Mexico	\$20,561	7,023	188,698	69,642
Cocoa (<i>Cacao</i> ; <i>Coco ou cacao crú</i> ; <i>Cucaco</i>):				
Central America.....		446	1,131	13,785
Brazil.....	104,429	51,705	432,523	577,219
Other South America.....	96,962	63,923	1,441,657	1,721,764

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Coffee (Café; Café; Café):				
Central America.....	\$49,461	\$31,643	\$5,097,114	\$4,124,331
Mexico.....	205,848	26,499	2,892,212	2,826,252
Brazil.....	2,287,382	6,427,313	33,542,610	37,056,602
Other South America.....	377,954	281,549	6,081,520	4,640,521
Fibers:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (<i>Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé</i>):				
South America.....	8,882	35,448	128,207	346,593
Sisal grass (Henequén; Henequen; Hennequen):				
Mexico.....	916,723	619,720	7,948,030	10,327,313
Fruits:				
Bananas (<i>Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes</i>):				
Central America.....	132,349	154,393	1,903,524	2,213,563
South America.....	50,762	50,455	930,549	766,910
Oranges (<i>Naranjas; Laranjas; Oraanges</i>):				
Mexico.....	91,412	76,984	157,409	131,429
Fur skins (<i>Pieles finas; Peltes; Fourrures</i>):				
South America.....	30,322	28,871	177,822	145,435
Hides and skins (<i>Cueros y pieles; Couros e peltes; Cuirs d'peaux</i>):				
Central America.....	19,447	38,264	322,171	572,235
Mexico.....	130,357	132,108	1,847,363	2,167,740
South America.....	1,174,113	1,083,581	9,886,382	9,346,633
India rubber, crude (<i>Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc</i>):				
Central America.....	58,373	51,802	773,082	680,812
Mexico.....	12,514	10,462	169,777	162,554
Brazil.....	2,070,908	978,114	16,863,996	14,986,419
Other South America.....	144,865	42,126	994,973	556,666
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (<i>Plomo en galipagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo em lingoados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, cu barras, etc.</i>):				
Mexico.....	231,328	251,114	2,056,331	2,392,101
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (<i>Açúcar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Açúcar, não superior ao No. 16 de padrão holandês; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16</i>):				
Central America.....	966	.....	173,478	56,295
Mexico.....	142	941	75,047	12,702
Cuba.....	7,077	103,511	17,064,545	16,833,690
Brazil.....	.....	47,725	681,865	1,961,725
Other South America.....	659,411	1,074,619	4,711,288	5,418,484
Tobacco, leaf (<i>Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles</i>):				
Mexico.....	12,235	10,144	41,896	52,257
Cuba.....	679,339	974,206	6,096,726	7,680,794
Wood, mahogany (<i>Cuoba; Mogno; Acajou</i>):				
Central America.....	31,911	22,945	284,420	343,851
Mexico.....	50,250	68,971	397,452	483,597
Cuba.....	2,080	42,742	64,568	320,760
South America.....	872	.....	19,137	18,169
Wool (<i>Lana; LA; Laine</i>):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing).....	1,091	4,847	541,505	2,254,716
Class 2 (combings).....	.....	.....	101	62,607
Class 3 (carpet).....	47,273	794	530,944	905,296

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Máquinas agrícolas):				
Central America.....	\$118	\$343	\$6,022	\$10,321
Mexico.....	24,232	15,091	286,630	521,759
Santo Domingo.....	.....	190	1,239	1,634
Cuba.....	11,242	12,872	104,444	135,938
Argentine Republic.....	103,766	60,170	1,890,820	1,295,000

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Agricultural implements, etc.—Continued.				
Brazil.....	\$2,754	\$1,279	\$31,521	\$24,693
Colombia.....	267	.....	978	1,720
Other South America.....	38,452	4,927	285,894	284,806
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (Maiz; Milho; Mais):				
Central America.....	1,797	760	35,548	28,685
Mexico.....	29,510	50,623	154,282	331,054
Santo Domingo.....	.....	11	315	398
Cuba.....	48,335	46,516	431,281	588,091
South America.....	1,170	1,246	72,312	16,791
Wheat (Trigo; Trigo; Blé):				
Central America.....	1,700	2,645	17,311	23,614
Mexico.....	1,248	651	1,857	1,395
South America.....	6,468	7,968	75,786	531,325
Wheat flour (Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé):				
Central America.....	68,195	75,772	798,998	815,064
Mexico.....	16,760	13,471	141,543	129,748
Santo Domingo.....	325	21,108	121,037	181,178
Cuba.....	210,140	196,858	1,874,733	1,845,468
Brazil.....	155,077	184,065	2,313,279	2,701,257
Colombia.....	24,536	23,111	407,529	308,228
Other South America.....	110,197	145,291	1,473,913	1,346,112
Carriages:				
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carriages, cars, etc. et leurs parties):				
Central America.....	889	8,257	16,230	47,730
Mexico.....	77,996	230,632	794,042	1,372,103
Santo Domingo.....	3,128	23,646	15,510	42,737
Cuba.....	26,455	71,764	164,999	398,599
Argentine Republic.....	84,598	28,795	312,420	430,136
Brazil.....	8,101	12,539	198,319	64,241
Colombia.....	6,946	1,255	21,223	12,483
Other South America.....	3,644	7,983	46,873	77,723
Cycles and parts of (Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicycles et accessoires; Bicyclettes et leurs parties):				
Central America.....	159	375	4,642	2,430
Mexico.....	2,221	1,779	39,822	14,628
Santo Domingo.....	.....	80	323	312
Cuba.....	13,759	1,752	91,302	66,885
Argentine Republic.....	5,736	1,584	264,334	71,815
Brazil.....	2,399	1,478	31,313	18,572
Colombia.....	114	31	7,752	3,504
Other South America.....	4,836	2,996	60,717	38,430
Minerals:				
Coal (Carbón; Carvão; Charbon):				
Central America.....	1,280	6,286	16,524	34,748
Mexico.....	123,130	141,731	1,338,047	1,772,521
Santo Domingo.....	626	886	8,366	19,180
Cuba.....	35,702	150,195	505,199	858,392
Brazil.....	.....	1,756	99,785	181,314
Colombia.....	104	4,679	49,934	47,060
Other South America.....	13,703	51,727	69,741	262,946
Copper (Cobre; Cobre; Cuivre):				
Mexico.....	20,931	.....	269,667	475,392
Cotton, and cotton goods:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé):				
Mexico.....	230,632	285,895	669,750	1,245,535
South America.....	.....	.....	.....	6,607
Cotton cloths (Tejidos de algodón; Fuzetas de algodão; Coton manufacturé):				
Central America.....	72,141	83,431	595,772	718,537
Mexico.....	43,461	28,365	503,588	335,944
Santo Domingo.....	1,689	15,412	144,191	122,709
Cuba.....	25,658	15,797	685,969	224,050
Argentine Republic.....	18,822	29,532	124,740	96,890
Brazil.....	52,558	32,671	422,275	284,077
Colombia.....	22,190	31,214	355,966	236,077
Other South America.....	101,111	164,386	995,648	1,560,220

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Cotton, etc.—Continued.				
Wearing apparel (<i>Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton</i>):				
Central America	\$28,484	\$37,631	\$266,105	\$380,149
Mexico	28,593	45,394	408,478	491,709
Santo Domingo	1,069	2,715	15,217	48,888
Cuba	16,756	14,136	179,560	111,804
Argentine Republic	501	1,104	38,178	12,921
Brazil	5,898	8,082	34,416	40,949
Colombia	3,522	3,541	40,306	37,657
Other South America	9,561	8,671	67,214	70,165
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (<i>Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques; Appareils électriques et scientifiques</i>):				
Central America	6,544	6,579	57,532	60,366
Mexico	22,493	22,057	425,106	322,414
Argentine Republic	28,945	17,273	281,583	284,305
Brazil	16,006	15,563	143,529	204,501
Other South America	17,144	15,685	122,775	223,358
Iron and Steel, Manufactures of:				
Steel rails (<i>Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier</i>):				
Central America	254	23,654	24,982	42,280
Mexico	26,692	31,125	445,336	1,003,309
South America	44,428	39,798	150,530	667,870
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (<i>Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentais; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils</i>):				
Central America	11,697	8,005	85,497	106,309
Mexico	42,503	39,292	417,588	496,128
Santo Domingo	279	3,102	8,342	18,678
Cuba	22,077	22,271	371,733	271,463
Argentine Republic	29,663	22,752	243,103	277,415
Brazil	45,121	18,873	233,355	206,021
Colombia	4,331	5,374	116,589	39,444
Other South America	32,411	22,143	242,904	341,934
Sewing machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Máquinas de coser e accesorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America	1,874	5,124	19,376	35,485
Mexico	17,393	39,301	270,362	331,321
Santo Domingo	17	372	1,386	6,518
Cuba	4,514	1,800	43,805	110,119
Argentine Republic	2,460	15,278	143,061	189,774
Brazil	9,845	2,716	124,522	102,843
Colombia	830	193	41,212	7,115
Other South America	18,544	12,326	130,490	162,800
Typewriting machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Máquinas de escribir e accesorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America	281	533	2,160	3,638
Mexico	1,111	6,939	52,697	68,400
Santo Domingo		140	187	1,000
Cuba	2,488	4,253	25,933	38,751
Argentine Republic	3,089	1,654	37,926	29,067
Brazil	1,973	123	9,913	8,335
Colombia	221	76	2,721	1,692
Other South America	1,961	1,445	24,492	30,179
Leather, other than sole (<i>Cuero, distinto del de suela; Couro não para solas; Cuir, autres que pour semelles</i>):				
Central America	1,166	5,710	12,828	32,862
Mexico	2,792	1,513	21,700	28,125
Santo Domingo		93	1,074	7,374
Cuba	1,811	2,841	29,560	37,984
Argentine Republic	2,971	3,209	47,077	91,768
Brazil	6,157	11,708	64,280	95,923
Colombia	43	1,035	3,949	3,339
Other South America	2,752	4,341	37,263	57,904
Boots and shoes (<i>Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures</i>):				
Central America	15,607	23,188	121,075	149,129
Mexico	30,128	35,109	287,945	320,011
Colombia	7,316	7,471	41,977	53,032
Other South America	3,605	8,068	25,615	54,852

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (<i>Resina y alquitran; Resina e alcatraz;</i> <i>Résine et goudron</i>):				
Central America.....	\$1,026	\$1,920	\$13,118	\$11,209
Mexico.....	952	512	8,926	6,468
Santo Domingo.....	25	1,813	3,451	4,650
Cuba.....	766	1,010	11,957	12,479
Argentine Republic.....	31,159	10,987	120,220	87,729
Brazil.....	15,052	21,787	193,539	143,499
Colombia.....	1,276	919	11,411	9,689
Other South America.....	7,341	5,779	62,195	81,066
Turpentine, sprits of (<i>Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Téré-</i> <i>beuthine</i>):				
Central America.....	493	490	4,877	7,566
Mexico.....	382	236	4,175	3,617
Santo Domingo.....		61	531	592
Cuba.....	6,160	7,812	50,967	40,981
Argentine Republic.....	16,618	7,641	84,576	161,007
Brazil.....	2,876	2,970	56,152	86,014
Colombia.....	244	847	5,920	3,691
Other South America.....	7,191	7,800	60,239	96,312
Oils, mineral, crude (<i>Acetites minerales, crudos; Oleas</i> <i>míneras, crás; Huiles minérales, brutes</i>):				
Mexico.....	37,882	32,780	393,566	459,396
Cuba.....	46,798	39,076	228,412	330,561
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (<i>Acetites</i> <i>míneras, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles mi-</i> <i>nérales, raffinées ou manufacturées</i>):				
Central America.....	8,943	9,142	124,185	145,179
Mexico.....	19,686	11,096	196,084	176,479
Santo Domingo.....	796	15,099	32,785	69,531
Cuba.....	9,158	21,535	102,693	100,259
Argentine Republic.....	111,679	13,539	1,069,338	1,196,599
Brazil.....	159,391	190,480	1,478,163	2,221,052
Colombia.....	6,906	7,882	126,710	152,811
Other South America.....	140,218	77,462	1,089,918	1,425,411
Oils, vegetable (<i>Acetites vegetales; Oleas vegetales;</i> <i>Huiles végétales</i>):				
Central America.....	959	1,033	5,994	6,315
Mexico.....	95,546	140,425	625,548	943,630
Santo Domingo.....	199	5,624	27,743	70,777
Cuba.....	3,626	4,112	35,567	20,224
Argentine Republic.....	1,570	3,877	33,924	72,007
Brazil.....	19,859	13,082	179,891	329,981
Other South America.....	13,301	6,963	114,896	143,000
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (<i>Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca</i> <i>em latas; Bœuf conservé</i>):				
Central America.....	1,915	2,069	21,848	24,267
Mexico.....	2,681	2,389	20,751	20,199
Santo Domingo.....			98	84
Cuba.....	410	1,078	13,276	4,548
Argentine Republic.....			1,484	1,045
Brazil.....	4,592	2,005	21,506	20,617
Colombia.....	1,519	521	7,325	6,490
Other South America.....	2,470	4,297	18,431	20,233
Beef, salted or pickled (<i>Carne de vacca salada ó en</i> <i>salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em sal-</i> <i>moura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure</i>):				
Central America.....	1,967	2,892	31,303	35,846
Mexico.....	63	27	2,127	1,321
Santo Domingo.....	230	883	5,306	4,366
Cuba.....	2,110	197	23,857	13,843
Brazil.....	2,331	87	3,805	1,556
Colombia.....	2,873	2,160	18,376	20,814
Other South America.....	21,758	25,320	155,276	196,828
Tallow (<i>Sebo; Sebo; Suif</i>):				
Central America.....	6,096	9,300	81,467	101,267
Mexico.....	1,681	1,446	25,901	21,225
Santo Domingo.....		1,949	16,167	12,113
Cuba.....	429	345	2,558	3,874
Brazil.....	1,899	3,163	24,368	61,456
Colombia.....	1,787	309	18,296	5,417
Other South America.....	11,012	2,079	49,189	101,701

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, etc.—Continued.				
Bacon (Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé):				
Central America.....	\$1,950	\$1,947	\$18,991	\$27,419
Mexico.....	1,565	4,045	20,040	21,987
Santo Domingo.....	11	247	1,990	1,961
Cuba.....	51,685	17,990	842,160	519,799
Brazil.....	12,068	12,907	175,330	126,866
Colombia.....	26	41	1,618	2,212
Other South America.....	181	5,267	12,113	22,156
Hams (Jamones; Presunto; Jambons):				
Central America.....	2,208	3,040	24,315	28,017
Mexico.....	4,209	4,959	35,468	40,484
Santo Domingo.....	49	1,533	5,784	11,176
Cuba.....	52,089	49,911	668,124	573,982
Brazil.....	712	.....	3,433	5,495
Colombia.....	1,859	1,503	17,445	18,248
Other South America.....	7,285	9,796	76,385	66,344
Pork (Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc):				
Central America.....	5,312	7,892	60,025	91,077
Santo Domingo.....	315	1,267	6,483	8,926
Cuba.....	47,719	60,402	138,390	508,167
Brazil.....	62	.....	3,063	1,527
Colombia.....	1,659	1,939	31,196	18,279
Other South America.....	24,310	39,153	184,838	248,681
Lard (Manteca; Banha; Stintons):				
Central America.....	13,701	18,182	157,228	202,210
Mexico.....	37,883	50,743	289,178	410,777
Santo Domingo.....	140	5,430	22,959	38,038
Cuba.....	131,752	254,556	1,654,608	2,419,352
Argentine Republic.....	84	.....	4,501	6,700
Brazil.....	74,535	59,036	919,338	795,436
Colombia.....	14,344	8,087	131,145	118,429
Other South America.....	65,422	69,461	659,809	890,613
Butter (Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre):				
Central America.....	4,888	5,612	44,940	44,951
Mexico.....	4,692	4,875	46,552	40,661
Santo Domingo.....	.....	2,902	7,100	24,291
Cuba.....	3,912	1,088	94,536	27,264
Brazil.....	24,429	19,450	204,825	189,794
Colombia.....	1,503	1,185	15,004	12,732
Other South America.....	3,694	10,760	168,356	103,873
Cheese (Queso; Queijo; Fromage):				
Central America.....	2,391	2,335	17,759	22,184
Mexico.....	3,439	3,384	23,181	23,041
Santo Domingo.....	60	548	4,129	7,819
Cuba.....	2,520	2,298	59,280	30,494
Brazil.....	35	.....	252	64
Colombia.....	1,056	464	7,751	6,805
Other South America.....	1,162	332	12,536	6,332
Tobaccos:				
Tobacco, unmanufactured (Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé):				
Central America.....	706	1,770	25,200	29,870
Mexico.....	16,142	8,589	149,852	138,752
Argentine Republic.....	3,172	2,000	22,425	29,659
Colombia.....	.....	1,091	6,300	11,588
Other South America.....	8,516	5,248	94,763	95,284
Tobacco, manufactures of (Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué):				
Central America.....	2,878	4,391	48,469	52,081
Mexico.....	300	4,374	15,416	20,146
Cuba.....	8,079	15,699	172,850	182,838
Argentine Republic.....	1,075	42	17,829	6,895
Brazil.....	.....	.....	352	459
Colombia.....	824	196	6,655	7,845
Other South America.....	1,742	2,240	52,718	68,060
Wood and manufactures:				
Wood, unmanufactured (Madera no manufacturada; Madera não manufacturada; Bois brut):				
Central America.....	638	2,102	21,657	37,867
Mexico.....	5,120	29,202	132,553	310,222

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries	November—		Eleven months ending November—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Wood and manufactures—Continued.				
Wood, manufactured, etc.—Continued.				
Cuba	\$305	\$11,329	\$48,045	\$59,210
Argentine Republic		1,817	14,251	20,515
Brazil			240	17,992
Colombia	316	2,762	15,584	8,536
Other South America	15,080		61,084	43,380
Lumber (Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction):				
Central America	3,838	5,986	52,638	49,072
Mexico	76,077	61,825	903,075	1,303,370
Santo Domingo	72	751	33,881	39,022
Cuba	68,637	54,161	856,638	1,068,325
Argentine Republic	75,181	157,152	904,056	1,036,192
Brazil	21,874	32,640	406,899	204,676
Colombia	8,690	5,816	61,373	50,915
Other South America	52,495	85,104	553,641	623,662
Furniture (Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles):				
Central America	2,396	8,302	34,224	62,851
Mexico	39,302	34,687	298,088	374,400
Santo Domingo		3,146	6,609	21,880
Cuba	25,802	31,300	191,030	614,008
Argentine Republic	4,555	2,585	96,203	81,467
Brazil	8,371	506	38,167	25,101
Colombia	1,241	3,078	25,881	15,630
Other South America	9,776	3,501	65,241	62,450

THE WOOL SUPPLY.

The total number of sheep in the United States in 1900, as ascertained by the Department of Agriculture, was 41,883,065, an increase of about 1,700,000 over the previous year. On January 1, 1885, there were over 50,000,000 sheep in the United States, the number declining until 1898, when there were 37,657,000. The total value of flocks on January 1, 1885, was \$108,000,000, in round numbers. The value of the flocks on January 1, 1900, was \$122,666,000. According to the table of average values, each sheep was worth \$2.93 in 1900, which was the highest valuation recorded in twenty years.

The official estimates of the wool clip by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers was 288,636,621 pounds, an increase of more than 15,000,000 pounds over the clip of 1899. The average weight of fleeces was 6.46 pounds.

The record of the wool trade of 1900 was the worst since 1896. This is due to a number of causes, some of which were the increases in foreign flocks, the war in South Africa, and the trouble in China.

Boston is the great local wool market of the United States, and the aggregate receipts in that city during the year were 381,440 bales of domestic and 146,818 bales of foreign wool, against 705,592 bales of domestic and 101,242 bales of foreign wool during the year 1899. The total sales for the year in that city were 136,654,600 pounds of domestic and 20,213,500 pounds of foreign wool, a total of 156,868,400 pounds. This was a decline from the previous year of nearly 200,000,000 pounds. The total supply of domestic wool on January 1,

1901, unsold in the United States was 204,345,500 pounds, against 123,348,500 pounds on January 1, 1900. The supply of foreign wool on the first-named date was 29,483,500 pounds, in comparison with 25,265,000 pounds for the first of January the previous year. Notwithstanding the fact that the year 1900 was so disastrous, and in spite of the huge stocks that are in sight, it is confidently expected that the year 1901 will be a much better period for the wool trade than the twelve months of 1900. The statistics show that in almost every other year there has been a reaction. During December, 1900, the markets showed a slight advance in prices.

A circular letter regarding the classification of wool has been addressed by the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury to the customs officials of the leading ports. The letter sets forth that Mr. WILLIAM H. DYMOND, who was appointed as an expert on the subject some years ago, has made certain changes in the standard cabinets as arranged under the act of 1890. Samples of Bagdad, Castel Branco, Egyptian, and China lambswool have been transferred from class 3 to class 1, as provided in the act of 1897, and have been newly numbered. From the samples of class 2, under the act of 1890, all common goat and kid hairs have been taken and classified as free hairs (paragraph 571, act of 1897). The class 2 samples have been increased by the addition of wools from China and Holland. Twenty-one new samples have been added to class 3. In class 1 there have been furnished the appraisers a number of standard samples for their use in the appraisement and classification of wool. Twelve of these samples are from the Argentine Republic, three from Chile, three from Peru, and three from Uruguay. There were also added to this class samples from Mexico—one of the spring clip, the other from the fall clip. In class 2 there are three samples from Peru—one of Islay alpaca fleece, one of llama fleece, and one of vicuna. In class 3 are included one sample of Córdoba (Argentine Republic) unwashed fleece, one sample of unwashed fleece from Chile (Valparaiso criolla), and one of Mexican native wool. The list of sample fleeces to be used in cases of litigation includes a Lincoln cross-bred unwashed fleece from Buenos Ayres, and unwashed fleece from Punta Arenas, an unwashed fleece from the Falkland Islands, and an unwashed spring fleece from Mexico, in class 1. In class 3 this list includes a sample of Córdoba unwashed fleece, and another from Chile of the "criolla" grade.

In transmitting these new classifications, the Treasury Department also sends a copy of the classifications as they were made in 1890 for comparison.

The classification of wools by the appraisers of the United States is along the divisions by race or blood. They are as follows:

First-class: Clothing wools; that is to say, merino, mestiza, metz, or metis wools, or other wools of merino blood immediate or remote;

Down clothing wools, and wools of like character with any of the preceding, including such as have been heretofore usually imported into the United States from Buenos Ayres, New Zealand, Australia, Cape of Good Hope, Russia, Great Britain, Canada, and elsewhere, and also including all wools not hereinafter described or designated in classes 2 and 3.

Second-class: Combing wools; that is to say, Leicestershire, Cotswold, Lincolnshire, Down combing wools, Canada long wools, or other like combing wools of English blood and usually known by the terms herein used; and also all hair of the alpaca, goat, or other-like animals.

Third-class: Carpet and other similar wools; such as Donskoi, native South American, Córdoba, Valparaiso, native Smyrna, and including all such wools of like character as have been heretofore usually imported into the United States from Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Syria, and elsewhere.

The estimate of the world's wool clip issued by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers of the United States gives a grand total of 2,685,105,013 pounds in 1900, as against 2,681,819,545 pounds in 1899. Of the clip of 1900 classes 1 and 2 aggregate 2,092,389,013 pounds, leaving 592,716,000 pounds for class 3. The estimate gives a total for the United States of 288,636,621 pounds; 12,000,000 pounds for the British Provinces, and 5,000,000 pounds for Mexico, or 305,636,621 pounds for North America. The Argentine Republic is credited with 370,000,000; Uruguay, 96,000,000; Venezuela, 15,000,000; Chile, 7,500,000; Brazil, 1,500,000, and all other South America, 20,000,000 pounds, a grand aggregate of 510,000,000 pounds. Central America and the West India Islands together are credited with a production of 5,000,000 pounds. The increase for North America in 1900 was about 16,500,000 pounds; of South America, 6,000,000 pounds, while the amount given to Central America and the West Indies was the same number of pounds as in 1900.

THE GRAIN CROP OF 1900.

The statistician of the Department of Agriculture estimates the wheat crop of the United States for 1900 at 522,229,505 bushels, the area actually harvested being 42,495,385 acres, and the average yield to the acre 12.29 bushels. The production of winter wheat is estimated at 350,025,409 bushels, and that of spring wheat at 172,204,096 bushels, the area actually harvested being 26,235,897 acres in the former case and 16,259,488 acres in the latter.

The newly seeded area of winter wheat is estimated at 30,282,564 acres. While this is slightly greater than that sown in the fall of 1899, as estimated at that time, it is 600,654 acres less than the area that was actually sown, the discrepancy being due to the remarkably rapid development of winter-wheat growing in the State of Nebraska, which the Department's reports had failed to note. A comparison of the

newly seeded acreage with that of the fall of 1899 shows that the average condition of the growing crop on December 1 was 97.1 per cent of the normal.

The production of corn in 1900 is estimated at 2,105,102,516 bushels; oats, 809,125,989 bushels; barley, 58,925,833 bushels; rye, 23,995,927 bushels; buckwheat, 9,566,966 bushels; potatoes, 210,926,897 bushels; hay, 50,110,906 tons. The area from which these crops were gathered was as follows: Corn, 83,320,872 acres; oats, 27,364,795 acres; barley, 2,894,795 acres; rye, 1,591,326 acres; buckwheat, 637,930 acres; potatoes, 2,611,054 acres; hay, 39,132,890 acres. The corn crop of 1900 was one of the four largest ever gathered, while the oat crop has been exceeded only once. On the other hand, the barley and rye crops are the smallest, with one exception in each case, since 1887; the buckwheat crop is the smallest since 1883, and the hay crop the smallest, with one exception, since 1888.

DIVISION OF INSULAR AFFAIRS.

In accordance with the order of the Secretary of War, the "Division of Customs and Insular Affairs," created December 13, 1898, will hereafter be known as the "Division of Insular Affairs." The class of business assigned to this division will embrace all matters pertaining to the civil affairs connected with the government of Cuba and the Philippine Islands, as distinguished from matters of a purely military character.

COTTON CROP OF 1900-1901.

The statistician of the Agricultural Department reports 10,100,000 bales as the probable cotton production of the United States for 1900-1901. In the making of this estimate the same methods and agencies have been used that were employed last year. Many thousands of ginneries have, however, made reports for the first time. The estimated yield, in pounds of lint cotton per acre, is as follows: Virginia, 180; North Carolina, 199; South Carolina, 151; Mississippi, 159; Louisiana, 234; Texas, 226; Arkansas, 223; Tennessee, 177; Missouri, 275; Oklahoma, 318; Indian Territory, 289. The acreage, after eliminating all land from which no crop whatever will be gathered, is estimated at 25,034,734.

TRANSACTIONS OF NEW YORK COFFEE EXCHANGE.

The transactions on the New York Coffee Exchange in 1900 were the largest since 1891, represented by 7,442,250 bags, against 4,427,500 bags in 1899. The heaviest trading was in July, amounting to 1,024,500 bags, and the lightest in May, when the deliveries were 268,500 bags.

The highest price for future deliveries was paid in July, when March delivery sold for 9.20 cents, and the lowest price was in December, when January and December deliveries sold for 5.35 cents.

PHILIPPINE CABLES.

The cable ship *Burnside* has begun the laying of 600 miles of Government cable, to connect Negros, Mindanao, and Jolo. Negros and Cebu already have cable connection with Iloilo and Manila. The new line will extend from Damaguete to Oromaueta, Misamis, Iligata, and Tagoloan, all on the north coast of Mindanao. A land line will connect Misamis and Tigum, and the main portion of the cable will extend from Tigum to Zamboanga, and thence to Jolo.

URUGUAY.**AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS.**

An article entitled "Corn Statistics," published in one of the principal agricultural and stock journals of Montevideo, shows that the quantity of land under cultivation devoted exclusively to the production of this cereal during the fiscal year 1899-1900 amounted to 145,668 hectares, or about 8 per cent of the entire territory of the country. The crop is estimated at 77,094 metric tons, the average yield on the acreage mentioned being 600 kilograms per hectare. The quantity of seed corn sown during the year, and from which the crop was produced, amounted to 1,758,258 kilograms. Notwithstanding this favorable showing, the crop was below the average when compared with the crop of the preceding year.

The same publication contains data regarding an important vineyard called "Chacaclara," and which covers an area of 60 hectares. Thirty-one hectares of this vineyard are planted with vines that produced in 1898 20,000 liters of wine of the class known as "Harreahua," 33,000 liters of "Vidiella," and 12,000 liters of the excellent wines known as "Cabernet" and "Gamay." In 1899 this vineyard was partly replanted, and 30,000 cuttings of choice American vines were added to the 35,000 American vines already in bearing. The crop of grapes harvested in 1900 amounted to 142,500 kilograms.

LATIN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

HON. WILLIAM R. FINCH recently transmitted to the Department of State for the use of this Bureau a translation of a letter of invitation which is being sent out by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Señor Don MANUEL HERRERO Y ESPINOSA, to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Guatemala, San Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. This Congress will meet in Montevideo in March and will discuss scientific subjects of importance to the countries represented and in accordance to a fixed

programme which accompanies the invitation. The first of such congresses was held in the city of Buenos Ayres in 1898 and was a success, Montevideo being selected at that time for the second meeting to be held early in 1901. The neighboring Republics have already selected delegates and will be fully represented. It is hoped that the invitations to the other Governments will result in their being represented by men of prominence and versed in scientific subjects.

VENEZUELA.

THE ORINOCO DELTA.

A dispatch from Caracas says Venezuela has declared all the mouths of the Orinoco delta open to international navigation. About fifty arms of the river flow directly seaward, but only seven of them are accessible to large vessels. The delta branch which is most frequented by steamers is the Macareo, which flows to the coast opposite the British island of Trinidad, and offers direct inland navigation from Ciudad Bolivar, far up the Orinoco, to Port of Spain, the flourishing port of Trinidad.

Among the Orinoco delta streams are the rich lands conceded by the Venezuelan Government to the Orinoco Company, Limited, an American concern whose concession has been revoked on account of its alleged failure to fulfill its contract. Some towns in the delta appear to have a promising future. Among them is Santa Catalina, where the Orinoco Company has its headquarters and whence is shipped a good deal of balata, now used as a substitute for rubber. Barrancas, near the mouth of the Macareo, is of commercial interest as the assembling and shipping point for cattle, most of which are sold in Cuba. St. Felix, a little farther up the river, is the point of departure for persons bound to the El Callao gold-mining district. All the gold mined in this region is sent to St. Felix for shipment.

Major STANLEY PATERSON, of England, who in 1898 made an extensive journey up the Orinoco Valley, says this valley will some day develop into one of the richest commercial regions of the western world. Countless herds of cattle and horses may be raised there. The forests yield large quantities of natural products, such as rubber, quinine, and other drugs, and some traces of gold and other metals have been discovered.

EXPORTS OF BALATA RUBBER.

The exports of block balata rubber from the port of Ciudad Bolivar are stated to have been 509 tons in 1898 and 747 tons in 1899, with the probability of the latter figure being doubled in 1900. The exports of the lower Orinoco River are estimated to be fully as great. The demand for the balata rubber in the United States is increasing.

LATIN AMERICA IN 1900—A REVIEW.

The following retrospect affords but a scant review of the conditions prevailing in the Latin-American Republics during the year 1900. But short as is this record of events in each of the respective countries included in Latin America, in nearly every one of them may be observed a positive advance financially, commercially, and otherwise over the year 1899. This advance is in the nature of a true normal evolution, and therefore the more real and enduring. At the beginning of the twentieth century these countries control immense potentialities for future progress, for in many of them the varied, rich, and abundant natural resources have scarcely been prospected, and therefore it is true that vast fields of achievement lie just within their reach. That most of these Republics realize this and are grasping at the opportunities is not to be disputed by those who have watched the trend of events and their development within recent years.

The new century may be expected to extend its various stimuli to the Latin-American countries, and scarcely before a decade has passed there is bound to be an immense expansion in the productive capacities of each, and a consequent demand from them for articles of necessity and luxury for internal consumption. Until within the past few years manufacturing has not received the encouragement that was to have been expected in Latin America, but lately a decided impetus has been given to industrial development in, perhaps, the majority of the Republics. It is to be expected that, in the near future, many articles now purchased abroad will be produced in part, at least, at home. Still, the countries which compose Latin America are essentially agricultural and mining communities, which, if developed to their full capabilities, could supply the whole world with breadstuffs, fresh meat, coffee, tropical fruits, rubber, minerals, and other articles.

During the fiscal year 1900 the United States imported of their products to the values of about \$170,462,000, against imports valued at \$151,614,000 in 1899 and \$139,602,000 in 1898. It exported merchandise to them to the value of \$116,500,000 in 1900, to the value of \$91,689,000 in 1899, and to the value of \$76,319,000 in 1898.

Internal dissensions have unfortunately interfered with the quietude of one or two of the Republics within the past twelve months, but the outlook is bright at the beginning of the new year for peace and for the commercial prosperity of each of them throughout 1901. The fraternal relations between Latin America as a whole and the United States have been strengthened during the past twelve months and will doubtless continue to grow more cordial during the year upon which we have just entered.

On invitation of the Mexican Government, issued August 15, 1900,

an International American Conference is to be held in the City of Mexico, beginning October 22, 1901. Nearly all of the Republics have chosen their delegates to this conference, which promises to be of the greatest importance to each country separately and to the International Union. A varied programme has been prepared, but the great object underlying this assemblage is the further cultivation of "the sympathies mutually inspired by similarity, whether of language and race or of political institutions, to-day substantially identical among the nations of this hemisphere," for in America there are special interests and close bonds between the inhabitants with but few international complications to interfere with their welfare.

The Bureau of the American Republics has endeavored, during the year 1900, to continue and further extend its influence as an agency conducted on practical lines for promoting commercial and friendly intercourse between the Republics of the Western Hemisphere. It has accomplished much in this direction as can be judged by reference to the report of the Director of the Bureau for the past twelve months. The MONTHLY BULLETIN has endeavored to record the principal events, especially those regarding the development of commercial and internal affairs in each of the Republics. Its information has been obtained through Government channels, from the Ministers and Consuls representing the Latin-American Republics in the United States, from "Honorary Corresponding Members," from consular reports, from the official publications of the several Republics and European nations, from the public press, and from reliable individual reports. So far as possible the source from which information was obtained has been published except in the case of miscellaneous items. From the number of such articles which have reappeared in other publications it would appear that the efforts of the BULLETIN have been appreciated.

Argentine Republic.—Because of its diversified productive interests, the Argentine Republic is bound to have a great commercial future. Its ports are open to the immigrant from every nation in the world. With reference to climatic conditions, every zone, from that of perpetual snow in the cordilleras to that of the semitropical in the northern part of the Republic, is embraced within its territory, and people of all climes may thus find a congenial dwelling place. So far the immigrants have come chiefly from the southern part of Europe, but others are now being attracted.

According to the report of the National Demographic Bureau the resident number of foreign-born people in 1899 was 1,200,000. Of these the Italians numbered 600,000, the others being: Spanish, 233,000; French, 112,900; English, 26,100; Germans, 20,600; Russians, 18,100; Swiss, 17,700; Austrians, 15,400; Belgians, 6,500; Dutch, 3,500; Portuguese, 2,800; Swedes, 2,000; Danes, 1,700; North Americans, 1,700; Uruguayans, 58,400; Brazilians, 14,700; Chileans,

24,700; Paraguayans, 17,500; Bolivians, 8,800; other nationalities, 8,000.

The official statistics with reference to immigration during the year 1899 show that the arrivals from foreign countries numbered 145,699, of whom 34,616 were ordinary passengers. The number of immigrants from countries other than South America was 84,442, of whom the greater part came from Italy. The increase in the number of immigrants over arrivals in 1898 was 44,045.

While the Republic has many products, it is noted chiefly for its wheat, maize, linseed, wool, and live stock. Prices have been good for all of these commodities during the year, with the exception of wool, of which the warehouses are now reported to be full and waiting for a market. The foot-and-mouth disease among the live stock has been detrimental to the trade in this industry. Despite these exceptions, the Republic has been prosperous during the year 1900.

In his annual message to Congress, on May 1, President Roca referred to some of the restrictions to the commerce of the country in the early part of the year, which included the disturbances in China and South Africa and quarantine regulations at home and abroad on account of the bubonic plague, and that of England against South American live stock in addition to the causes first named. This was an additional incentive to the Executive Power to exercise great prudence in all matters relating to public expense. The general appropriation for the fiscal year 1900 provided for expenditures amounting to \$94,271,309.80 national currency and \$23,819,978.61 gold. The estimate for the needs of the Government from all sources for the year 1901 is \$25,981,543 gold and \$88,340,250 national currency. In his message, on May 1, the President stated that the revenues of the Government had been \$45,676,188 gold and \$61,419,990 currency. On January 1 the currency in circulation amounted to \$295,149,731. The internal and foreign consolidated debts for improvement and armaments amount to \$418,379,118 gold. The disbursements for this account, according to the 1901 budget, are \$22,487,214 gold and \$12,093,810 national currency, or a total of \$27,808,490 gold. The Executive desires to convert the debt in such a manner that the amount required will not exceed \$22,000,000 gold.

The port of Buenos Ayres, the great warehouse of the Republic, through which more than half the exports of the country now pass, is steadily growing in importance. The population of Buenos Ayres on January 1 was 795,323. The improvement and beautifying of the city have followed its commercial and industrial development. Its municipal receipts in 1899 were \$14,989,750, paper. The city is lighted by 13,150 gas jets, 8,214 lamps, and 1,252 arc lights. There are 15 theaters, or pleasure resorts, which gave 2,976 exhibitions and were attended by 1,595,721 spectators, the year's receipts amounting to \$2,668,075, paper.

The numerous lines of street and electric cars, which cross the city in every direction, carried 116,447,982 passengers during the year 1899. The sale of real estate in this city during the year 1900 was of greater importance than the sales during the previous year, though up to September 15 the number of transfers was somewhat less. During the first half of 1900 the number of real-estate transfers was 4,625, valued at \$27,648,346.32. At the first of the year there were 4,627 members of the Stock Exchange. The business of this exchange amounted altogether to \$548,947,690 in 1899. There are 7,928 manufacturing establishments of all sizes and descriptions, giving employment to over 130,000 people and having an invested capital of \$110,000,000, paper. The streets are being paved and sanitary regulations are being enforced.

According to the returns of the National Statistical Department, the value in gold of the foreign commerce of the Argentine Republic for the first nine months was \$209,979,664, of which the imports represented \$87,461,371, and the exports \$122,518,293. This indicates a total foreign trade for the year of about \$280,000,000, and an estimate of \$117,000,000 in imports and \$163,000,000 in exports.

The exports to the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, amounted to \$8,114,304 gold, against \$5,112,561 for the previous twelve months. The imports from the United States in 1899-1900 aggregated \$11,558,237 gold, against \$9,563,510 in 1898-99.

According to an estimate issued at the first of the year, the foreign capital invested in the Republic amounted to \$614,322,712 gold, divided as follows: Railways, \$475,122,085; banks, \$35,335,701; tramways, \$29,970,017; land companies, \$24,232,974; lighting companies, \$11,656,060; miscellaneous companies, etc., \$35,009,675. Since then there have been other investments in each of the above classes.

With reference to agriculture, it should be remembered that the seasons are the reverse of those in the United States. The dates for seeding and harvesting vary in the different Provinces and Territories, owing to their geographical situation and physical configuration. In Buenos Ayres, Entre Rios, and Santa Fé, wheat, barley, and oats are sown from May to July. Maize is planted from September to November, and alfalfa is sown in April and May and in September and October. Wheat, oats, and barley are harvested in December and January, and maize is gathered in February and April. Previous to 1888 the exports of wheat and maize to Europe were comparatively insignificant, but since then the shipments have grown to great proportions and are climbing upward. Especially is this true of wheat. The production of wheat in 1899-1900 was 2,756,000 tons, of which 870,000 tons were required for home consumption and seed, leaving 1,886,000 tons for export purposes. The other crops were as follows: Oats, 9,829 tons; barley, 5,559 tons; rye, 887 tons; linseed, 170,446

tons; alfalfa seed, 346 tons, and bird seed (*alpiste*), 3,553 tons. The general average per hectare in cultivation was: Wheat, 844 kilograms; flax, 660 kilograms; oats, 1,213 kilograms; alfalfa seed, 217 kilograms. The statistics with reference to maize are not yet available. The areas reported as having been sown in wheat and linseed during the year are, respectively, 3,383,149 and 607,262 hectares. Under the wise administration of Señor Don MARTÍN GARCÍA MÉROU great attention has been paid to agricultural and pastoral interests. Arboriculture and the preservation of the forests have received due consideration.

During the month of May an exposition of cattle and dairy products was held in Buenos Ayres and proved very beneficial to the interests represented. A large number of horses have been shipped to South Africa for the use of the British army, and others have also been sold for use in the Italian army.

Reports from the outlying districts show that there was less destruction in 1900 from locusts than for several years past. The quebracho industry has become of great importance. During the first six months of the year the exports of quebracho wood amounted to \$1,401,495, and of quebracho extract to \$295,532. Rice culture is attracting attention. In the province of Tucumán there are between 1,500 and 2,000 hectares devoted to this cereal. The native rice brings better prices than that imported from foreign countries. Rice is also grown to some extent in Misiones. The National Department of Agriculture has commenced a scientific study of the native grasses, in order that the cultivation of such varieties as are beneficial may be encouraged and those that are deleterious may be eradicated. Two elevators for the handling of grain were erected at Villa Constitución with capacities of 1,000 tons per day. Congress passed a law enabling the Government to enter into contracts with private individuals for the construction and working of such elevators. These buildings are of special importance, owing to the scarcity of sacks for the grain, and which also increase its cost. The sugar produced amounted to nearly 90,000 tons. Over 10,000 tons were exported in the first nine months of 1900.

The total capital invested in the manufacture of wine at the beginning of the year was \$23,987,648, national currency. The area in vineyards is now 36,000 hectares, 16,000 of which are in the Province of Mendoza. Efforts for the cultivation of fiber-producing plants in the Republic are being encouraged. The home manufacture of bags and twine is urged as absolutely necessary. The annual production of tobacco is estimated at 12,000 metric tons, and the consumption at 14,000 tons. The greater proportion of the product is raised on plantations in Salta and Jujuy.

For the first nine months the sheep carcasses exported from the Argentine Republic numbered 1,832,022. The number of quarters of

beef exported was 168,027, nearly all of both commodities going to Great Britain. During the first half of the year 565,238 head of cattle were exported.

A colony of Russians and Germans, numbering 400 persons, forming the Bonpland colony, have located in the Territory of Misiones. A Belgian syndicate submitted a proposal to the Minister of Agriculture regarding the colonization of southern Buenos Ayres Provinces with 25,000 families. The immigration movement to the Argentine Republic has been an important factor in its material development, and every nation of Europe has contributed its quota. The French, English, and German immigrants have for the most part selected the cities and large centers of population as places of residence, where they control many industries and have a leading share in the commerce of the country. The Italians have engaged preponderately in river navigation, while the Irish who poured into the country a few decades ago supplied a great deal of agricultural labor and the service required on docks and in shipyards. Swiss, German, and French peasants founded farming colonies in Santa Fé Province, and Russians and Poles are to-day the majority of the rural population on the banks of the Entre Rios and the Parana river. There is a prosperous Welsh colony in the remote region of the Chubut Valley, Patagonia. Chileans have settled in large numbers in the western Provinces, and thousands of Russian Jews have since 1891 found an asylum in this part of the New World. Immigration receives every encouragement at the hands of the Government, and all elements that will serve to develop the immense resources of the Republic are welcomed.

The lands owned by the Government show a grand aggregate of 90,094,174 hectares, ranging from 24,950,000 in Santa Cruz down to 6,174 hectares in Neuquen Territory.

The mining industry in the northwestern Provinces has been developed to a greater extent than ever before, under the supervision of syndicates composed of Belgian capitalists. Gold has been discovered in Jujuy Province and Neuquen Territory, but the mines are difficult of access as yet. Coal deposits are believed to exist in the Provinces of San Juan, La Rioja, and Mendoza, and the Territories of Misiones and Neuquen. From the latter samples have been submitted for chemical analysis. An association has been formed for the development of petroleum deposits in the Provinces of Salta and Jujuy. These form the subject of a report by Professor BRACKEBUSCH, a copy of which was forwarded the Bureau of the American Republics by the Argentine Industrial Union. Other minerals which have been produced in greater or lesser quantities have been silver in Nonogasta, Santa Rosa, and Catamarca; borax in Jujuy and Salta; copper in La Rioja, Tilcara, and Salta; coal in Salta and iron in Córdoba.

A member of the Fisheries Investigation Commission reports that on the island of Escondida there are no less than 10,000 sea lions. The skins of these animals are valued at \$30 each.

The construction of port works at Rosario was authorized during the first month of the year. This is a harbor second in importance only to Buenos Ayres. The port at Colástine in the Province of Santa Fé was opened to traffic the first of the year. The works at this port are more than a kilometer in length and cost \$100,000. Luminous buoys have been placed in the Buenos Ayres Harbor, thus rendering it more safe for navigators, and the port at San Borombom has also received considerable attention. Three river steamers for the navigation of the Rio Negro have, during the year, been purchased in Europe.

During a part of the year, parties were engaged in a hydrographic survey of the southern and southeastern coasts of the country and located a new port called "Almirante Brown." Several errors in existing charts were corrected and the principal ports in Tierra del Fuego were provided with buoys. Mr. E. L. CORTHEL, an engineer from the United States, was appointed Chief of the Hydraulic Department of the Public Works.

During the year the following treaties have been promulgated: An arbitration treaty with Paraguay; a treaty with Uruguay in relation to the trade in live cattle; arbitration treaties with the United States, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Italy; a copyright treaty with Italy and a boundary treaty with Brazil. A sanitary treaty was also made with Uruguay. This has direct reference to the regulations of vessels coming from ports infected with or supposed to be infected with the bubonic plague.

A gold currency law was promulgated which provided for the conversion of all the paper currency in circulation into national gold dollars at the rate of 44 cents gold per dollar paper. The Executive was empowered to put this into effect within three months after November 4, 1899. A reserve fund was also provided for.

A number of modifications of the customs tariff have been made during the year and noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN.

National telegraph offices were established in a number of towns in Buenos Ayres Province during the year, and a telegraph line was put in operation between Buenos Ayres and Rio de Janeiro via Libres and Uruguayana. This resulted in reduced charges for messages. The service to Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia can now be made via the Argentine Republic and Brazilian Governments' lines to Recife, and from thence to destination by the line known as "Talisman." The tariff rates to those countries have also been considerably reduced.

Electrical appliances are being extensively used in the Republic. The value of such goods imported during the first six months of 1900 was \$1,398,395. A number of young men have been sent to the United

States to be educated at the expense of the Government. After graduating, they are to return to their homes to act as teachers in agricultural schools.

The Government is considering the advisability of confining the Indians of the country to reservations similar to those in the United States. Some 74,000 hectares of land in the Territory of Formosa have been set aside for this purpose.

On May 5 Señor Don EDUARDO WILDE was received by President MCKINLEY as Minister Plenipotentiary of the Argentine Republic in the United States, and has since filled the duties of this office to the eminent satisfaction of both Governments concerned.

President CAMPOS SALLES paid a fraternal visit to President ROCA, at Buenos Ayres, in October. The occasion was made a memorable one, the Argentine Government declaring the 24th and 25th public holidays. The Brazilian President remained a week, and was accorded every honor possible.

The seventh volume of Statistics of Argentine Railways was issued early in 1900. It covers the year 1898. The amount of capital invested in railroads and equipments to that time was \$523,517,095, gold. The total length of lines was 12,475 kilometers. The rolling stock included 1,180 locomotives, 1,547 coaches, and 32,400 freight cars. Since then there have been constructed many miles of trackage with a consequent augmentation of rolling stock. The gross earnings of the railways at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, amounted to \$32,923,118, a gain of about \$3,770,000 over 1899.

The Argentine Government has arranged for 2,000 square feet of space for agricultural exhibits, 1,200 square feet for exhibits of manufactured articles, and 1,500 square feet for timber exhibits at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition, in 1901. The Director-General is reported to have assured the agent for the Argentine Republic that additional space would be awarded Argentine exhibitors should it be found necessary for a proper exhibit. It is the desire of the Government that there be a fine showing of the products of that country. The Minister of Agriculture is receiving numerous communications from agricultural and industrial organizations throughout the country announcing their desire to participate in the exposition.

Several new European steamship lines now visit Argentine ports regularly. The Government will erect a sanitarium at Córdoba for treatment of persons afflicted with tuberculosis. The "Boletín Oficial" of May 1 last publishes a decree respecting the operation and management of this institution. Consuls have been appointed at Matanzas and Cardenas, Cuba. A number of patents were awarded to United States inventors during the year. At the Industrial Congress sixty-two papers on subjects pertaining to industries and agriculture were submitted. Commercial travelers in the Republic are required to take

out a license before they can show samples or solicit orders, the price for which ranges from \$50 to \$250, paper, per annum. On May 10 Viedma was declared the capital of the Territory of Rio Negro.

Bolivia.—This Republic is essentially a mining country, although there are vast tracts which are susceptible of cultivation for agricultural purposes. Some maize is produced for home consumption, and fine rubber forests exist and are being exploited. A superior article of coffee is exported, though the total export of all grades is comparatively small. There are also exports of quina and coca, as well as wool, hides, and vicuna skins. The principal exports are mineral, including gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, and bismuth. Bolivia is celebrated for its tin mines, which are situated between the sixteenth and twenty-first degrees of south latitude, at an altitude of 14,000 feet above the sea, in the Departments of Oruro, Potosi, La Paz, and Cochabamba. The most important of these are at Huanani. According to the official statistics, the exports of tin ore amounted to 2,346,000 kilograms in the first quarter of 1900, and the export duties collected on tin ore and bismuth in 1899 amounted to 120,000 *bolivianos* (45.1 cents in United States currency). The Government collects a duty of 1.60 *bolivianos* on tin in bars and one *boliviano* on *barrilla*, or tin ore, per quintal. In 1899, the total exports amounted to 5,240,455 kilograms, of which 3,339,995 kilograms was *barrilla*. Antimony, borax, and bismuth are to be found in large quantities in Bolivia, but with these, as well as other products, the absence of transportation facilities interferes with their production and exportation except in very limited quantities. They are mined by the most primitive methods. With the idea of further exploiting this important industry, an item in the budget for the present fiscal year carries an appropriation of 50,000 *bolivianos* for the establishment of a college of mines to be located in the city of Oruro. At the beginning of the year the experiment of employing Japanese miners was made and a number of immigrants were brought into the country for that purpose. The production of silver in 1899 was 11,155,801 troy ounces.

Several minor ports of entry have been created on Lake Titicaca for the reason that the industrial, agricultural, and commercial interests of the towns contiguous to Lake Titicaca required facilities for the export of their mining products to smelting establishments existing in the Department of Puno. The rubber and other industries carried on in the Mapiri regions and the provinces of Larecaja and Muñecas shared in this demand for an outlet, and Huaicho, Sotolaya, Copacacana, and Carabuco were accordingly designated, and a custom-house dependency was created at Desaguadero. The steamers on Lake Titicaca have free access to the ports named on their trips from Puno to Chililaya and return. A steamer built in England was taken to the lake in sections, by rail, and put together on the shore for traffic service.

A new mining law was promulgated on April 11 which repealed all laws relating to mining previously in force, a full translation of which is to be found in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for July. The national college of civil and mining engineering above referred to, as established at Oruro, was established under a special law, and 16 free scholarships have been granted to high-school students who have distinguished themselves in the studies and conduct.

The quinine plantations of the Republic are said to have been started by German immigrants having some knowledge of chemistry and chemical products. The groves known as "quinine quinales" are usually found on rough, broken mountain sides, at altitudes of from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above the sea. Most of the trees are raised from the seed, which is gathered in the early summer months and sprouted in hothouses. The prepared bark is exported. It was reported in September that a great discovery of india-rubber forests of vast extent had been made in the Department of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and on the Magdalena in the Department of Beni. In the province of Caupepolican, Department of La Paz, there have also been discovered some splendid forests in which there grow some species of rubber trees heretofore unknown.

On February 1 the governmental departments of the Republic were removed from Sucre to La Paz, the latter city being declared by Presidential decree to be the seat of the national Government.

On March 8 the Government promulgated a decree setting apart a portion of the Republic for colonists. This is called the "Territory of the Colonies," and foreigners who have resided within its confines continuously for a year may declare themselves citizens of the Republic, and are entitled to all the rights of the Constitution, including religious toleration, although the State recognizes and maintains the Roman Catholic Apostolic religion. A government was prepared for this Territory and officers appointed to serve for four years.

Various measures have been enacted in the course of the year 1900 tending to advance the economic condition of the Republic, among them the modification by a Presidential decree, issued February 14, of the duties on rubber, the new rates of which were published in June. In May a bank was established at Oruro, the promoters of which are Chilean and Bolivian capitalists. The bank is authorized to have coined 2,000,000 *bolivianos* in one-half *boliviano* pieces. Bullion was purchased for this purpose and sent to the mint at Santiago, Chile, for coinage. On the first of the year 1901 a parcels-post convention with Germany went into effect which can not fail to have a beneficial influence on trade relations with that country. In accordance with a Federal decree of April 1, 1900, a general census of the Republic was taken on September 1. The National Bureau of Immigration and Statistics at La Paz had charge of the work of counting the population. The

Government exerted itself to the utmost to secure an accurate enumeration, but the result has not yet been announced. In June last a military college was founded at La Paz. The inauguration was made under exceedingly favorable auspices and the institution is meeting with marked success. A large number of students from the different districts and Departments of the Republic have been enrolled.

The Commission which investigated the question of limits between Bolivia and the Argentine Republic made a final report to the Bolivian Government and delivered its cartographic maps. The last work covered investigations regarding the zone which extends from Esmoraca to Zapalero.

Congress convened on August 6 at La Paz, and President PANDO delivered his annual message, which was a very important one. As a prelude, the President declared a general amnesty for political malefactors. The relations of Bolivia were declared to be friendly with all the world. The Argentine boundary line was declared to have been satisfactorily established, while an endeavor was being made to put into execution the Brazilian boundary treaty of 1867, in conformity to a protocol of March 30, 1900. Commissioners to Mexico and Venezuela were provided for so that amicable agreements might be entered into. The relations with Brazil, Chile, and Peru were cordial, and with reference to the United States the President said:

"Bolivia is endeavoring to extend her commerce with the United States and, in response to the invitation of that Republic, she has accepted the invitations to take part in the Exposition to be held at Buffalo, and the Pan-American Congress, which will assemble in Mexico in October of next year."

The commercial and industrial prospects are flattering, with increased customs receipts at Antofagasta. The postal service has been systematized. A new issue of 5-cent postage stamps was authorized and Government telegraph lines are being repaired and extended. Attention is also being directed to the construction of railroads, highways, and better bridle roads. An active interest is being taken by the Government in the promotion of primary as well as higher education.

On August 27 the President delivered a special message to Congress on the subject of railroad construction and the necessity of improved transportation facilities. The cost of constructing the roads specifically named by the President is fixed at about \$827,305 United States currency.

The official reception by President MCKINLEY of Señor Don FERNANDO E. GUACHALLA as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Bolivia near the Government of the United States, took place on October 22, 1900, at the White House, Washington.

Brazil.—In a recent signed communication in the daily press the Minister from Brazil to the United States briefly but fittingly sum-

marized the history of the country so ably represented by him. Part of this summary is as follows:

"With a territory practically as large as the entire European continent, a soil of wonderful fertility, a variety of climate to suit every kind of production and industry, and a people filled with patriotic pride of country and keenly alive to the advantages of modern development, Brazil's future is roseate with promise. Hampered for the first seventy years of its independence by the restrictions of a monarchical form of government, its progress has not been rapid, but the ten years it has passed under the beneficent Government of a Federative Republic has witnessed its advance by bounds and leaps, and the next hundred years will show a development only possible in a country so rich with natural resources as is Brazil.

"The Republic of Brazil was proclaimed on November 15, 1889, the downfall of the empire occurring without war. In fact, Brazil has accomplished many important changes in political and social conditions without bloody strife. Her independence of Portugal was achieved without war; her transformation from a monarchy occurred without war, and slavery was abolished without war. Four years after the establishment of the Republic, a revolution occurred, but it was confined to three or four States, and was entirely suppressed within two years."

The great commodities of the country are coffee and rubber, though the latter has not been so important until within the past few years. The financial condition of the Republic is dependent, to a great extent, on the prices received for both. While the price of coffee, until last year, has steadily declined, rubber values have advanced. As expressed by the President of the Republic, "The great need of Brazil is to find new markets and to enlarge the former ones for its coffee." Since 1895, many plantations of coffee trees have come into bearing, while the demand for their fruit has not increased proportionately. The complete statistics relative to the coffee crop are not yet available, but the first half of the season, beginning July 1, 1899, and ending June 30, 1900, brought an unexpected improvement in the position of the Brazilian market. The coffee year started with the most unfavorable prospects. The world's stock had reached a higher figure than any previously recorded. On July 1, 1899, the supply was 368,166 tons against 324,720 tons at the beginning of the previous twelve months, and 182,980 tons on July 1, 1895. This was an increase in four years of more than 101 per cent. In addition, there was a prospect of a large crop for 1899-1900, estimated at from 9,750,000 to 10,000,000 bags. Exporters, as well as dealers, concluded contracts for delivery at long terms and at prices greatly reduced.

At the commencement of the half year 10,000 *reis* per *arroba* was paid for New York grade No. 7, dropping to the lowest point, 9,000

reis per *arroba*, in the first half of September. But at the end of that month prices went up rapidly so that No. 7 brought 11,200 to 11,400 *reis* per *arroba* during the first half of October, and at the end of the month they had risen to 12,800 *reis* per *arroba*. Prices rose to 15,000 *reis* in November and closed at 14,000 *reis* at the end of the year. The supplies at Rio de Janeiro amounted to 2,007,500 bags in the second half year of 1899, to which were added the stocks in the interior, 1,242,500 bags, which represents an aggregate crop of 3,250,000 bags. The shipments amounted to 2,070,600 bags, 525,500 of which went to Europe, 1,278,400 to the United States, 97,400 to Cape Colony, and the remainder to various other countries. The United States is Brazil's greatest market, and for the fiscal year ending June 30 its purchases amounted to 601,520,169 pounds in weight and \$34,333,762 in value. This was an average price per pound of 5.71 cents.

Brazil's coffee crop for ten years beginning 1890-91 and ending 1899-1900 shows a grand aggregate of 72,309,000 bags. Of the world's coffee crop 60 per cent is produced in Brazil, and on an average 70 per cent of the duty on merchandise imported by Brazil is paid by the exporters of this product. A coffee propaganda has been established in England, having for its object the development of the European market. Another coffee association was organized in São Paulo, which will have representatives and salesrooms in various parts of the world. It was announced early in the year that the Austrian Lloyds and Royal Hungarian Adriatic steamship companies, which ply regularly to Brazilian ports, had agreed to make a special reduction of 50 per cent on the freight rates of all coffees shipped to Fiume, Trieste, and to ports on the Mediterranean, Adriatic, and Black seas.

The great rubber-producing State of the Republic is Amazonas, the commerce of which depends entirely upon the production of caoutchouc, which is almost the sole industry of the region. The total amount of caoutchouc which is produced in the world is calculated at 57,500 tons annually; of this the valley of the Amazon (Brazil, Peru, and Bolivia) yields 25,000 tons, or nearly one-half. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, the United States purchased 28,175,787 pounds of Brazilian rubber, having a customs valuation of \$17,954,490. In the previous fiscal year the total number of pounds received was 27,464,654, valued at \$16,999,345. The State of São Paulo has enacted a law for the payment of premiums to cultivators of the mangabeira rubber tree. Premiums were also offered to persons who were successful in acclimating other plants producing a good elastic gum and to those who should devise a superior method of extracting the sap from the trees without permanent injury to them. Maniçoba rubber is being cultivated extensively, the plants being raised from seed; most of the rubber collected is, however, from forest trees. A Belgium explorer claims to have found a superior variety of rubber (*Pecambira*) on the upper Juruá River.

While the main dependence of the Republic is in the production of coffee and rubber, other products of agriculture and the forest are not being neglected, as can be seen from the items which have appeared during the past year. The silk industry in Paraná has made considerable progress and the future of this branch of development is most promising. Mulberry trees are being planted and the silkworm is raised in a number of the colonial centers. The production in 1899 amounted to 400 kilograms, and it is believed that in 1900 the production will have reached 1,000 kilograms. The Yerba Maté Tea Company was organized in the United States during the past summer with a capital stock of \$100,000. Its purpose is to create a market for this product, which is regarded in South America as far superior to the teas of China, India, and Japan. In São Paulo cotton is being planted on a large scale by the Piraciçaba cotton factories, which expect within a comparatively short time to be able to supply all the sacking necessary for the moving of the coffee crop. At Itú large and promising plantations of cotton have also been inaugurated. The cultivation of cotton is also being carried on with success in Villa do Pilar. The exports of cotton to England during the past year have been extremely large.

Rice was planted in some sections of the country during the past year and the results were satisfactory. Fruit trees from the United States were procured for experimental planting at a colony in the State of São Paulo. A scarcity of ipecacuanha is noted, owing to the employment of the laborers at rubber gathering. The cultivation of this plant presents unlimited possibilities. Two rice-cleaning mills were established in the State of São Paulo. Wheat was sown in the State of Minas Geraes for experimental purposes, and if reasonably successful the sowing for 1901 will be on a larger scale. Wheat flour was manufactured from grain raised near Goyaz, and for the first time in the history of the country was sold in competition with flours from the Argentine Republic and the United States. The National Society of Agriculture held a congress beginning July 14. At that time a museum of national products was inaugurated in Rio de Janeiro. An exhibition of the products of the State of Rio Grande do Sul was held at Porto Alegre, beginning November 15.

There is a lack of laborers in the interior States, as too many of the immigrants settled in Rio de Janeiro. Efforts have been made toward securing Italian colonists for the coffee States of the Republic. Some 273 foreigners from Europe were naturalized during the year, and according to the report of an official connected with the United States Government the stream of Jews from Roumania has recently been diverted to Brazil. They are guaranteed good treatment by that Republic so long as they comply with the laws of the land, and will make good citizens. The State of São Paulo has recently promulgated a decree authorizing the Government to enter into a contract

for the introduction of 50,000 immigrants. The Government of the State of Minas Geraes has established an agricultural colony of Germans at a place called Novo Baden.

Brazil has been celebrated in the past century as a producer of gold and diamonds. As an indication of its output of gold, WERNHAGEN says Brazil put \$300,000,000 of this metal into universal circulation during the eighteenth century alone. The metal was abundant in the States of Minas Geraes, Bahia, Matto Grosso, and Loyoz. It was found almost on the surface of the land, and the miners dug only shallow mines. When surface gold became scarce the mining fever decreased considerably. There is now a movement in favor of the use of modern processes. Some mines are already yielding abundantly, and gold veins have been discovered crossing the entire territory from French Guiana on the extreme north to Rio Grande do Sul in the extreme south. Brazil possesses rich mines of almost every kind of metals and precious stones, its diamonds ranking among the best in the world. The following are some of the mining items which were elaborated upon in the MONTHLY BULLETIN during the year 1900:

Gold mines at Juez de Fóra, of which the percentage of pure gold ranges from 50 to 100 grams per ton of ore; preliminary examinations of gold mines (some of which are now being worked) at Caethé, Santa Barbara, Ouro Preto, Antonio Pereira, Santa Ana, and Subara; the Tassara gold mines of Oura Preto; gold mines at Morro Velho, Passagem, São Bento, Juca, Veira, Santa Quiteria, Curão, and Honorio Bicalco, all situated within a radius of 12 leagues and now employing 5,000 men. The product is reported to be worth, on an average, 16,000,000 *milreis*. The manganese industry at Bahia is increasing its output, while the kaolin and mica deposits at Alta do Rio Doce and the manganese deposits in Minas Geraes are attracting renewed attention. Three new companies were formed in the latter State for working these deposits. Quicksilver deposits have been discovered at Tripuby.

There were exported from the State of Minas Geraes in the first half of the year 1900 precious stones and minerals to the value of 12,623,000 *milreis*. Of this sum diamonds were represented by 255,000, gold by 7,034,000, and manganese by 5,334,000 *milreis*. A foreign syndicate is reported to have purchased for 3,500,000 *francs* (\$700,000) the Tassara gold diggings near Ouro Preto, in Minas Geraes. Negotiations are in progress for other gold mines in this State. The oil-bearing shales of the northeast coast of the country are declared to be worthy of exploitation by Prof. J. C. BRANNER, of the Leland Stanford University, California. Congress has decreed that the heavy import duties on machinery, implements, and other mining accessories should be replaced by a tax of only 5 per cent *ad valorem*, while the State Government of Minas Geraes has reduced the export duty on gold from 5 per cent to 3½ per cent. A law was also promulgated by this State for a more

clear codification of the regulations affecting prospecting and mining concessions. The annual production of diamonds in the Republic is about 40,000 carats, of which in the fiscal year 1900 the United States imported \$3,363 worth.

The four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Brazil was inaugurated on January 1, under the auspices of a private organization of patriotic citizens called the Association of the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Discovery of Brazil. There were numerous exercises and celebrations of this anniversary, but the only official cognizance taken by the Government was the issuance of a special set of commemorative postage stamps of the value respectively of 100, 200, 500, and 700 *reis*, with a circulation limited to February 28. The programme of the exercises from January 1 to May 3 was published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN. The President of the Republic and each of the members of his Cabinet subscribed 4 *contos* to the funds of the Association, a total of 28 *contos*, and a monument commemorative of the celebration was dedicated in Largo da Gloria May 3, 1900. An exposition to commemorate the event was opened at Pará on December 1.

On January 1 a new customs tariff law was enacted. A list of the articles on which the rate of duty was changed was published in January. The proportion of the duty to be paid in gold was fixed at 15 per cent. On January 8 a decree was issued establishing a Bureau of Commercial Statistics. The official staff was inaugurated with a Director and eight clerks, the object of the Bureau being the compilation and publication of the official figures with especial relation to foreign commerce.

A new and cheap arrangement was provided, on January 1, 1900, for forwarding packages from Germany to Brazil and the State of the River Plate. On the 1st of September, according to an arrangement between the countries concerned, a system of exchange for postal parcels was inaugurated between France and Brazil, via Portugal. A commercial agreement has been concluded between Brazil and Italy, the result being a reduction by 20 *lire* of the duty on Brazilian coffees imported by Italy and the application of the minimum tariff rates to Italian products imported by Brazil. A protocol was entered into with reference to the boundary line between Brazil and Bolivia, dividing the territory of both countries on the upper Amazon River. This constitutes the Acre district lying between the two countries named and Peru, and which claims to be an independent Republic, though not recognized by any country. On the 6th of December, 1899, the counter cases of Brazil and France, in the arbitration of the boundary line between Brazil and French Guiana, were delivered to the President of the Swiss Confederation. The cases of both parties were submitted on the 4th and 5th of the previous April. The decision of the arbitrator, made in December, 1900, awarded most of the territory in

dispute to Brazil. The ratifications of a treaty of extradition with Chile were exchanged on May 8, and the ratifications of the treaty concluded between Brazil and the Argentine Republic, to define the boundary of the Territory of the Misiones, were exchanged on May 26.

The annual message of President CAMPOS SALLES was delivered at the opening session of the National Congress on May 1. The part of this document which is of especial interest was that relative to the finances of the Republic. The President referred to the grave situation of the country when he began his administration and stated that his aim had been to reduce expenses and to increase revenues, and that this was to be his future policy. The Government is confidently awaiting the approach of July 1, 1901, which is the date fixed for the resumption of specie payments. All the Treasury notes issued during the fiscal year were paid within that period, and up to the 31st of March 71,658,996 *milreis* in paper money had been redeemed. The Uruguayan bonds, quoted at 59, were exchanged for Brazilian bonds at 60. The total revenue during the fiscal year amounted to 19,416,706 *milreis*, gold, and 302,693,000 *milreis*, paper. The expenditures were 225,942,225 *milreis*, paper, and 14,092,046 *milreis*, gold, showing a balance of 88,311,775 *milreis*, paper, and 5,325,660 *milreis*, gold. A study of the general conditions of the country and an analysis of the revenues lead to the belief that the receipts of the present fiscal year will not be below those of the preceding year. The concluding paragraph of the message is as follows:

"The slow but continual appreciation of our currency, exhibited by the rise and stability of exchange, the increased value of our exports, manifested by the rise in the price of coffee; the reestablishment of our credit, as shown by the notable rise in the price of our bonds abroad and the increasing number of investments by foreign capitalists in Brazil; the balance, or surplus, in the budget, due to the reduction of expenditures and the marked increase in the revenue; certainty on the part of the Government, and greater confidence on the part of our creditors in our ability to resume specie payments on our foreign obligations—these are the results of the efforts and devotion not only of Congress and the Government, but also, it is just to say, of the Brazilian people, who have willingly made every sacrifice asked of them in order to restore the credit of the Republic."

Dr. CAMPOS SALLES, since he assumed the Presidency, has done much to improve the finances of the country generally, and the resumption of the specie payment of all coupons almost immediately appears to be a practical certainty. One of the first results of this will be the complete reestablishment of confidence internationally regarding the country's financial position, which, coupled with the great improvement in trade, will reflect itself in higher prices for all the better-class national securities. An increased and steadily growing demand for Brazilian Government securities is one of the first apparent effects.

The report of the Minister of Finance shows that the actual paper money in circulation amounts to 703,000 *contos*. The Minister does not approve of stopping speculation by special laws, but advocates the gradual reduction of paper circulation.

The Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies estimates the public revenue of the country for 1901 at 278,565,000\$ in currency and 46,191,667\$ in gold, making a total of 324,756,667\$. For 1900 the budget estimate is 28,347,667\$593 in gold and 312,938,000\$ in currency, making a total of 341,285,667\$593.

During the ten years of the Republic's existence, the trackage of the railroads of the country has been doubled and a systematic plan for constant increase has been adopted. There are at present 63 lines of railway operating separately. The aggregate length under traffic is 14,801 kilometers (9,197 miles). Of this total, 1,462 kilometers are broad gauge (1.6 meters), 12,459 kilometers are 1-meter gauge, and 887 kilometers are three-fourths of a meter gauge. During the past twelve months the MONTHLY BULLETIN has contained a number of items regarding plans for new railways and the extension of those already in existence.

The exports to the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, were valued at \$58,073,457, gold, against \$57,875,747 in the previous twelve months. The imports from the United States for 1899-1900 were worth, at a gold valuation, \$11,578,119, against \$12,239,036 in the previous fiscal year.

According to the latest official reports, there were 17 banks in Rio de Janeiro, with a capital stock of \$43,788,150, United States currency. This was exclusive of the "Banco da Republica do Brazil," with an authorized capital of \$20,000,000, now in the process of liquidation, the "Caixa Economica e Monte Socorro," a bank of deposit which lends money on deposits of jewelry, etc., and a Belgian bank with a capital of \$4,825,000, recently granted a charter. These institutions are controlled by English, French, German, and Brazilian capitalists.

On July 17, 1900, the National Congress enacted a law requiring imported goods with Portuguese labels to have printed in capital letters and colored ink across such labels the name of the country in which the article originated. At latest accounts the law was to take effect on January 1, 1901.

New issues of postage stamps of the denominations respectively of 200, 100, and 50 *reis* were authorized February 1, 1900, in accordance with the decision of the Postal Union to adopt uniform colors for stamps used for international letter, postal-card, newspaper, and parcel postage.

A number of important concessions to foreign companies and home and foreign investors were issued during the year. Several of these are for the establishment of colonies and others for manufacturing

industries. Both are helping in the development of the country. A concession has been granted for the construction of a new wharf at Rio de Janeiro, the plans providing for a wharf divided into three sections, with a total length of 4,732 meters. Improvements have been authorized for the port of Pará in connection with the extension of the waterworks and sanitary arrangements of that city. Port improvements have also been authorized at Bahia.

The following new steamship services have been noted: The Hamburg-American Steamship Company established a regular monthly service to the cities of Pará and Manaus, which will of necessity have great influence in the development of the German trade. A new Spanish line between Barcelona, Spain, and Paillac, Brazil, the River Plate ports and Valparaiso, Chile, is now in operation.

Other events noted included the following:

Active preparations were made during the latter part of the year for inaugurating, early in 1901, an exposition at Bella Horizonte, the capital of Minas Geraes, the enterprise having both State and municipal support. The lines of the submarine cable between Pará and Pernambuco, in order to more properly care for the increased commerce between these points, as with the United States and European markets, are to be increased. A National Congress of Education was held at Rio de Janeiro during the anniversary celebrations. Don CARLOS DE CARVALHO, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been named as the delegate of Brazil at the Pan-American Congress to be held in Mexico. The census of the Republic was taken in 1900, but the results are not yet known.

Chile.—The conditions of this Republic, both financial and commercial, improved steadily throughout the year 1900. The general upward trend of prices for minerals, especially for gold and silver and copper, and the increased output of nitrates, have materially assisted in the development of this state of affairs. This was supported by an increased interest in industrial enterprises, especially in home manufactures and the progressive attitude of the Government. Chile's mineral resources can not be excelled, and when that period is reached when the country is covered with a network of the great arteries of trade—railroads—it will have become one of the greatest mineral-producing countries in the world.

The native Chileans possess ability and energy, and are consequently progressive and ambitious. During the year there has been marked industrial progress. The protective system recently adopted is already bearing fruit in sugar refineries, boot manufactories, establishments for tinning meat and canning fruit, for the galvanizing of iron, and, if reports current are true of the successful floating of companies in England, woolen and cotton factories will soon be established in the country. An attempt is being made to grow sugar beets on a large scale. A movement is on foot to amalgamate the four large breweries

in the country, all of which produce excellent beer. As a result of this industrial activity, the exports have of late been materially in excess of the imports, and the equilibrium of exchange has so far been restored that the paper dollar is almost at par. The value of local shares in banks and gas and other industrial companies has risen from 10 to, in some cases, more than 20 per cent. The rate of interest at the banks is being reduced, and expectation prevails of a restoration of the commercial and monetary conditions which prevailed previous to 1891. In their half-yearly statements the banks and investment companies generally reported the most satisfactory period in years. The present Government of Chile is credited with a special anxiety to provide a complete system of internal communication in the form of a trunk railway traversing the country from north to south, and connected, where necessary, with the ports on the coast and rich Andean valleys by lateral branches.

It has been stated that a United States firm recently engaged in conference with influential Chileans for agreement upon some economical plan for the completion of the longitudinal railway of northern Chile. The line will extend from Calera to Pisagua, a total length of nearly 2,300 kilometers, more than 1,300 kilometers of which are still to be built. The width of the road being uneven in certain isolated portions of the line, it will be necessary to relay the greater part of it. The length of the road which can be used is 942 kilometers. Chile has always been interested in the construction of this line, the strategic value of which is of first importance. It will open up the northern Provinces, rich in nitrates, which at present can only be reached by water. While this line will prove a great factor in the development of these Provinces, it does not seem destined to yield large profits. Consequently, the construction and exploitation will not be the object of private enterprise, as is the case of the other northern lines. But the Government, having a direct interest in its completion, will undoubtedly be disposed to lend its financial aid to any serious proposition within the financial means of the country.

During the past calendar year the MONTHLY BULLETIN has contained many translations of laws regulating concessions for the building of new railway lines and the extension and improvement of those already in existence. One of the most important of these transactions took place on March 19, when there was a judicial sale of the Chilean section of the uncompleted railway known as "Clark's Transandine Railway" to the Chilean creditors for \$1,500,000 Chilean currency. It is stated that the Government has agreed to take over the property for the same amount and will continue the construction of the line to a point where a tunnel of about 6 miles in length is required to make connection with the line on the Argentine side, now in progress of completion.

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

The National Congress of Chile was opened at Valparaiso on June 1, and the message of the Chief Executive created a very favorable impression. He stated that the previous year had been one of peace, and that Chile's relations with all the world were cordial and friendly. He announced that diplomatic relations had been entered into with Japan. Approval of various treaties was recommended, and the improvement of the port of Valparaiso was advised as a matter of necessity. The primary schools were reported to have received special attention, and the founding of others was deemed essential. The stock of gold in the mint was stated to be \$2,699,635, and coinage of that metal was about to begin. The reduction of the national debt was urged. The estimate of nitrate exportation for the fiscal year was given as 30,043,900 Spanish quintals, with estimates of 30,500,000 quintals for 1900. Further matters discussed were the repair and equipment of the national railway lines and the construction of new lines as of prime necessity to the welfare of the country; the protection of fisheries and the construction of irrigation canals, the latter being deemed of especial importance.

Regarding the financial status, the President pronounced it to be satisfactory, adding: "The fiscal year 1899 left a balance in the Treasury of \$13,046,186.45, not including \$3,178,657 invested up to December 31 in the purchase of securities in accordance with the act of July 31, 1898. Adding to this surplus \$109,355,386, the estimated receipts in gold and currency for 1900, the total available amount is found to be \$122,401,572.45. The expenses of the administration for 1900, chargeable to the budget and special laws now in force, after deducting the amounts which can not be turned into cash, will reach \$106,058,200.20, leaving a surplus at the close of the year of \$16,343,372.25. The ordinary and special receipts for the year 1901 are conservatively calculated at \$108,543,186, which, added to the foregoing surplus, makes a grand available total of \$124,886,558.25. The estimate for public expenses for the year 1901 is, in gold and silver currency, \$108,276,357.66. The funds available will therefore exceed the expenses by \$16,610,200.59.

The foreign commerce of the country, estimated in dollars of a value of 18d., amounted last year to \$269,336,491, of which \$106,260,358 was the value of the imports and \$163,106,133 the exports. The National Congress approved the estimates of Government expenses for the year 1900, amounting to \$76,415,001.95, Chilean currency, equal to \$33,954,641.25 gold.

The customs receipts at all ports for the first six months of 1900 were as follows: From imports, \$13,737,107; from exports, \$19,459,250;

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a total of \$33,196,358. The receipts for the same period of 1899 were: From imports, \$9,832,175; from exports, \$19,984,205; a total of \$29,816,280, or a difference in favor of 1900 of \$3,389,978. The figures for the full year have not yet been published. The customs tariff in force during 1899 by decree of the Government remained in force during the whole of 1900.

The estimated population of Chile on January 1 was 3,110,083. The population of each of the principal cities at that date was as follows: Santiago, 320,638; Valparaiso, 143,022; Concepción, 55,458; Talca, 42,625; Chillan, 35,052; Iquique, 38,852; Antofagasta, 18,882; Serena, 16,561; Taleahuano, 15,376; Curicó, 14,638.

Among the other important transactions of the Government the following may be noted: Bolivia is to submit the claims of its citizens against the Republic of Chile for losses sustained during the civil war to the representative of Great Britain in Santiago, who is to be the sole arbitrator. A decree was issued admitting live stock from the Argentine Republic. Señor C. MORLA VICUÑA, Chilean Minister to the United States, during a visit to the Japanese Empire, concluded a treaty of amity, navigation, and commerce between that nation and Chile. The ratifications of the treaty providing for a revival of the United States and Chilean Claims Commission of 1893 were exchanged at the Department of State of the United States on March 12, 1900. Mr. J. A. PLODA, Swiss Minister at Washington, is acting as President of the Commission. In January the arbitration treaty with Brazil was approved. On December 27, a new boundary protocol with the Argentine Republic was signed. The Department of Public Works commissioned an experienced civil engineer to make a tour of Europe for investigating the latest engineering methods. The Department of Public Instruction sent abroad a distinguished instructor to study continental methods of teaching chemistry, physics, and natural history, and a noted professor of mechanics and locomotive construction was sent to Italy to study the operations and processes employed in the iron foundry at Brescia.

The nitrate districts of the Republic extend from the south of Camarones River to the city of Taltal. Recently, considerable prospecting was done in the district of Toco, where it is estimated that 40,000,000 metric quintals of nitrate exist in paying quantities. In 1899 the total output amounted to 31,312,580 quintals, and about 20,000 laborers were employed in the production of this quantity. It is said that the output for 1900 might reach 32,000,000 quintals, provided sufficient labor could be obtained. The deposits of the Republic are estimated to contain more than 1,000,000,000 quintals, which, at an average exportation of 35,000,000 quintals per year, would last about forty-six years. On November 3, 1900, the producers of nitrates were reported to have formed a new combination, having for its pur-

pose the improvement of the industry. This agreement restricts the production to not more than 30,500,000 quintals per year. The world's consumption in the nine months ending September, 1900, was 25,079,260 quintals.

The "Commercial-Industrial Mining Review" estimates that there are more than 10,000 points in Chile where copper could be mined in paying quantities, other things being equal. The ore is found in nearly all the forms known to nature, but the investments in these properties are as yet comparatively insignificant. During the last ten years manganese ores have been exported to the value of \$12,145,179. The first shipments (4,324 tons) were made in 1884. The average for the past few years has been 50,000 tons. The amount of copper exported in 1899 was 35,854,439 kilograms (35,854 tons). The International Mining and Refining Company of Huantajaya, with a capital stock of \$300,000, was authorized by the Government to do business on August 6. The principal offices of the company are at Iquique.

Chilean agricultural products are not varied; neither are immense quantities produced. Nevertheless enough wheat is raised to supply the home demand and for export in very fruitful years. Some maize and oats are produced. The output of such commodities could be increased and new ones cultivated with proper encouragement. Efforts to effect this are being made by the Government. The following items with reference to production and colonization have been noted:

The sugar-bounty law authorizes the payment of 2 *centavos* per kilogram on all raw beet sugar produced in the country until January 1, 1905. On April 17, 1900, the first beet-sugar factory commenced operations in Santiago. The subject of agriculture in general is being considered in a scientific manner and a number of agriculturists have manifested much interest in it. The Republic is well adapted to bee culture, and doubtless good results will be obtained from this industry. The production of wine is larger in Chile than in any other American country, being 2,500,000 hectoliters. The mountainous regions produce most excellent grapes. The National Society of Agriculture of Santiago appropriated \$20,000 for the purchase of foreign agricultural machinery in 1900, which was resold at cost to the members of the society. The Government entered into a contract to place 5,000 families of agriculturists in the Provinces of Cautin, Valdivia, Llanquihue, and on the island of Chiloe. The colonists are to be of the following nationalities: Scandinavian, French, Belgian, Swiss, Dutch, English, and Scotch. It is also stated that a project was accepted by the Government in which it is specifically agreed to establish German colonies in Pitrufulquen, Villanca, and Pucon. A concession has been granted to a Santiago company for the location of colonies of German immigrants at Puerto Montt, Osorno, Union, and Valdivia. A colonization concession for the establishment of 50 families of Spanish

fishermen and agriculturists on the coast was granted on August 9. On August 25 the President was authorized by Congress to expend \$300,000 for the opening of highways and equipments for the navigation of the lakes in colonization concessions.

Other contracts and concessions noted were:

A concession to the West Coast Line Steamship Company on February 28. A contract on June 13 with the Pacific Steamship Company for the transportation of the Government mails, passengers, and freights to foreign countries reached by that line; the annual subsidy is \$6,720. A steamship service between Punta Arenas and Argentine ports was also authorized. In April the Bank of Punta Arenas was empowered to do business; this bank has a capital stock of \$500,000, and is located in Punta Arenas, Territory of Magallanes. A branch of the "Banco Aleman Transatlantico" was established in August at Antofagasta, it being also a branch of the German bank in Berlin. The Urban Street Railway Company's by-laws were approved by the Government on June 11; this company furnished street transit for the city of Valparaiso and suburbs. A board of trade was established by official decree at Antofagasta on April 11. A number of concessions were granted to insurance companies and a concession for a cooperative brewery at Santiago was authorized on May 28. A large number of patents were granted for valuable inventions during the past year, many of them to citizens of the United States.

Among other incidents, the following were noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN: The first electric tram car ever operated in the city of Santiago made a successful trip over the line on April 1, 1900. Popular interest in the incident was very keen. An international exhibition of hygiene, dentistry, and pharmacy was opened at Santiago on December 25, concurrently with the Latin-American Congress. At the beginning of the year there were 1,403 public primary and 445 private schools. The number of pupils in attendance was 106,348. There were 27 institutions known as "provincial lyceums," with 1,600 students in attendance. A national exposition was opened on December 8, 1900, in the School of Agriculture at Santiago. It will close on January 6, 1901.

At the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo the most extensive and representative exhibition of the products will be made, and an appropriation of 500,000 pesos (\$185,000 gold coin of the United States) has been provided for expenses. A decree of the Department of Industry and Public Works addressed to a large number of societies gave notice that the invitation of the United States to participate in the Pan-American Exposition had been accepted, and that in order to make a fitting selection of the resources of Chile a national exposition should be held as the best means to the attainment of that end. In this way the products best calculated for displaying the resources of

the country will be collected, and after the national exposition is over will be forwarded to Buffalo. The executive committee for the Pan-American Exposition, composed of 11 members, included the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington, the Secretary of the Legation, and the consuls of Chile at Buffalo and New York.

The exports to the United States in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, amounted to \$7,081,186, against \$2,942,962 in 1899. The imports from the United States were valued at \$3,287,362 in 1900, against \$2,107,124 in 1899.

Colombia.—During the whole of the year 1900 there have been revolutionary outbreaks in the Republic of Colombia. These started during the latter half of 1899. Despite these internal troubles, there has been considerable commercial intercourse with the outer world, and the indications are that with the return of peace there will be most rapid progress in both internal and external affairs.

On account of the absence of Señor Don M. A. SAN CLEMENTE, President of the Republic, Señor Don MANUEL MARROQUIN, Vice-President of the Republic, was selected by Congress to fill the executive chair. The new Presidential cabinet was announced on August 9.

The exports to the United States during the fiscal year which ended on June 30, 1900, were valued at \$4,307,814, against a total valuation of \$5,126,731 in 1899. In two years' time, owing to the internal troubles, the exports to the United States declined about \$1,000,000, while the exports to other countries declined proportionately. The imports from the United States declined from \$3,042,094 in 1899 to \$2,710,688 in 1900. Within the space of two years the decline in United States imports was over \$500,000, while the loss of trade to England was much greater and to other countries proportionately as large.

As Colombia has no manufactories of importance, the people are dependent to a great extent on manufactured products from abroad. Most of their immediate needs, however, are supplied from the abundance of native products with which the country has been lavishly dowered.

Among the industries of the Republic is that of manufacturing cotton goods of ordinary grade. These are used by the poorer classes and are of great durability. They are of fast colors, while their patterns appeal peculiarly to the tastes of the consumers. Other articles manufactured are stuffs for pantaloons and *ponchos*, mixed wool and cotton bed and saddle blankets, and rough woolen cloth for dresses and shawls.

Mining is carried on to some extent. The Santa Barbara Gold Placer Company of New York is engaged in mining gold along the Nechi River. The Frontino Bolivian Gold Mining Company is engaged

on the frontier. The French Gold Mining Company in the interior and another company are reworking the tailings of the Sucre mines. All these companies are reported to be prospering. The lease of the emerald mines of Muzo and Cosenez, which was granted in 1894, expires July 15, 1901. This lease is now controlled by an English company which paid \$400,000 to the original concessionaire and \$30,000 a year to the Government. The Government received bids for this concession up to December 2. The mines of Muzo are about 75 miles from Bogota and have been worked since 1568, some 13 years after their discovery. The mines of Cosenez are situated in the mountains and the more valuable stones are taken from them. The number of miners varies from 50 to 500.

The nationalities of the steamship lines whose steamers touch regularly at Colon are: American, French, German, Spanish, and Italian, one each, and four English. Other American and English lines have an irregular service to the port. The Italian Steamship Company "La Veloce" increased its service by adding two vessels during the summer. These ships ply between the Isthmus of Panama and the city of Genoa, Italy.

Among the improvements accomplished and projected and new companies organized during the year the following are noted:

New iron bridges were constructed over the Manzanares, Frio, and Sevilla rivers. That over the Frio is said to be the finest bridge in the Republic. The national coal mines of San Jorge were repaired after having been abandoned for about a year by their Italian lessees. The new wharf of the Panama Railroad was completed for service in July. The depth of water alongside is said to be 40 feet. Work is reported to have been begun on the Cuenta and Magdalena Railroad in April. The Panama Canal Company of America was incorporated in New Jersey at the beginning of the year with a capital stock of \$30,000,000. The Colombian National Railway Company, Limited, was organized in London in January. The capital stock was fixed at £1,500,000. The intention of the company is to build a railroad from Girardot, on the Magdalena River, to the Sabana Railroad.

At the close of the year efforts were made for the improvement of the Magdalena River. The Government has awarded the contract to a native firm at Barranquilla which is trying to enlist the aid of capitalists from the United States. When the mouth of the river is cleared vessels will be enabled to go direct to Barranquilla instead of stopping at Port Colombia, as now.

Among the other acts of the Government, during the year, the following were noted by the BULLETIN:

A census of the city of Bogotá was taken by the authorities on January 1, the number of inhabitants being found to be slightly in excess of 90,000. A custom-house was established at Caqueta on the frontier

of Ecuador, Brazil, and Venezuela. In January, the Government declared a cattle monopoly, owners of cattle being prohibited from selling meats except to employees of the Government. On April 30 an extension of the concession of the Panama Canal Company for six years from April, 1904, was granted. A decree was issued declaring that the match monopoly should end on April 10. At the same time matches of all kinds were put on the dutiable import schedule. These duties were again changed on September 29. On May 1 a decree was issued exacting the payment of the port dues in gold. On the same day, the import duties were increased 25 per cent *ad valorem* by the Governor of Panama. Early in June a decree was promulgated, placing a duty on exports payable in gold, but the rates proved prohibitive and were materially modified on June 26.

Costa Rica.—The events of the past year have added materially to the progress of the Republic of Costa Rica. The relations existing between the country and all other nations is of a most cordial character. Especially is this true touching the United States. Much private capital has gone from the United States to this progressive Republic during the past few years, where it has found a profitable investment.

On April 25 a new banking law went into effect, among the provisions being: That no bank is to be permitted to organize, except it shall have at least ten shareholders and a capital of 500,000 *colones*, half of which (or any larger capital stock) must be paid in. Banks are not permitted to have any real estate other than that necessary for their buildings. Any real estate secured in payment of accounts is to be sold within a year's time. Other regulations are prescribed which are designed to act as safeguards to the bankers as well as to the public.

On April 17 the Government promulgated a gold-standard law and provided that, beginning with July 15, the gold certificates should be presented for redemption in gold coin. The certificates, after verification, were ordered to be destroyed by burning. The new gold unit was named the *colon*, while all silver coins were declared to be of a subsidiary character. The final call for the presentation of gold certificates for redemption was made on August 1.

The National Congress met on May 1. At the opening session President IGLESIAS delivered his annual message. Some of the principal references were: The boundary question with Colombia; the joint boundary survey with Nicaragua; the encouragement of educational affairs, notably the founding of primary schools in all centers of population; the creation of schools of engineering, surveying, and mechanical arts; the favorable economic condition of the country; the adoption of the gold standard, and the consequent decline in the rate of exchange (from 150 to 125 per cent in fifteen days), and the progress of the Pacific Railway. The exports for 1899 were reported as approxi-

mately \$5,000,000, and the imports \$4,200,000, leaving a balance of trade in favor of the country of \$800,000. The amount of gold coin in the Republic was 5,000,000 *colones*, gold, and 1,000,000 *colones*, silver. At no previous time in the history of the country had there been so great an amount of available money. Notwithstanding this, the Government was arranging for the legalization of the circulation of the gold coins of the United States, England, France, and Germany throughout the Republic.

The exact figure of the exports of 1899 were \$4,929,954.58 gold, while the imports were valued at \$4,136,706.57, leaving a balance in favor of Costa Rica of \$793,247.91.

Among the decrees enacted at this session of Congress the following were noted:

On June 5 a decree empowering the Executive to secure plans for clearing of obstructions from the Gulf of Nicaya and the channels of the Tempisque and Las Piedras Rivers, so that steamers might be able to reach the ports of Bolsón and Bebedero. On June 7 the tariff rates on lumber imported for the district of Limón were reduced one-half. A law for the redemption of old gold coins was published on June 14. On the same date a law making the *colon* the unit for Government transactions was made public. On June 19 a law with reference to the import duty on certain kinds of wines was promulgated. On July 21 a decree for the improvement of the port and the enlargement of the town of Bebedero appeared in "La Gaceta." On the same day a decree placing a tax on railway cars and tickets of railway and other transportation companies was issued, the proceeds of this tax to be used for the benefit of the hospitals of the Republic.

Congress assembled in special session at the summons of the President on August 6 to consider a number of pertinent subjects. Chief among them were: A proposed plan for the general or partial revision of the Constitution, a law for the free importation of gold and the prohibition of the importation of silver, the reform of the postal tariff, and the free exportation of bananas.

Among the acts promulgated as a result of these deliberations were:

On August 9, a decree having for its object the protection of the cattle industry; on August 10, an import tax on cacao beans and powdered cacao; a subsidiary coinage law, enacted on August 7; a decree, operative on September 1, for the purchase of gold bullion; a decree, on September 12, providing for the free exportation of bananas, and on the same date, a decree modifying the postal-parcels act; on November 10, a decree permitting the free entry of certain railroad material.

The budget for 1900-1901 was fixed at 6,760,707.90 *colones*.

Port Limón, a town of 3,500 inhabitants, is the principal port of entry for United States goods, and is the main shipping point for the bananas of the country. The number of bunches shipped from this

point during the year 1899 was 2,700,000, and it is believed that this number was exceeded in 1900. The town has more than doubled in population in five years, and now has a good harbor, a sea wall 12 feet high and 2 miles long; has a fine water supply, wide sidewalks, macadamized streets, and electric lights. On October 14 this place was visited by a disastrous fire, which destroyed many frame business houses. The burned district is now being rebuilt with more substantial structures. On November 3 a decree was published prohibiting the use of lumber for the covering and walls of buildings that hereafter may be erected in Limón. In certain blocks (the burned district) temporary one-story buildings were allowed, but they are to be removed within two years. For that space of time iron building material, brick, sewer pipe, lime, fireproof roofing, and heavy timber for exclusive use in Limón are permitted to enter the port free of import and wharfage duties.

The coffee crop of 1899-1900 was about 16,000,000 kilograms, which was a considerable gain over the previous year. The average selling price increased about 20 per cent.

The exports of low or third grade (*tercerus*) coffees, according to a law promulgated on June 27, were required to be exported between July 1 and September 15, in order to enjoy special exemptions.

The exportation of other products, such as bananas, rubber, hides, fur skins, mother-of-pearl, and dye and cabinet woods promise to exceed like exports for the previous year. Over 50 per cent of the commerce of the Republic is with the United States.

The exports to the United States for the year ending June 30 were valued at \$2,980,030 gold, against \$3,581,899 the previous twelve months. The imports from the United States were worth \$1,240,950, against \$1,520,161 for the fiscal year 1899.

Among other items which have been noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN during the year have been the following:

The Costa Rica Railroad, controlled by British capitalists, was reported in January to be making preparations for building 28 miles of new track. The Official Gazette of February 17 published a decree whereby this road was authorized to issue preferred mortgage bonds to the amount of £200,000 for use in its proposed improvements. The National Bureau of Statistics prepared a list of the mines in the Republic, a copy of which was furnished the Bureau of the American Republics; this shows that there are numerous deposits of gold and silver, six of copper, and one of lead. The Supreme Court of the Republic during the year adopted the practice employed in the United States of reporting its decisions. In April, an issue of \$97,000 Pacific Railway gold bonds was authorized by the Government. Bridges were authorized to be constructed over the Tempisque and La Cañas rivers. A law authorizing the establishment of a central scientific agricultural station appeared in La Gaceta of July 17, and the

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approved by-laws of the Limón Clay Works, with a capital stock of \$60,000, were published by authority on July 15. In July the tramway in the city of San José was extended. The commissioners from the Republic to the Buffalo Exposition were appointed and a number of square feet of space in the buildings was allotted. The Department of Agriculture has during the year distributed samples of Chilean nitrates to planters, on request. On August 3, 15,000 *colonos* were given by the Government to the Province of Guancaste for the repair of churches and schoolhouses damaged by earthquake shocks. The last arbitral award of Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER, fixing the dividing line between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, was published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for August. The award was satisfactory to the Governments concerned. On September 6 a postal money-order convention was consummated with France. The Northern Railway was reorganized in September. This road is capitalized at \$1,600,000 stock and the same amount in 5 per cent bonds. The bonds were underwritten by a syndicate of Boston capitalists. During the same month a contract for the installation of an electric-light plant in San José was let.

Cuba.—The affairs of the island of Cuba are just now being administered by the War Department of the United States. The future status of the island depends almost entirely upon the conduct of the people themselves, especially upon the action of the delegates whom they selected to represent them in the Constitutional Convention.

The commercial statistics for the fiscal year ending June 30, show that the imports were valued at \$71,681,187, all of which were dutiable except \$4,045,754. The imports of gold coin amounted to \$5,093,096; of silver coin, \$95,016; of silver bullion, \$514. Of the total imports, those at Habana alone amounted in value to \$57,901,652. The exports from Cuba during the year were valued at \$45,228,346, classified as follows: Agricultural products, \$28,551,846; manufactures, \$13,706,346; forest products, \$649,013; minerals, \$794,399; miscellaneous, \$1,526,742. Gold coin was exported to the value of \$3,830,301; silver coin to the value of \$422,345, and silver ore, \$560. The imports from the United States were valued at \$34,347,008; from Mexico, \$3,605,538; from Central America, \$917,036; from South America, \$4,484,892, and from Porto Rico, \$1,611,237. The exports to the United States were valued at \$36,912,629; to Mexico, \$60,626; to Central America, \$7,185; to South America, \$626,484; to Porto Rico, \$81,580, and to the Hawaiian Islands, \$6,426.

On July 21 an order was promulgated fixing the time for the holding of an election for the selection of delegates to a Constitutional Convention. The date selected was on the third Saturday of September. The delegates then chosen were to meet in convention at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon, on the first Monday of November, in the city of Havana. The delegates were to frame a constitution and provide

for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba. The total number of delegates provided for and chosen was 31, ranging from 2 in the Province of Puerto Principe to 8 in Havana. At the election (September 15) of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention 186,240 votes were registered. The convention was still in session at the close of the year.

The sugar industry is the chief reliance of Cuba and its best market is the United States. Tobacco is an important product, but relatively of much less consequence than sugar. The exports of cigars and other forms of manufactured tobacco are increasing. Of the fruits raised, the chief exports are bananas, which are increasing in quantity. Pine-apple production and orange culture are increasing.

On January 1 the Governor-General announced his Cabinet. On January 31 the result of the census was announced, showing that there were 1,572,840 people on the island. The Secretary of War of the United States allotted \$25,000 for the expenses of the Cuban exhibit at the Paris Exposition. A native of the island was put in charge of it, and a very creditable showing was made, 140 prizes being awarded to different displays. According to the report of the Secretary of Public Works, issued on the 28th of September, 440 kilometers of public roads were then under construction and 1,347 were projected. The estimated outlay was \$13,000,000. A survey of the southern coast of Cuba was begun in the latter part of the year and is still in progress. As a result of the occupancy of the island by the United States, the harbors of Santiago, Guantanamo, and Carbanito have been accurately surveyed. During the year a large number of immigrants have arrived from Spain and the Canary Islands. They find employment in the interior on the sugar and tobacco plantations. A large amount of school furniture was shipped from the United States during the past year. The contracts called for almost \$500,000 worth. During the summer some 1,200 Cuban teachers spent a few weeks in educational centers in the United States. In January, coal was reported to have been discovered near Nipi Bay. The finding of a sufficient coal supply would be of immense value to the future Government. A Pan-American Medical Congress was to be held in Havana on December 26, 27, 28, and 29, but was postponed until February 5-9, 1901.

Ecuador.—Considerable progress along commercial, industrial, and educational lines has been noted in the Republic of Ecuador during 1900. The advance in the price of silver and the increased demand for mineral products have added greatly to the material progress. It is claimed, however, that an agricultural product—cacao—is the industrial base to which the country owes its prosperity. During the year the quantity of this article increased, while, at the same time, the prices received were more remunerative. The bulk of the cacao of the country

continues to go to France, but the amount taken by the United States is gradually increasing. In 1899 the exports were 21,644,541 kilograms, an increase over the previous year of 5,500,000 kilograms, and it is reasonable to suppose that, from the figures given for the first six months of 1900, the exports for the year will show a still greater increase.

The mineral deposits of Ecuador have long attracted attention. Among the mines in operation are gold mines in several Provinces; one or two paying silver mines; copper mines in the Provinces of Loja and Azuay; mercury near Guayaquil; petroleum on the Pacific coast (not developed); anthracite near Riobamba, besides salt, sulphur, and gypsum deposits. Despite ample deposits Ecuador, produces only about 250 kilograms of gold per year for export. In March of 1900 large deposits of copper and silver were reported as discovered by European metallurgists in the Province of Azuay at a distance of 35 miles from the coast and about 5,000 feet above sea level. A valuable sulphur mine was discovered and preempted in May by the Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company.

The rubber trade is increasing, and the exports of this commodity are now valued at more than \$650,000 per year, over one-half of which is taken by the United States. The high price of rubber is causing the exploitation of new fields, and in March a company for this purpose was organized in the city of Quito, having a capital of 150,000 *suces*.

The Government, under President ALFARO, has paid special attention to the development of the means of communication. Work on the Pailón and Manabi roadways, which are to connect the capital with the coast, is progressing steadily. In May the Government transferred 65 miles of railroad, between Duran and Chimbo, to the Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company, together with all buildings, shops, grounds, and rolling stock belonging thereto. The amount paid for the property was \$750,000, gold. On July 9 the announcement was made that a United States builder had been awarded the contract to build sections of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway in Ecuador for the Ecuadorian Association of Scotland at a contract price of \$16,000,000. The road will be 300 miles in length, and will extend through the Andes Mountains. For the first 100 miles the work will be very heavy, being mostly sidehill and rock work, when an altitude of about 12,000 feet will be reached on the plateau of the Andes. The route will continue on this plateau for about two-thirds of the distance. It is proposed to build a first-class road in every detail, having a 42-inch gauge. Great obstacles will have to be overcome in the course of construction, as the grade rises 11,700 feet in 200 miles, and has 50 miles of continuous 4 per cent grade. Over 1,000 laborers were engaged in Jamaica for work on this road.

One of the products of Ecuador is a nut known as "vegetable ivory," which is produced on a species of palm. The gathering of these nuts is performed by Indians and half-breeds, the annual production reaching about 11,500 metric tons. Of this total, two-thirds are taken by Germany and about one-sixth by the United States.

A description of the "jipijapa" or Panama hat industry was published in the BULLETIN during the year, Ecuador being the home of this branch of manufacture, whence it has spread to other countries. The work of the natives of Ecuador, which is done in the homes, is, however, as yet, superior to all other efforts in this direction, and commands the highest prices.

The city of Guayaquil, situated on the Guaymas river, 60 miles from the sea, and having a splendid harbor, is now a most important business emporium and is increasing its trade with the United States. The population in 1895 was about 50,000, and it is now said to be quite 60,000. A contract was let during the early part of the year for the installation of an electric plant in the city, though the tramcars are still drawn by mules. As the tramway earnings in 1899 were 24 per cent of their stock, electric power will hardly be substituted so long as such prosperous conditions prevail.

On January 15 the Commercial and Agricultural Bank and the Bank of Ecuador declared annual dividends of 15 per cent each. These banks control the financial system of the country and are considered among the strongest in South America. Their stocks are difficult to obtain, selling at 160 and 155, respectively. On April 30 the assets of the former bank were \$13,773,940.15, while those of the latter were \$7,151,837.16.

The exports to the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, were valued at \$1,524,378, gold, showing an increase of 50 per cent over the exports of 1899, when they were worth \$1,054,653, and of about 100 per cent over those of 1898, when they were represented by \$765,590. The imports from the United States were worth \$1,216,008 in 1900, against \$882,591 in 1899.

In June a contract was let for a steel bridge over the Guailabamba River at a point near the village of the same name, and a furniture factory and planing mill were inaugurated in Guayaquil during the month of February.

On January 1, a law came into effect which provided that the coasting and river trade should be carried on only in national vessels, and the Executive was empowered to permit foreign ships to share in this trade when necessary, provided they complied with the national laws and requirements. On the same date the tariff rates on imports were increased 10 per cent over those of 1899. By a Presidential decree, the custom-house duties are to be applied to the liquidation of war expenses, with the exception of those already destined to public instruc-

tion and to the Southern Railway. On January 19 the Military Committee of the National House of Representatives of the United States voted to admit a son of President ALFARO to the Military Academy at West Point. A military institution, known as the Academy of War, was founded in Quito on March 10, under the supervision of the Minister of War, and a number of cadets were appointed. The provisions of the new trade-mark law were published in the June issue of the BULLETIN. During the year a number of teachers for the normal schools of the Republic were obtained from the United States, and in February the number of students in the advanced schools of the Republic was said to be 6,478, having increased from 600 in 1898. The Government has declared *The History of Ecuador* and *The Geography of Ecuador*, written by Don ROBERTO ANDRADE, official textbooks for use in the schools.

At the opening of the National Congress on August 23, Señor Don ELOY ALFARO, President of the Republic, delivered a most interesting message. According to this document the receipts during the last economic year amounted to \$7,565,963.99, to which must be added \$59,866.37 on hand in the Treasury on January 1, 1899, making a total of \$7,625,830.36. The disbursements were \$6,662,944.73, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$962,885.63. The customs receipts during the year were \$6,184,623.17, an increase of \$108,105.11 over the preceding year. The tax on salt amounted during the year to \$247,587.57. Other sources which were also productive of a large revenue were the following: Liquors, \$337,552.57; excise duties, \$203,377.52; tobacco, \$39,031.81; powder, \$41,391.96; revenue stamps, \$152,628.23; postage stamps, \$62,244.32.

Referring to the Pan-American Congress at the City of Mexico, the President said:

"I congratulate myself upon being able to announce to you the early assembling of another International American Congress. All that tends to strengthen the bonds of fraternity by means of general reciprocal agreements between friendly and sister nations has always deserved the preferential attention of our Government, and therefore Ecuador will participate in the coming Congress, which may be the means of realizing many of the aspirations of America, such as giving uniformity and force to American common law, establishing a uniform monetary system in the New World, and reducing to a practical form the stupendous project of an intercontinental railway, etc."

It was announced that the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Ecuador, Señor DON LUIS F. CARBO, near the Governments of Colombia and the United States of North America, had removed temporarily from Bogotá to Washington. The improvements and construction of highways, railroads, bridges, and telegraph and telephone lines were enumerated in the message and the general progress

of internal affairs was praised. There are now in operation 2,200 kilometers of telegraph line, while telephone service has been established from Quito to the coast and also to Ibarra.

Guatemala.—The Republic of Guatemala is one of the most thickly populated of the five Central American countries, having an area of 164,200 square kilometers (47,810 square miles) and a population, according to the census of 1893, of 1,364,678, and according to present estimates of 1,500,000. Guatemala City, the capital, is the largest city, and has a population of 75,000.

During 1900 the country was fairly prosperous, an augmentation in the price of coffee, the chief product and dependence of the country, having a beneficial effect. Good crops and fair prices prevailed for other agricultural products, to the cultivation of which more attention is now being paid. A study of the rubber of Guatemala was made during last year by a French agriculturist of note and he pronounces it to be of a most excellent quality, with a high commercial value. This product is obtained from a wild tree known as *Castilloa elastica* *cero*. It is asserted that the development of the industry by the cultivation of the trees could, in a short time, become one of the main dependencies of the Republic as a source of income.

Guatemala is essentially an agricultural country. A great part of the population is composed of Indians who have few needs. Their lands produce abundantly, being of extraordinary fertility—corn, for example, yielding four crops a year. The principal agricultural products are coffee, sugar cane, cacao, bananas, and corn. The coffee from this Republic is quoted in German markets as next in value to Java, Mocha, and Porto Rican coffees. An export duty of \$6 per quintal on cleaned coffee, and a proportionate duty on "parchment" coffee was declared on July 1 for a period of one year. The estimated crop for the year is between 800,000 and 1,000,000 quintals, and the quality is said to be of superior character. Germany comes first in the Guatemalan trade, the United States, England, and France following in the order named. Germany's place in this commerce is due on the one hand to the fact that a regular steamship line, the *Kosmos*, connects Hamburg with the Guatemalan ports, and on the other, to the enormous sums which have been invested in the country by German capitalists. As, from an industrial point of view, Guatemala is an entirely new country, it necessarily follows that almost all the manufactured articles come from abroad, principally from Europe and the United States.

The mineral resources of the Republic are varied and of considerable moment. The presence of gold, silver, copper, lead, and mercury, as well as salt, mica, gypsum, and chalk, is noted at various points of the country. Aside from the desultory working of some of the gold bars of the rivers by private parties and the development of a quartz

silver mine in the Department of Santa Rosa, the great natural resources of the mountainous regions may be said to be dormant. A new mining law was enacted on May 7, which was regarded of great importance. Mines in Guatemala belong exclusively to the nation, and form a sort of real property distinct and separate from lands or superficial surface, although the former and the latter may belong to the same owner. They are acquired by means of a procedure begun before the Department of Finance, or the *Jefatura política* (governor) of the district where the mines are located, by denouncement or request of concession, as the case may be. The spirit of the Spanish laws is that which still governs mining properties. Salt works were authorized to be established by decree of the Government in October. The works are to be located on the Pacific coast and the salt obtained by evaporation of sea water. The concessionaire is to have a monopoly, but his prices are to be restricted to \$1.75 per 50 kilograms. The concession is to be in force for twenty-five years, after which time the works revert to the Government. During the year two mica mines were discovered in the Department of Salamá.

On January 1 changes were made by the Government in the tariff rates, the import duties being materially reduced (30 per cent), while the export tax on cattle was removed.

The budget for the year ending June 30 provided for expenses to the amount of \$9,611,200.96. At its session in May the National Assembly elected a first and second Vice-President. The following were among the transactions of the Government during the year:

On May 2 a decree was issued repealing the export duties on fresh fruits. In the same month new fractional currency was authorized, and one-half *peso* notes to the amount of \$1,000,000 were to be issued by the Bank of the Occident. A new immigration law was enacted, a full translation of which appeared in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for July. On June 11 the export tax on cattle was fixed at \$70 per head, and on the same date a series of 1-cent and 6-cent postage stamps was issued. By decree, the President was authorized to have four young men educated abroad, at the expense of the Government, as mining engineers. A new Ministry was installed in office on July 1. A decree regulating the sanitation of ships was issued on July 12. On July 13 an issue of \$2,000,000 in nickel coins of the value of one, one-half, and one-fourth *real*, respectively, was authorized. Of these, \$1,200,000 was to be in *reals* (12½ cents); \$600,000 in one-half *reals*, and \$200 in one-fourth *reals*. On July 16 a decree establishing a Board of Agriculture in each Department of the Republic was promulgated. Bonds were issued to the amount of \$4,800,000 on July 28. A decree establishing military instruction for males in the schools of the Republic went into effect on July 1.

The annexed items with reference to the internal development of the

country were noted during the year: On May 2 the Executive was authorized to contract a loan of \$25,000,000 gold for the purpose of opening new ways of communication and finish and keep in repair those already begun, and for the interest and amortization of the capital of the Interior Debt Bonds and those of the Northern Railroad." The Belgian Company of Central America was authorized to transact business in Guatemala on July 1 on the payment of \$1,000 annually, in advance. A concession was granted to the Guatemalan and Mexican Mahogany Export Company on July 23, the company being conceded the right to cut 45,000 tons annually, for five years, of cedar and mahogany trees, in districts specifically designated in the articles of agreement, on the payment of an annual specified sum. A telegraph line between Gualan and Puerto Barrios and another from Progreso to La Reforma were reported as under construction during the first part of the year. A tramway was constructed in the early months of the year from Jocolenango Plazuela to the Hippodrome, in Guatemala City. A new highway has been constructed from Itzacoba to the interior. A concession was granted for the construction of a crémaillère (cogwheel) road over the Chuepache Mountains around the great volcano of Santa Maria. The road will ascend 7,000 feet. Plans for the survey of the Altos Railway have been approved by the Government.

Haiti.—The Republic of Haiti has maintained the most cordial relations with the foreign powers during the year. The internal conditions were satisfactory, both as regards governmental and commercial functions. As a general thing the crops were good and prices were fairly well sustained. The financial situation improved during the latter part of 1899 and made constant upward progress throughout 1900. The situation with regard to coffee, which looked so discouraging during the previous year, improved greatly, and the finer grades were disposed of at prices approaching those received four years previously, when the planters were very prosperous. The product went mainly to France. The trade with the United States could be increased if there were more steamers plying between its own and Haitian ports. However, owing to the fact that French is the language prevailing among the people, the goods from France, bearing French names and labels, find a more ready sale. Besides this, the merchandise from France is packed in styles more pleasing to the Haitians, and longer time is given for settlement. It is claimed that except in the case of large orders the manufacturers in the United States will not put French labels on their goods nor issue catalogues and prospectuses in that language. The Germans are good imitators of the French in packing and in the manner of doing business. Without the adoption of French usages in Haiti it is exceedingly hard to do business in that Republic. According to a law enacted in 1900, native and foreign

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persons in business in Haiti will hereafter be required to pay a license fee of \$500 per year for engaging in banking and \$200 per year for importing in small shipments. The banking license was formerly \$200. By "small shipments" is meant the receipt of goods in less than full cargoes on any one steamer.

During the fiscal year which ended June 30 the exports to the United States (at a gold valuation) were worth \$1,184,797, against a valuation of \$826,530 in the previous year. The imports from the United States were valued at \$2,996,689 in 1900 and \$2,455,966 in 1899. Early in the year the Government consolidated the debt of the Republic, giving the creditors in return for obligations a gold bond, augmented 10 per cent in value and bearing interest at the rate of 1 per cent gold per month, payable in fourteen years. This released to the Government certain duties on coffee, logwood, and cocoa which were formally mortgaged, and at the same time provided for the expense of the budget.

Other acts of the Government to which attention has been called during the year were the following:

On March 5 it was announced that manifests must be drawn up and signed by the customs authorities and viséed by the Haitian consular officer at the port of shipment of goods destined for Haiti. Notice was also given of other essential provisions of the customs law. Under date of June 12, the United States Minister to Haiti sent a communication from Port au Prince to the Department of State at Washington, in which he stated that the Government of Haiti had adopted the gold standard, and that the unit of value was to be the gold dollar of the United States. On June 21, in consequence of the expiration of the treaty with Santo Domingo, a circular was issued explaining that the products of the sister Republic would no longer be exempt from customs duties. On June 29 the Government issued a notice that there would be double duty collected from articles enumerated in manifests under headings other than those to which they properly belonged. On July 30 Congress enacted a law sanctioning a contract with the Railway Society of the North at Cape Haitien whereby the Government exempted from export duty certain tropical fruits, and also exempted from all charges vessels arriving in ballast at that port for the purpose of obtaining cargoes of fruit. A new commercial treaty with France was promulgated on August 4, when it received the sanction of the Haitian Congress, but was not at that time ratified by France. In this treaty France grants to Haitian coffee and cocoa the minimum tariff, and Haiti released French goods from the payment of the 50 per cent and 33½ per cent additional dues imposed on importations from other countries. It is therefore believed that both nations may be equally benefited. On August 23 Congress enacted a law, to take effect October 1, placing an export duty on skins, gum guaiacum, and live stock, which had previously been exempt.

Regarding contracts entered into by the Government during the year, the following were the most important:

At the beginning of the year the concessionaire of the waterworks at Port au Prince was endeavoring to enlist the interests of United States capitalists. Another concession for which American capital was desired was that for an electric light plant for the same city. During the summer months the Government granted concessions to several parties to build railroads, including one on the south side of the salt lakes 50 miles in length. When completed this road will connect the capitals of Haiti and Santo Domingo, and will open up a rich agricultural and mining section. Another projected line is to the north, through St. Mark, Gonaives, and Port de Paix, with a terminus at Cape Haitien. A railroad is now in course of construction from Cape Haitien to Gran Firière.

In the southern part of Haiti, or in that part crossed by the Hotte Mountains, copper and magnetic ore are to be found. To the north of Jacmel gold has been discovered in paying quantities. Within the last year the Government has granted concessions for developing the mineral resources, several of which are held by citizens of the United States. The principal one, the opening of the gold belt, was granted to Mr. ANTON JAEGERHUBER, a citizen of the United States and head of one of the leading commercial houses in Port au Prince. This gentleman also holds a concession to construct two lines of railway, one to the north from the capital and the other east toward the Dominican border. An agricultural and industrial company obtained from the Government the lease of the island of Gonaives, at a rental of 10 per cent, with a capital of \$600,000. This island is covered with a magnificent growth of mahogany and other cabinet woods. In the latter half of the year the United States Minister informed the Department of State at Washington that the Haitian Government had concluded to furnish lights to its cities in the future and not to grant such concessions to corporations. Furthermore, that the Government would cancel light concessions then extant and pay the holders for their plants and such amounts for other purposes as have been expended by them. It was the purpose of the Government to introduce a system of electric lights in the capital in the early autumn of 1900.

Honduras.—The people of Honduras have been prosperous during the past year under the administration of President SIERRA. Nothing has happened to mar the internal quietude, while the relations with all foreign Governments have been cordial. The affairs of State have been conducted in an intelligent and economical manner by the President and his advisers, who are recognized as representatives of the best elements of the Republic.

The regular session of Congress convened on January 1 and listened

to the reading of the President's message. This document was remarkable for its optimism. This was not without reason, however, for the previous year had been a prosperous one and the future was forecast with indication of continued peace and increased prosperity. It may truthfully be said of Honduras that agriculture and trade have greatly developed, activity is manifest in all branches of national industry, and the very low rate of exchange affords ample proof of the favorable situation of the country. According to the latest obtainable figures the imports for 1899 amounted to about \$2,000,000, while the exports exceeded \$5,000,000. These sums, unimportant in themselves, when the great natural wealth and the limited population of the country are considered, are flattering from an economical point of view, and explain why the decline in the price of coffee did not sensibly affect Honduras.

Agriculture is constantly developing. The cultivation of bananas, the most productive of the agricultural products, comes first in importance, because of the increasing exportation to the United States. Tobacco comes next, with a product of excellent quality, which brings remunerative prices in foreign markets. Cattle raising is also increasing, finding assured markets in the Antilles. The products of the mining industry occupy the first place among the exports. A number of new mining enterprises were undertaken in the course of the year.

The financial situation is excellent, with an internal debt of a little more than \$309,000 and a surplus of \$827 for the year 1899. The mining industry is the one which of all others probably offers the greatest chance of success to foreign capital, the soil being not only rich in gold and silver, but also in copper, lead, zinc, and iron. The only obstacle in the way of its development is the lack of good means of communication, but this is gradually being remedied, the building and improvement of roads now being the main object of the Government. A recent decree has declared the iron mine of Agualtaca, which appears to be the richest of the country, to be Government property. The iron, in the greater part magnetic, contains 69 per cent of pure metal and is superior for the making of steel. It exists in such abundance that the deposits at the surface of the soil would suffice to supply exploitation during fifty years. Gold and silver constitute the principal articles of export. The value of the exports of precious metals in 1899 was \$1,757,142. On July 5 a special correspondent of the BULLETIN forwarded a communication with reference to the discovery of a rich gold mine in the Department of Olancha and of a copper mine near Comayagua. Rich gold deposits were discovered near Jaticalpa in October.

The products of the soil include bananas, citrus fruits, coffee, sugar cane, indigo, tobacco, rice, grapes, maize, and beans. Good wheat, it has been ascertained, can also be produced. Stock raising is confined

chiefly to cattle, horses, and mules. Cattle were exported to Cuba during the past year.

The manufacturing interests are principally those of cigars, reed and palm hats, matting, beer, and turpentine. In addition, there are a few flour mills, candle factories, soap factories, a saddlery, and a tannery. The trade is more active with the United States than with any other country. In the fiscal year ending June 30 the imports from the United States were valued at \$1,184,193, against \$832,016 in 1899. The exports in 1900 were worth \$988,606, against \$911,849 in 1899.

A special session of Congress was opened at Tegucigalpa on May 17. President SIERRA, in his message, stated that they had been called together to consider a contract entered into between the Government and the Honduras Syndicate for the construction of the interoceanic railway, and the approval of that document was asked. The contract was subsequently ratified. A contract was entered into with ex-President SORO for the construction of a railroad from the port of Trujillo to Olanchito and for the navigation of the Aguan River and its tributaries in May. Other contracts were entered into for the navigation of the Patuca, Ulua, Humaya, Chameleon, and Sulaca rivers. A concession was granted for a railroad from Ulua to Gmayape, and provisional contracts were signed for railroads from Omoa to Trujillo and from Omoa to Rio Molagua. The navigation contracts carry with them the privilege of dredging for gold. Early in the year it was reported that a concession had been granted to a citizen of the United States for the canalization of the Patuca River. Contracts for the construction of two public highways were entered into on September 8. The fact was mentioned in October that the Government had granted the petitions of a number of citizens who asked that they might be allowed to act as representatives of the United States syndicates. Similar petitions were granted in November. According to a school journal published in Tegucigalpa there are 627 public and 69 private schools of a primary character in the Republic. The average number of scholars in attendance is 29,690.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN was pleased to announce in its issue for July that Señor Don E. CONSTANTINO FIALLOS, of Tegucigalpa, a member of the President's Cabinet, had consented to become one of the Honorary Correspondents of the Bureau of the American Republics.

Mexico.—It would be almost impossible to include in the entire space devoted to this review of Latin America a summary of all the articles relating to Mexican affairs which appeared in the MONTHLY BULLETIN during 1900. There are several well-understood causes for this abundance of news from that Republic, such as its close proximity to, its cordial relations with, and the systems of railway, telegraph, and telephone lines which unite it with the United States. But, aside

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from the above reasons, perhaps a greater cause is the fact that Mexico's advancement during recent years—and 1900 was no exception to the rule—is one of the wonders of this progressive commercial age. It is claimed that Mexico in the past nine years has doubled its revenues, doubled its exports, doubled the number of its factories, and multiplied by three its banking capital, and the continuance of this great prosperity is now quite as pronounced as ever during the decade.

Mexico is rapidly disclosing that in its rich soil, in its mines and minerals, its coffee, sugar, rubber, and tobacco plantations, its water power, and its opportunities for manufacturing enterprises, there is room for remunerative employment of foreign capital. The capitalists of the United States, England, and Germany are taking advantage of this field, and are investing largely, to the mutual advantage of the Republic and themselves. Communication with other countries is not confined to the railroad and the telegraph, for there have been numerous steamship lines established. As a consequence, both its export and import trade have been increasing at a marvelous rate. The circumstances noted above, with the cordial relations that have been developed between the Governments and the peoples of Mexico and the United States, have naturally resulted in Mexico's finding its best markets in the United States and, in return, purchasing the greater part of its needed supplies therein.

The exports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, were valued at \$149,992,925, silver, which was a gain of \$10,435,720 over the previous fiscal year. The mineral exports were worth \$85,257,851 in 1900, which was a loss of \$1,252,896 as compared with the previous year. The exports of vegetable products, however, were valued at \$50,885,734, showing the unprecedented gain in twelve months of \$10,514,073. The animal products were valued at \$10,607,763, showing a gain of \$1,402,635. Manufactured products were worth \$2,819,814, gaining to the amount of \$204,046, while all but \$27,729 worth of the miscellaneous products, amounting in the aggregate to \$674,659, was clear gain over the previous fiscal year.

Of the total exports, a market was found in the United States for \$116,098,456, a gain of \$12,544,970 over the previous year. Europe took of the balance to the amount of \$27,624,283, against \$28,717,888 in 1899, leaving Asiatic countries a comparatively insignificant sum.

The imports, at a gold valuation, were worth \$61,304,914, being a gain of \$10,435,720 over the previous fiscal year. Of the total for 1900, the value of purchases from the United States was \$31,020,136 against \$24,164,687 the previous twelve months, the increase being \$6,855,449. From all other American countries the imports were valued at \$330,678, against \$264,641 in 1899. From Europe the imports were valued at \$29,747,312, against \$26,267,378 in 1899; from

Asia, \$181,121, an increase of \$28,900, and from Africa, \$25,667, an increase of \$5,400.

One of the singular movements of the year was that of the exports of Mexican silver dollars for the use of other nations, in China and the Philippines. This not only drained the Republic of its medium of exchange, but caused an advance in the price of silver. The director of the Mexican mint says the demand for Mexican silver dollars is increasing, but the production of silver is not commensurate with the demand. The smelters are shipping a large portion of their output to the United States, paying the 5 per cent export tax. The silver that is exported is mostly argentiferous lead silver, of which the stock in the banks and stores of the Republic is 100,000,000 *pesos*. The production in 1899 was about 80,000,000 *pesos*. The present heavy use of silver is due only in part to the demand in the Far East for Mexican dollars, of which 9,000,000 to 10,000,000 were shipped to China in the last year to be converted into Chinese dollars. The Mexican *peso* contains $24\frac{4}{5}$ grams of fine silver, being thus unusually rich in the white metal, and hence a favorite with the Chinese, Philippine, and Strait settlers. The demand is due also to the increased industrial enterprises in Mexico, requiring silver coin for wages and expenses.

Silver coinage reached its maximum in 1892 with 30,000,000 *pesos*. This decreased in 1897 to 22,000,000, and in 1899 to 19,000,000. The mints during 1900 coined 1,500,000 *pesos* monthly. On the other hand, silver exports are increasing. The maximum in exports of silver in 1892 reached 46,000,000 *pesos*, coincident with the date of the first sterling loan contracted by Mexico. Since that time the exports have increased, being 57,000,000 *pesos* in 1897. In 1899 the silver exports were as follows: Ores, 13,000,000; bullion, 34,000,000; coin, 15,000,000. For the year ending June 30 the mints of the Republic coined 43,754 gold pieces, having a total value of \$599,442, and 22,657,898 silver coins, worth \$21,066,443.

Early in February the people expressed at the polls their choice of a candidate for the Presidency to serve from 1900 to 1904. On March 6 a committee counted the votes and found that 1,456,482 citizens had cast their ballots for Gen. PORFIRIO DÍAZ, while only a few expressed themselves in favor of any other person. The State electoral colleges met on July 9 and cast their votes, which were unanimous for General DÍAZ. On December 1 General DÍAZ was inaugurated President of the Mexican Republic for the sixth term. The ceremonies incident to the occasion were very simple; but it was made festive by the people, who organized an industrial parade, making a wonderful exhibit of the natural and manufactured products of the country. The President was publicly congratulated by the Diplomatic Corps, of which the United States Ambassador is the head. On February 22 the University of Pennsylvania conferred the honorary degree of doctor of

laws upon President DÍAZ. The President was represented at the public ceremonies at the University by Señor Don MANUEL ASPIRÓZ, Ambassador from Mexico to the United States. On April 4, in the City of Mexico, the President was presented with a diploma and hood indicative of his title. The presentation speech was made by a distinguished attorney from the United States and accepted by the President in a fitting speech.

On January 9 General FELIPE BERRIOZABAL, Minister of War and Navy, and one of the ablest commanders of the army, died at his home in the capital. General BERNARDO REYES was appointed to the vacancy thus created.

At the opening of the session of Congress on April 1, President DÍAZ delivered his annual message. In this he made reference to the completion of the drainage canal; commented with gratification on the expanding revenues; gave a résumé of the operations of the mines; referred to the issuing of 1,303 mining titles, covering 13,973 pertencencias of 1 hectare; stated that up to the close of the previous calendar year concessions had been made for 9,594 mining properties, which were then paying taxes; reported that 241,000 hectares of national land had been granted to private individuals and concessionnaires for colonies; that 66,668 new students had entered the primary and professional schools during the previous year; that the International Conference had been invited to hold its sessions in the city of Mexico, and that, with the addition during the year of 345 miles of trackage, the railway system of the Republic had an aggregate length of 13,714 kilometers.

On September 16 Congress again met, and the President's message on that occasion contained a complete review of public transactions since the adjournment of the previous session. From this it is learned that the States having the greatest number of mining properties were in the order named: Durango, Sonora, and Chihuahua; that there had been issued in twelve months 2,184 title deeds, an increase of 489 over the previous year for such properties; that the increase in the production of copper was about 100 per cent, the value of the product being \$10,000,000; that prospecting for coal and working deposits known to exist were being prosecuted vigorously; that 6 new post-offices and 49 agencies and 1,080 kilometers of new postal routes had been established; that the number of postal packages exceeded those of the previous year by 37,000; that the number of pieces of postal matter had been 74,000,000, an increase of 7,000,000; that postal drafts between Mexico and the United States were exchanged to the value of \$177,000, Mexican currency, the drafts to the United States being \$138,000, and from the United States \$39,000, and that local postal money orders issued were worth \$9,700,000, an increase of \$4,300,000; publishers' drafts were collected to the amount of \$224,000, an increase of \$14,000,

and the total earnings of the Post-Office Department were \$970,000, an increase of \$70,000; arrangements were being negotiated for postal money orders exchange with Great Britain, Germany, France, and Italy; since April the length of the railroads had increased 859 kilometers, making a total length of 14,573 kilometers; agricultural exportations were increasing in a marked degree; the collection of revenue had been more than \$63,500,000, exceeding the previous year by about \$3,500,000, and that the expenditures, not then all accounted for, had not exceeded the revenues.

The receipts of the Government for the fiscal year 1900 amounted to \$64,261,076.39, while the disbursements were \$57,944,687.85, or an excess of receipts of \$6,316,388.54.

A number of items have appeared during the year showing the changes, reclassification, and readjustments made in the customs tariff of the country. On February 19 a law was promulgated establishing a General Customs Bureau under the Department of the Treasury. This bureau has full charge of all matters relating to custom-houses and tariff rates. A decree was published in March which regulated the disbursement of the money received from fines collected from importers for infringements of the customs laws.

Among the transactions of the Government with foreign governments annexed items were noted: In July the full text of a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation between the Mexican and Chinese Governments was published. This document was concluded and signed in the city of Washington on December 14, 1899. It was approved in executive session by the Mexican Senate on May 21, 1900, and ratified by President DÍAZ on the following day. The Emperor of China had previously (March 26) ratified it, and the ratifications were exchanged at Washington on June 19 and promulgated June 30. It is very complete and comprehensive, and in addition to being in the language of the contracting parties, it was also put into English. This is probably the first instance on record of such a thing being done. In case of a dispute the English text will be used as a last resort. On September 11 ratifications of a treaty were exchanged with France having for its object the protection of patents and trademarks, particularly the latter. The ratifications of the Franco-Mexican treaty for the enforcement of copyright laws were exchanged in the City of Mexico on September 14. In November the Secretary of State of the United States and the Mexican Ambassador in Washington signed a treaty extending the time allowed for the survey and definition of the water boundary between Mexico and the United States. This has reference to the Rio Grande boundary with Texas.

The Government made a most extensive and highly creditable exhibition of the great resources of the Republic at the Paris Exposition. Having been duly installed in the special building constructed in the exposition grounds, the exhibit was examined and passed upon

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by the three separate juries, with the result that 1,078 prizes were awarded, including 29 grand prizes, 112 gold medals, 244 silver medals, 341 bronze medals, and 352 honorable mentions.

The list of banking institutions which have been started or have materially increased their capital stock during the year is a most creditable one. These establishments are all subject to the banking laws of the Republic, and are not permitted to act without the sanction of the Government, which passes on each application separately. On January 1 the Bank of London and Mexico, in the City of Mexico, increased its capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000. Three-fourths of the capital and of the shareholders of this institution are Mexican citizens, the remainder being British. The National Bank of Mexico—three-fifths of its capital being Mexican and the remainder British—has a capital of \$20,000,000. These two banks are allowed to establish branch houses throughout the Republic and to issue bank notes, in the case of the former two times and in the latter three times the amount represented by the coin in their vaults. The clerks of the Treasury Department some few years since established a savings bank in which each might make deposits and obtain a moderate interest therefrom. The bank is open to all employees under the Treasury Department, including those in the custom-houses. The balance sheet January 1, 1900, showed a movement of \$841,504 and a balance of cash on hand of \$133,193. Loans are made to clerks at a moderate interest.

On January 8 a new United States banking concern, with a capital stock of \$100,000, was opened in the City of Mexico. In the same month the Bank of Yucatan was authorized to increase its capital by 1,000,000 *pesos*, making a total of 3,000,000, and a charter for a bank in Campeche, with a capital stock of \$200,000, was issued. A concession for the establishment of an agricultural and mortgage bank, with the privilege of opening branches in other States, was granted on March 19. It was capitalized at \$2,000,000, with the privilege of increasing the amount to \$5,000,000. In July the Mining Bank and the Commercial Bank of Chihuahua were permitted to consolidate, taking the name of the former. The institution is capitalized at \$4,000,000 and is allowed to issue bank notes to the amount of \$12,000,000. The Bank of Tabasco, with \$1,000,000 capital, was authorized to be established on August 29 at San Juan Bautista. A concession for the founding of a bank in the city of Morelia, with a capital stock of \$300,000, was granted on October 6. This institution has the privilege of establishing branches in different parts of the State of Michoacán. A law was enacted early in the year permitting the establishment of bonded warehouses by individuals and corporations, subject to banking regulations. A bank was established at Guanajuato with a capital stock of \$500,000.

More attention is being paid to the cultivation and irrigation of lands. There are many arid districts that are being reclaimed. The presence of many swift and unnavigable rivers render irrigation more easy than would be possible in many countries. The following contracts have been signed within the year, some of them being with foreigners and others with citizens of the Republic:

For Lake Chapala and the Santiago River, in the State of Jalisco; the Fuerte River Valley, in the State of Sinaloa; the Cuantla River, in the State of Morelos; the rivers Duero and Lerma, in the State of Michoacán; the Cantarramas River, in the State of Puebla, and the Blanco River, in the State of Vera Cruz.

A tunnel 2 kilometers and a canal 30 kilometers in length, carrying water to the arid region in the vicinity of San Diego, Coahuila, were completed at the beginning of the year. It is expected that thousands of acres will be reclaimed. The conditions of the rivers in the State of Tabasco are being improved. Those which are to be opened for traffic are the Gonzales, the Grijalva, the Sierra, and the Puscatan. A contract was let for the construction of a canal connecting the Grijalva and the Gonzales rivers. This work is to be completed by March 15, 1902.

The colonization and immigration laws of the country have reference only to colonies as such and not to individuals. Grants of applications for concessions of land for colonial purposes have included a colony of 500 Mormons from the United States, in April; the establishment of a colony of 200 families from Europe, in the State of Chiapas, at the first of the year; a contract involving 100,000 hectares of public land in the State of Chihuahua, published July 5, its object being to provide homes for 1,000 families from the States of Coahuila and Durango. It was reported in March that between 35,000 and 40,000 Indians from the United States would eventually locate in Mexico and that a large allotment of land had been set apart for them by the Mexican Government. Nearly 400 Russian colonists settled on private lands in the State of Chiapas during the first half of the year. The Government has also granted them a considerable area of the public lands. A concession for a settlement in Mexico of colonists of Mexican origin, then residing in the States of California and Colorado and the Territories of Arizona and New Mexico, in the United States, was published in July. At least 300 are to be located within five years.

Important Government, State, and municipal improvements were made during the year. On March 17 the inauguration of the drainage canal was celebrated in the City of Mexico. This is a stupendous piece of work, 50 kilometers in length, with an expensive tunnel through the mountains, and was designed to drain the valley of Mexico and carry away the sewage of the capital. Work was commenced on the

drainage of the city of Vera Cruz in April. Owing to the low-lying situation of the city, the sewage will have to be discharged into the Gulf by a system of pumps and pipes. A steel wharf for Tampico was contracted for on April 29, the total cost of which will be \$1,000,000. The harbors of Mauzanillo and Mazatlán, on the Pacific coast, are being improved. The ports of Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz are being improved under contract. The Federal Government appropriated 500,000 *pesos* for the improvement of the capital city during the fiscal year 1900-1901. The old National Theater was purchased by the Government and remodeled and improved at a cost of \$200,000. It was subsequently turned over to the City of Mexico. Work progressed actively during the year upon the Legislative Palace. This new home of the Mexican Congress will have a frontage of 550 and a depth of 400 feet. Its general height will be 100 feet, with a cupola rising 70 feet higher. The cost of this structure will exceed \$1,000,000. The construction of a new edifice for the National Geological Institute, to cost \$100,000, was commenced during the summer. A peace monument was erected in the city of Puebla by the French colony. In March the Governor of the State of Mexico approved the plans for establishing several meteorological stations. The city of Irapuato was lighted by electricity for the first time on February 26. The city of Morelia was also provided with electric lighting. In September the electric-light plant for Querétaro was completed and put into operation. An electric-light plant was being installed in the town of Zacoaleco, Jalisco, at the close of the year. The first steel-frame structure erected in the City of Mexico was dedicated on July 3. An exposition of the mining and manufacturing industries of the States of Coahuila, Chihuahua, Michoacán, Jalisco, Nuevo León, Querétaro, and San Luis Potosí was opened at León on January 20. It was well attended, continuing for a month, and proved to be productive of much good. A scientific congress was held in the City of Mexico at the close of the year.

The following steamship contracts were made or extended during the year: With the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, extension one year; Knotts Prince Line, extension; Mexican Steamship Company, to ply between San Francisco and Mexican ports, organized in the former city in April; steamship service between Guaymas and San Francisco; Spanish Navigation Company, service inaugurated between Italian and Mexican ports on August 7; line between Progreso and New York, contract with Merida firm in October, and the Mexican-American Steamship Company, organized to begin business on November 1. Three steamers to be used on the rivers of the State of Vera Cruz were ordered from Chicago builders. During the year the Government granted a large number of patents to citizens of the United States, and quite a number of patents were issued by the United States Government to Mexican citizens.

On January 1 the President signed the decree for taking the new census. The population of the Republic on October 28, 1900, was 13,570,544, showing a gain of 938,117 over the census of 1895. The population of the City of Mexico increased from 325,707 in 1895 to 356,738 in 1900.

Nicaragua.—Events of momentous importance to the welfare and progress of Nicaragua have transpired during the year just ended. These have been briefly recorded from time to time in the MONTHLY BULLETIN and, taken in their entirety, show a steady and gradual advancement that bodes well for the future development and prosperity of the Republic. Topographically, Nicaragua is especially favorably situated for the building up of a commerce wonderful in its extent, variety, and richness; its shores are washed on the east by the Caribbean Sea and on the west by the Pacific, while the inland lakes and rivers seem destined at no distant day to carry on their bosoms those mighty volumes of foreign and domestic trade that will be made possible by the construction of an interoceanic canal.

The monthly reports of the consular agent of the Republic at San Francisco show a considerable movement of trade from that port to Nicaragua, and indications point to a steadily growing commerce from the west coast of the United States with the principal commercial centers of the country.

Gold and silver are found in abundance in the mountains and placers of this beautiful Republic, and yet these hidden treasures of untold wealth which nature has so lavishly heaped upon this favored land have scarcely begun to be developed. Many ancient mines which were once famous remain unworked, and only await proper and systematic development to again enter into a period of unprecedented production. In the Departments of Nueva Segovia and Chontales gold mining is carried on to a considerable extent and is exceedingly profitable. The country around La Libertad, in the Department of Chontales, contains many mines that produce ore that yields from one-half to 3 ounces of gold per ton, while the mines of Segovia are even richer in the yellow metal. Copper, tin, antimony, and lead also exist in paying quantities at various points in the Republic, and the territory between the lakes and the Pacific Ocean contains vast deposits of iron ore assaying as high as 48 per cent of pure iron. The Nicaraguan mining code is very liberal in its provisions. All mining machinery is admitted free of duty and no local tax is imposed on the mines. Foreigners can obtain concessions to exploit mines under the same conditions as the natives.

On February 28 a decree was promulgated by the President, providing for the sending abroad, every two years, of six young men to be educated in the sciences, industries, and arts. These youths will

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return to the Republic on the completion of their course, and their services will be utilized for the promotion of education in the branches mentioned.

On March 27 Señor Don LUIS F. COREA, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Nicaragua, and Postmaster-General CHARLES EMORY SMITH, of the United States, signed the parcels-post convention negotiated between the two countries.

Substantial improvements have been initiated in the construction of a wharf and modern Government buildings at Bluefields. A lighthouse in the immediate vicinity of Bluefields is also contemplated, and the first steps have already been taken toward its erection.

The United States Consul at Managua reported that there was a demand for a limited number of competent engineers, physicians, surgeons, and dentists.

A commercial museum has been established by the Government at Managua. This institution affords to the manufacturers of the United States an opportunity of exhibiting samples of their products to the Nicaraguan people.

The United States Consul at San Juan del Norte gives the following figures concerning the exports and imports of that district during the year ending June 30, 1899: The exports from Bluefields, principally to the United States, amounted to \$1,030,819, and consisted of rubber, bananas, gold, cocoanuts, etc. The exports from San Juan del Norte reached \$559,192, made up of coffee, rubber, silver, gold, hides and skins, cocoa, tortoise shells, etc. The total exports from these two ports during the year amounted to \$1,590,011, of which \$1,411,154 went to the United States. The imports of the district amounted to \$1,106,557.

The Commission for the settlement of the boundary between Honduras and Nicaragua rendered its decision, fixing in a definite manner the dividing line between the two nations, thereby eliminating a vexatious question.

The Government continues to encourage the settlement of the public lands through the medium of colonization companies. An excellent coffee crop was harvested during the year, the export duties on which were estimated at \$300,000.

On July 24 the boundary between Nicaragua and Costa Rica was definitely agreed upon, the Arbitrator, General E. P. ALEXANDER, having on that date signed the maps and profiles fixing the permanent boundary, the decision being satisfactory to both countries.

The message of President ZELAYA to the National Assembly at the opening of its regular session for the year 1900, a lengthy extract of which was published in the October number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, is a document of great interest and importance. Referring to the Interoceanic Canal, the Executive says: "The great interest of

the Nicaraguan people and Government in this important work, which will make this privileged portion of the continent a veritable emporium of wealth, is too well known to necessitate at the present time a lengthy discussion of this subject. It is enough to say that we shall never place any obstacles in its way, but, on the contrary, we shall employ all our influence and all our activity toward the realization of such a grand ideal."

The educational affairs of the nation are in a highly satisfactory condition, and great interest is being taken in the public schools, especially as concerns primary instructions.

The President reports the financial condition of the country to be satisfactory, all the obligations of the nation having been promptly met, and the construction of public improvements having been aided and promoted wherever possible. In August the Government made a new issue of Treasury notes of the denominations of 50 cents, \$1, \$5, \$10, \$25, and \$50. These new notes will be exchanged for outstanding ones which are worn and in bad condition.

The custom-house regulations providing for the importation and exportation of goods were published in the October number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN. Important modifications in the tariff law, which went into effect on May 1, were published in October.

The Government accepted the invitation of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, and is now actively engaged in collecting and preparing its exhibit.

An important colonization concession was granted on October 20, 1900, to Dr. CARLOS BOVALLINS. The concessionaire is obligated to bring European colonists into the country and settle them upon agricultural lands.

The Government has temporarily abandoned the construction of the proposed railroad from San Ubaldo, on Lake Nicaragua, to Rama, near Bluefields, and proposes to build a line from Managua to La Paz to connect the two divisions of the present Government railway. A concession has been granted to a citizen of the United States for the construction of a railroad from the Wawa River to Matagalpa.

An important decree was promulgated on September 22, regarding the exportation, slaughter, and public sale of cattle. Other decrees referring to patents and customs regulations have also been published.

A number of industrial enterprises promoted by citizens of the United States have been established in the Republic. Some of these are rubber and agricultural companies, which have flattering prospects for successful and prosperous careers.

A valuable steamship concession was granted to Mr. JOSEPH FRYE, of Bluefields, under the terms of which the concessionaire is obligated to inaugurate a weekly steamship service by way of San Juan del Norte (Greytown) to Port Limon, Costa Rica, thus opening a weekly mail route to the United States via New Orleans.

Extracts of the patent law and of the regulations relating to consular invoices were published in the December number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, as was also the mention of a railroad concession granted to Mr. JULIO WIEST for the building of a railway from Managua to Leon and Corinto.

The exports to the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, were valued at \$1,520,266, gold, increasing from \$1,514,630 the previous twelve months. The imports from the United States for 1900 were worth \$1,815,129, gold, against \$1,186,511 for 1899.

Paraguay.—The rich and fertile Republic of Paraguay, traversed by mighty rivers and abounding in a vast number of picturesque valleys and beautiful grass-covered plains, is most favorably situated for the transaction of an immense volume of fluvial trade, the location of the country being exceedingly well adapted to the promotion and development of agriculture and stock raising, the two principal industries of the country. The chief agricultural products consist of the famous yerba maté (Paraguayan tea), tobacco, sugar, and cotton. Vast herds of cattle, sheep, and horses roam over the plains, while the forests contain an abundance of valuable timber whose quantity and worth can be but vaguely estimated.

One of the newer industries of the country, and which at the present time is attracting considerable attention, is cocoa. As early as 1897, 2,000 sacks of this product were sold in London at prices greatly in excess of the African article, due to the superior quality of the Paraguayan variety. Recently a considerable demand for this product has sprung up in Italy, where it brings the highest market prices and is eagerly sought after. The possibilities of this industry seem to be unlimited, and there are evidences on every hand of its rapid development.

During the past year there has been a considerable demand in Asunción for fine shawls and other wearing apparel. At the present time most of these articles come from Europe, but imports of this nature from the United States have been well received, and indications point to a growing trade in this direction.

An important arbitration treaty was negotiated between Paraguay and the Argentine Republic, the high contracting parties binding themselves to submit to arbitration all disputes of whatever character which may arise between the two countries, so long as they do not affect the mandates of the Constitution of either country.

A change in the postal rates occurred in the latter part of 1899. Under the new regulations letters destined to the United States and Europe pay at the rate of 40 cents Paraguayan money (9.6 cents United States currency) per one-half ounce. An emission of \$5,000,000 in paper currency was authorized by Congress during the year, and at the same time bids were requested for the printing of \$15,000,000 in bank notes.

Early in the year sporadic cases of the bubonic plague made their appearance in the Republic. Vigorous measures were adopted for their eradication, and with such success that on March 14, 1900, the President declared, in an official decree, that the entire national territory was free from this terrible scourge.

The exports from Asunción during the year 1899, the latest statistics available, amounted to \$2,021,023.12 gold, the value of the principal articles being as follows: Paraguayan tea (Yerbamate), \$618,292.16; wood, oranges, and hair, \$595,550.59; tobacco, \$112,488.15; live stock, \$5,300; horns, \$4,865.75; miscellaneous transshipments, \$243,218.47. The imports amounted to \$2,147,837.66 gold. The bulk of the foreign trade is in the hands of the Germans. Customs duties are charged on gross weights.

Asunción, the capital of the Republic, has the following industries: Two sugar factories, three rum distilleries, one brewery, one soap factory, one cigar factory, two cotton and woolen mills, one glass factory, and two tanneries. A Philadelphia syndicate contemplates establishing large textile factories in the Republic. The "Paraguayan Development Company," incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey, with an authorized capital of \$500,000, contemplates making heavy investments in Asunción and vicinity.

The General Government intends constructing a number of roads and bridges, and will give particular attention to the dredging of rivers and the construction of port walls. Asunción has taken steps for the construction of a system of waterworks, and the mayor has expressed a desire to have an American engineer open up new streets and broaden old ones in the metropolis. The August number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN contains the newspaper directory of Asunción. The city is to have an electric-light plant. Bids have been called for, and the installation will probably be completed within the next twelve months.

A reorganization of the general office of the Bureau of Information, Department of Immigration, took place during the year. Its scope was considerably enlarged, and the Bureau referred to will furnish any special information regarding Paraguay that may be desired by persons interested in the products and commercial affairs of that nation.

The census of the Republic taken last year shows the number of inhabitants to be 655,571. Included in this number are 100,571 Indians.

Shipbuilding is attracting considerable interest at the present time. In order to encourage this infant industry, a decree was promulgated, under date of October 3, 1900, authorizing the payment of subsidies on all ships constructed within the confines of the Republic.

Important concessions have been granted by the Government for the establishment of canning factories. During the year the Government issued patents to a number of American inventors.

A recent law requires salesmen traveling in Paraguay to pay a semi-

annual tax of \$500. Samples brought into the country are subject to the payment of duties. The duties, however, are returned if the samples are reexported and not sold in the Republic.

The Export Shipping Company, of New York, proposes to establish a direct line of steamers between the United States and Paraguay. It is reported that the latter Government will pay a subsidy to this company.

Concessions for a number of short railways and tramways have been granted by the Government, and construction will soon be commenced on some of these lines.

Most all of the business transactions between Paraguay and the United States are through the ports of Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, and Montevideo, Uruguay; consequently there are no statistics available of the actual commercial transactions between the two countries.

Peru.—With a salubrious climate and a rich and productive soil, Peru possesses incalculable possibilities for the profitable development of its latent resources and its natural wealth. Mines of exceeding richness lie unexploited and gems of great beauty are known to exist. It has forests of valuable timber, while its valleys teem with a wonderful profusion of luxuriant vegetation.

The coast region, comprising a strip of land measuring from 150 to 200 kilometers in width by 2,500 kilometers in length and traversed by 60 important rivers which flow from the Andes into the sea, is the most promising agricultural section of the Republic. From this district there is a constant stream of importations and exportations of increasing volume and importance. An examination of the latest available commercial statistics shows that the imports amounted to 19,207,300 *sols*, while the exports rose to 30,274,800 *sols*, a substantial gain in both cases over the commerce of the previous year. Of this amount imports to the value of 2,078,400 *sols* came from and exports amounting to 2,873,500 *sols* went to the United States. American agricultural and mining machinery was very much in demand, being greatly preferred by Peruvian consumers on account of its lightness, durability, and strength.

The shipments of Peruvian guano during the year 1898 aggregated 21,826 tons, which were increased to 30,795 tons in 1899. A considerable quantity of guano of excellent quality was produced from the rich and extensive deposits recently discovered on the Mazorca Islands, situated in the rainless region to the north of Callao.

A number of important railroad and mining concessions were granted during the year 1900, and steps have been taken for the construction of several railways. One of these will penetrate the rich copper belt in the vicinity of Morococha Lagoon; another will be pushed forward into the celebrated El Carmen district, while a third will connect the

famous Cerro de Pasco country with the coal region of Peru. These railroads will be of great service in promoting the development of the exceedingly rich and productive mining zones of the nation.

The exploitation of the borate of lime deposits has grown into an industry of considerable importance. The borate country of the Republic is in the neighborhood of Arequipas, in the Salinas valley, which contains vast quantities of this substance. Development is being made in a systematic manner, and this new industry promises to be no inconsiderable factor in the production of the nation's wealth.

The mining industry of the country, due to the use of improved machinery and methods, has materially developed during the past few years. The last statistical reports show that the total exports of ores and metals amounted to 12,164,004 *soles*. A magnificent display of Peruvian minerals will be made by the Government at the Pan-American Exposition, at which place there will also be shown other valuable exhibits of the principal products of the Republic.

The first step toward the establishment of a gold standard for Peru was made in April, 1897, but not until March 16, 1900, did the gold and silver coins become interchangeable at the legal parity. The Peruvian pound is of the same weight and fineness as the English pound sterling. A recent governmental decree fixes the value of the Peruvian pound at 10 *soles* of silver. The coinage ratio is 31 to 1. The change was made without disarranging business, and has placed Peru on a financial basis as solid and perfect as that of the United States.

A notable event was the opening of the Central Railroad, connecting the coast with the navigable rivers on the east side of the Andes tributary to the Amazon. This will enable the journey from Lima to Europe to be made in much less time than formerly. The advantages to commerce which will be derived from the operating of this railroad and connecting waterways are very great.

Among the important concessions granted by the Government during the year are the following: The construction of a wharf at Chimbote; the colonization of valuable territory in the Department of Loreto; the exploitation of rubber lands; the building of electric-light plants, and concessions authorizing the construction of bridges, bridle roads, etc.

Statistics issued by the Government show that the consumption of wheat is constantly increasing, and that by far the larger quantity of the imported article comes from the west coast of the United States. Considerable quantities of Chilean and Australian wheat find their way into this market.

On July 1 the President delivered to the National Congress his annual message. Referring to the participation in the Pan-American Congress, he said that "acting upon the recommendation contained in the last message of President McKINLEY to the Congress of the United

States, the Peruvian Government accepts the invitation to take part in the Pan-American Congress to be convened in the City of Mexico in the fall of 1901."

On August 18, Don MANUEL ALVAREZ CALDERON, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Peru to the United States, was officially received by President MCKINLEY.

The December BULLETIN refers to the permanent exhibit of foreign manufactures now being conducted under the auspices of the Government at the capital of the nation. Exhibitors are invited to send their products to Lima, where suitable space will be allowed them free of charge, and every opportunity will be given them for acquainting the people with the goods on exhibition.

The exports of Peru to the United States showed a gratifying increase during the fiscal year 1900. The total gold valuation of the purchases by the United States was \$2,122,543, against \$1,496,978 for the previous twelve months and \$714,247 in 1898. The imports from the United States were valued at \$1,662,475, gold, in 1890, increasing from \$1,325,650 in 1899.

Salvador.—The Republic of Salvador is one of the most progressive of the Central American nations. Thickly populated, but small in area, the enterprise and industry of its people have made it a shining star in that galaxy of States of which it is a member. Situated to the south of Guatemala and Honduras, its entire western coast is washed by the waters of the Pacific, which provides an outlet for the rich and varied products of the fertile and productive soil.

The year just ended has been one of great activity in all branches of national industry, and especially has this been the case with respect to mining. Never in the history of the country has the number of mines in exploitation been so great, the results obtained so satisfactory, and the amount of foreign capital invested so large and important. The Government has shown itself to be extremely favorable to the development of the mining industry in all of its branches.

On February 20 President REGALADO delivered his annual message to the National Congress, an extract of which was published in the April number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN.

The interest manifested in agriculture was greater in the preceding year than has ever before been known in the history of the nation. The Department of Agriculture received from Cuba seeds of the most famous tobacco raised on that island. These were distributed to farmers and planters, together with a pamphlet of instructions respecting the planting, cultivation, and curing of tobacco. This action on the part of the Government has greatly stimulated the cultivation of this plant, and the acreage devoted to its production during the past year was largely in excess of that of previous years. A superior quality of seeds of the rubber tree have also been distributed to persons inter-

ested in rubber cultivation, and indications point to good results in the development of this industry.

At the initiative of the Government, there will be held in the near future a Central-American Congress to discuss the means best adapted to bring about a more general demand for coffee and to increase its price. The other Central-American Governments have been invited to send delegates.

The new Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Salvador near the Government of the United States, Don RAFAEL ZALDÍVAR, presented his credentials to President MCKINLEY on June 4.

The shipping law, which went into effect on July 6, was published in full in the BULLETIN for June, and the regulations concerning ships' manifests appeared in the December number of the same publication. Important decrees relating to tariff changes and tariff decisions were published at different times during the year.

An interesting article regarding the fibrous plants of the Republic was published in August. It appears that many thousands of tons of fibrous leaves are destroyed annually, due to the lack of the proper fiber-extracting machinery. This is an industry that is just in its infancy, and which gives promise of extraordinary development at no distant time in the future.

The financial institutions of the Republic were discussed in November. From this article in the BULLETIN it appears that the banks of the Republic are now in a highly prosperous condition, the volume of their business having increased considerably during the past year.

Salvador has now no foreign indebtedness. On November 14 the Government destroyed by fire, in presence of all the foreign Consuls stationed in San Salvador, the bonds known as the English debt. This was contracted during the years 1888 and 1889 and amounted to £800,000.

From some unexplained cause the commercial transactions with the United States showed a great decrease in 1900. For the fiscal year ending June 30 the valuation in gold of the exports were only \$738,674 in comparison with \$1,085,703 for the exports of 1899. The imports from the United States in 1900 were worth \$679,440, against \$625,414 in 1899.

Santo Domingo.—Within the confines of Santo Domingo, limited as they are, are to be found a great diversity of climate and a large variety of tropical and subtropical products. The soil is exceedingly productive, and nature has showered upon the island, of which Haiti forms a part, a bounteous and apparently inexhaustible supply of natural wealth. Tobacco, coffee, cacao, sugar, mahogany, logwood, etc., are produced in great abundance, and the quality and desirability of many of the articles are unexcelled.

During the past year the MONTHLY BULLETIN was favored with a variety of interesting and useful information concerning the Republic, furnished by the Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics, Señor Don JOSÉ G. GARCÍA.

The Government authorized the use of Mexican silver as a circulating medium. This money can be introduced into Santo Domingo free of import duties and must be accepted in commercial circles as well as by the Public Treasury.

On June 9, Señor FRANCISCO VAZQUEZ presented his credentials to the President of the United States as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Santo Domingo.

On April 27, the exportation duty on campeachy wood was removed and the exportation duties on other woods were modified. On April 3 the National Congress made the postage rates on printed matter "one cent American gold for each 150 grams weight, and one-quarter of a cent for each newspaper or for each fraction of that weight." Urban correspondence will be collected for at the rate of 1 cent, gold, for each 150 grams or fraction thereof, and printed matter one-half cent for each 150 grams or fraction thereof.

The total trade of the Republic amounted, in 1899, to 6,396,887 *piasters*, of which 1,857,702 *piasters* represents the value of the importations and 4,539,185 *piasters* the exportations. The principal exports were sugar, cocoa, coffee, tobacco, beeswax, resin, precious woods, copper, molasses, fruits, etc.

Concessions were granted during the year for the exploitation of a copper mine; the establishing of a starch factory; the construction of an aqueduct for the city of Puerto Plata; the establishment of rubber plantations; the erection of a paper factory; authority to work the metal-bearing sands of the Yaque River; the exploitation of gold, silver, copper, and iron mines; the construction of a street railway for the city of Santiago; the opening of a plantation for the cultivation of textile plants; the construction of a railway from Moca to La Vega, etc.

In September a new issue of postage stamps was arranged for, and an important telegraph line was opened for service.

An important reciprocity treaty between Santo Domingo and the United States is under consideration, and will probably be consummated during the present year.

Considering the size in area and population of Santo Domingo, it has a large commerce with the United States. In the fiscal year 1900 it sent of its products to the United States to the value of \$3,680,413, against \$3,125,779 worth in 1899. It received merchandise from the United States to the value of \$1,317,098 in 1900, and \$1,104,103 in 1899.

Uruguay.—This Republic was the scene of great commercial activity during the preceding year. The country is splendidly situated for

the carrying on of agriculture and stock raising, and the development of these two industries in Uruguay during the last few years has been phenomenal.

A large quantity of agricultural machinery, principally of American manufacture, is used in the country, and the demand has been steadily increasing for a number of years. Plows, reapers, binders, thrashers, etc., are imported in considerable quantities. A duty of about 8½ per cent is charged on these articles.

Sheep raising is a large, growing, and exceedingly profitable industry. During the year 1899-1900 the annual wool clip of the country consisted of about 96,000,000 pounds, for which an average price of 25 cents a pound was obtained. The sheepskins exported in 1899 amounted to nearly \$2,000,000. The principal purchasers of Uruguayan wool and sheepskins are France, Belgium, and Germany, and recently there has been quite a demand for the better grades of wool in the Argentine Republic.

The exports to the United States during the year 1899 were \$2,011,543.31, an increase of \$84,245.78. The imports from the United States during the year 1899 were valued at \$1,815,257.13, being an increase over the imports of the preceding year of \$465,440.98. The total value of lumber shipped from southern ports of the United States to Uruguay amounted to \$153,305.02.

On March 1, 1900, President CUESTAS issued a decree providing for the taking of a general census of the Republic. The result showed the population of the nation to be 900,026. The largest city in the Republic is Montevideo, which has a population of more than 250,000. The percentage of foreign population in the interior of the country was found to be about 15 per cent, while in Montevideo the foreign element increased to more than 40 per cent of the entire population.

The Government solicited proposals for extensive harbor improvements at Montevideo, \$12,500,000 having been set aside for that purpose. Bids for the construction of this work were received until July 31.

The April number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN contains a lengthy extract of the important message which the President addressed to the General Assembly of the nation on February 15, upon the inauguration of the second session of the Twentieth Legislature.

On June 13, Señor DON JUAN CUESTAS, Minister Resident from the Republic of Uruguay, near the Government of the United States, was officially received by President MCKINLEY. Señor CUESTAS is the first Minister ever sent by Uruguay to the United States, and it is believed that this action on the part of the Oriental Republic has an important bearing upon the extension of trade between the two countries, and that the closer diplomatic relations between the two nations will be mutually beneficial to both Republics. Since then Señor CUESTAS has been raised to the rank of Envoy Extraordinary and Min-

ister Plenipotentiary and has also been accredited as Minister to Mexico.

The October number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN contains an important newspaper directory of the Republic.

During the year a number of important treaties with different countries were under consideration. The postal convention with the United States was ratified. Commercial treaties with Great Britain and Germany were concluded; an arbitration treaty with the Argentine Republic was made, and the treaty of commerce and navigation with France and another with Germany were promulgated. A sanitary treaty was made with the Argentine Republic. This has direct bearing on the treatment which vessels coming from ports infected with or suspected of bubonic plague shall receive in both countries.

In Uruguay commercial travelers are required to secure a license before soliciting business. The cost of this license, which is good from the 1st of January to the 31st of December, is \$100 gold. However, the cost is reduced to one-half when it is taken out during the third quarter of the year, and three-fourths when taken out during the last three months. Samples are admitted upon the production, surrender of the permission of introduction, and payment of duties.

The Consul-General of Uruguay at Baltimore reported that the value of the exports from the United States to the Republic of Uruguay for the first six months of 1900 amounted to \$765,423.53, as against \$628,202.42 exported during the same period of 1899, or an increase in 1900 of \$137,221.11. A great proportion, or \$62,207.30 of this increase, was from the port of New York, the balance being distributed among the other ports of the country. The figures for the full calendar year have not yet been received.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, the exports to the United States were valued at \$1,848,077 against \$1,281,109 the previous twelve months. The imports from the United States in the first-named period were valued at \$1,816,881 and for the latter \$1,242,822.

The *peso* of Uruguay is the most valuable coin of the American Continent, being rated at \$1.034 United States gold.

Venezuela.—Venezuela is a country of vast extent and inestimable natural resources.

The year 1900 has been an active and prosperous one. It was a period marked by numerous important events, the principal ones of which have been recorded from time to time in the MONTHLY BULLETIN. The efficient corresponding member of the International Union of American Republics at Caracas, Señor MANUEL LANDAETA ROSALES, furnished the BULLETIN with interesting and valuable information and statistics regarding the resources, commerce, and trade of the Republic.

On January 5, the temporary war tariff, imposing additional import

and export duties on a large number of important articles of daily consumption, went into effect. The urgent need of revenue for the payment of the necessary expenses of the Government was the prime cause of the enactment of this measure and rendered the imposition of increased duties, for a limited time at least, imperative. This tax was repealed in October.

Early in April, President CASTRO signed and delivered to the United States Minister at Caracas the parcels-post treaty negotiated between Venezuela and the United States. This treaty had been under consideration for a number of years and the ratifying of same is an event of special importance from a commercial standpoint.

The city of Caracas had in contemplation during the year a plan for the paving of its streets and for the construction of a modern system of sewerage. Preliminary estimates furnished the City Council for these and other proposed improvements showed that they would cost in the neighborhood of \$1,800,000. When these undertakings have been completed the capital city of the nation will be very much modernized and its sanitary condition greatly improved. Caracas was visited by a seismic disturbance during the year which did much damage.

A comprehensive extract of the new patent law of Venezuela was published in May. This important measure went into effect on March 19, and repeals the law of June 2, 1882, the amendment of May 17, 1890, and all other decisions and rulings with respect to the earlier law. During the year a number of American inventors took advantage of the equitable patent laws of the Republic and secured patents covering their inventions and processes.

The August number of the BULLETIN contains a translation of the new stamp law of the Republic, which went into effect on June 13. A precise knowledge of these stamp taxes is of great importance to citizens of the United States who have intimate business relations with Venezuelan importers and exporters.

In July last a decree was passed authorizing the coinage of 2,000,000 silver *bolivars*, 900,000 coins of the value of 5 *bolivars*, 350,000 coins of the denomination of 3 *bolivars*, and a large quantity of silver coins of smaller denominations. These coins are being minted in Paris, France, and when placed in circulation will add materially to the amount of subsidiary coin in circulation in the Republic.

The navigation contract made by the Government with the Orinoco Trading and Shipping Company, Limited, and which had expired, was prorogued and extended in a modified form for a period of six years longer. An important concession for the gathering of crude rubber and the exploitation of the forests in the territory of the Amazonas was granted to a Franco-Belgian company. The Overland Transport Company, Limited, whose concession expired on April 1, secured from the Government an indefinite extension of same. A valuable

concession for pearl, sponge, and turtle fishing was granted during the year. A contract was made with the French cable company for the extension of its wires to various points in the Republic, and tariff rates were fixed governing the charges for the transmission of messages.

There were a number of transfers of asphalt properties during the year. The demand for asphalt mines has been very active and the best producing deposits have greatly increased in value.

During the year interest was shown in mining in various parts of the Republic, but no special activity was noted in this particular industry. Notwithstanding the liberal policy of the Government with regard to the encouraging of the development of the mining industry the mineral resources of the country, great as they are, have scarcely been touched. In the mining districts the precious metals are found in abundance, and if systematically mined would doubtless prove very productive. Many of the richest mines are situated in regions remote from the centers of population and are difficult of access, all of which tends to retard the rapid development of this important industry.

The commercial transactions with the United States, as with all other countries, decreased in the fiscal year 1900 owing to internal causes during the first part of the year. The exports to the United States were worth \$5,500,019, against \$6,507,847 the previous twelve months. The imports from the United States were valued at \$2,452,757 in 1900, and \$2,851,634 in 1899.

In December trade with Venezuela was said to be beginning to assume its former proportions, and according to merchants identified with the business, each mail was bringing orders for a vast variety of merchandise. The destruction in Caracas by the recent earthquake is responsible for the various contracts which the Government has made in the New York market for material needed for the erection of new buildings, etc. The demand for provisions is active and the weekly shipments are increasing.

SHOE TRADE OF AMERICA.

Since the United States Government took the initiative in publishing reports gathered by its representatives abroad on special subjects the principal Governments of Europe have taken up the plan. They have observed that by this action the producers, manufacturers, and exporters of the United States have been highly benefited and have profited at the expense of their European rivals. To counteract this as far as possible, these countries, especially England, France, and Germany, have within a recent period issued a number of special consular reports. One of the latest of these, an installment of which was published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for December, 1900, was issued

by Germany on the market for shoes in the various countries of the world. A translation of so much of the report as bears upon the trade in footwear on the American Continent has been prepared at the Bureau of the American Republics. That part of the report which refers to Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Haiti, and Santo Domingo was published in the first instalment. The second, which covers South America, is as follows:

Brazil (Bahia).—The articles generally consumed in the markets of Brazil are leather and patent-leather boots, bronze, silk and cloth shoes, high and low-quartered shoes with rubber inserts, together with laced shoes, as well as silk, cloth, and gold-bronze shoes for women and children. Well-made light shoes are the most in demand. Cheaper goods are purchased only by the poorer classes. It can be reasonably presumed that 50 per cent of the total consumption is furnished by the local shoe factories, 10 per cent from other factories and shoemakers in Brazil, and the balance imported. House shoes and slippers are furnished entirely by the home industry, and especially from the factory at Maceio. The importations are from Great Britain, Switzerland, Austria, and France. Great Britain sends leather boots and shoes; Switzerland participates in the importation of leather boots and shoes to a great extent, Austria and France furnishing the better class of promenade and ball shoes. The manufacturers supply the market through Hamburg and Paris commission houses. There are three large shoe factories in Bahia, all supplied with the newest machines and well-schooled workmen, and their productions are continually increasing. One-half of the demands is supplied by these factories. There is some importation from Rio de Janeiro, especially of cheap goods. A small portion of the demands, especially in the interior of the State, is supplied by shoemakers of different nationalities. There is no exportation of importance.

It will always remain difficult for German shoes to find large sales here. The Brazilian customers are generally very conservative, and will adhere to the goods which have been already introduced and are well known. The English product is noted for its style and durability; the Swiss goods for their cheapness and solidity. In order to open a market in Brazil for German shoes, competent persons should study very carefully the conditions of the market, and based upon this they should at least send goods of equal quality to those already introduced through the medium of German commission houses. Since the local industry is improving continually, especially in the manufacture of leather shoes, the principal article in which there would be an opportunity to introduce the German make would be women's shoes of elegance and lightness. The prospects, however, for a market for German goods are not bright.

Rio de Janeiro.—On account of the low rate of exchange and the

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high customs duties the importation of shoes into Rio de Janeiro since 1895 has been very small. Chiefly the well-to-do classes now and then purchase these good from abroad, principally the heavier leather shoes from Great Britain and women's fine shoes from Austria and France. The statistics however show the continued decrease of imports from Great Britain, as can be seen from the following statistics:

	Imports (dozen pairs).	Value (1,000 marks).		Imports (dozen pairs).	Value (1,000 marks).
1895.....	61,077	3,902	1897.....	34,023	2,239
1896.....	51,680	3,174	1898.....	32,215	1,461

There has been no importation from Germany, with the exception of a small quantity of felt shoes. The demand of the people is generally supplied by the local manufacturers, who do not export at all. In Southern Brazil shoes are handmade, as in general the horse industry thrives there. In Rio de Janeiro and its neighborhood, as well as in São Paulo and other cities, the shoe factories supply the entire demand of the northern and central portions of Brazil. There are at present 25 factories in Rio de Janeiro. Fifteen factories failed during the past year on account of overproduction and the lack of capital. Raw material for manufacturing comes partly from the country itself; the sole-leather, on account of its cheapness, from the States of Rio Grande, Minas Geraes and São Paulo. The upper leather is in part attained from abroad. Horse hides come from the United States, the finest calf skins of light color from Germany and of dark color from France.

Under these conditions the market of this district offers little inducement for importation of German shoes. It is possible that this might be changed if the exchange of the *milreis* should rise above 15d., and then remain at this figure.

Pernambuco—The demands are supplied from the local industry. In the State of Rio de Janeiro there are factories which compete very successfully with the European product from the point of elegance and style. In general the local factories are not able to produce as durable goods on account of the tanning, which does not appear to be as well understood as in Europe. The better class of people prefer the European goods, notwithstanding the higher prices. The importation, which is chiefly from England, consists almost entirely of the finer grade of goods. The lower class generally go barefoot, and the better-situated Brazilian likes to dress elegantly and wears the best shoes. The styles vary considerably and nearly all kinds of shoes are to be found.

Various colors, white, brown and yellow boots and shoes, are much liked, and all are very light and in elegant form, upon which much depends. Notwithstanding the fact that their goods are expensive,

certain English makes hold the first place in this market. There is some prejudice against the Brazilian product, although it is undeserved. Compared to England, there is a very small importation from Germany, France, and Austria. This refers to Austria only as regards men's shoes. Women's shoes of leather and cloth in all colors are imported from Vienna. The price is cheap and they are extensively purchased. The special superiority of the English manufactures is to be found in the form and cut. The local shoemaking industry has been but little developed, larger factories existing in the State of Rio de Janeiro. These operate with machinery. Their product is, however, not sufficient to even supply the home market and, therefore, there is no exportation. Handmade goods are little used. The shoemakers are generally employed in repairing.

Porto Allegre.—For the past eight or ten years the demands have been supplied chiefly by the local industries; only the retail dealers having a high class of customers importing shoes. Importations consist chiefly of good, modern, and elegant articles for men and women. For men, leather boots, and, in lesser degree, chiefly colored and black patent-leather shoes. For women, black, colored, and bronze boots and shoes. Mens' footwear is imported chiefly from England ("Bostock" and "Clark"); women's from Paris (M. Jolly), and Vienna (Pollack). The home industry is well developed, but is hardly able to supply the demands for cheap goods, and furnishes also elegant and, in some instances, splendidly made shoes. There is no exportation of shoes abroad, though there is to the other States of Brazil, especially of pegged shoes to Santa Catarina and Paraná; on the contrary, Rio Grande do Sul obtains the better class of goods from Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. Importation of German goods would meet with the difficulty of having to compete with those of other foreign countries which have already thoroughly introduced their goods.

São Paulo.—The manufacture of shoes has developed very materially in past years. The importation of shoes has almost ceased. There are three or four factories in the cities of São Paulo, working by steam power, which furnish a very good article, that approaches the imported goods to that extent that since the customs duties upon the finished article is continually increasing they must finally drive the foreign article out of the market. There is no exportation. The goods formerly imported came principally from England—to some extent from Germany and France.

Ecuador.—The demand for foot wear is chiefly supplied by the local industries, and in order to improve this industry the Government has placed a high customs duty upon this class of goods, namely, 1 *peso* per 1 kilogram, gross, plus 77 per cent. In consequence of this high duty the importations from abroad are very small; the industry is, therefore, very important in Guayaquil, as well as in the interior. The

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production is made chiefly by hand labor and hand-power machinery. There is no exportation. Such goods as are imported consist of high and low cut shoes from the United States, Germany, Austria, and France.

Peru.—The demand for shoes in Peru is supplied almost entirely by the local industries. In Lima there are two stores which sell a few of the finer grades of women's shoes of French manufacture; the sales are, however, so small that they are hardly of any consequence. With the exception of two factories using machinery, the production is made entirely by hand. The shoes made by the local industry compare in every way favorably with those made in Europe, and they are very much cheaper, as the import duty upon the European goods is high. There is no exportation. It is at present hardly possible, under the circumstances, to compete in this market, and on this account shoes have not been imported by the large importing merchants for many years.

Chile.—The demand for the larger part is supplied by the home industries. Importations from abroad consist chiefly of children's and women's boots and shoes and men's patent leather boots and shoes, all of the better qualities. In 1897 the value of the importations was 464,967 *pesos* at 18d.; in 1898 the value was only 208,965 *pesos*. The large decrease since 1897 is in consequence of the high customs duty upon foot wear, which is 60 per cent *ad valorem*, children's shoes alone being an exception, duty upon them being from 25 to 35 per cent *ad valorem*. The importations were:

Value of importations.

[In *pesos* at 18d.]

	1897.	1898.		1897.	1898.
France	41,214	25,986	Italy	3,701	.....
United States.....	1,711	5,844	Spain	918	7,650
Great Britain.....	304,237	101,178	Switzerland.....	14,477	.....
Germany	98,706	60,232	Belgium .....	.....	8,075

Tanned hides, which have been subjected, since January 1, 1898, to a duty of 25 per cent *ad valorem*, were imported as follows: 1897, 1,127,655 *pesos*; 1898, 838,222 *pesos* (18d.), from the following countries:

Value of importations.

[In *pesos* at 18d.]

	1897.	1898.		1897.	1898.
France	164,407	320,786	Belgium	998	53,598
Great Britain.....	301,312	85,036	Argentine Republic.....	11,816	.....
Germany	649,021	427,292	Uruguay	101	397
Italy .....	.....	216	Peru .....	.....	76
United States.....	.....	3,884			

There are large shoe factories in Cartaga and Valdivia, run by machinery, which furnish the entire supply of the cheaper kind of shoes. The better kind are made by hand. There is no exportation of shoes; there is, however, a large amount of tanned sole leather sent chiefly to Germany, which in 1898 amounted to 3,102,888 *pesos* at 18d. There is no difficulty, other than the high customs duties, in importing German shoes. There is no probability of an increase in this importation. On the contrary, it is expected that it will decrease, as the imported article is too expensive.

Uruguay.—The demand for shoes is supplied chiefly from the home industry. The estimated value of the consumption of shoes is 5,000,000 *pesos*. Such as are imported are chiefly those for special purposes, such as hunting boots.

According to the statistics the following countries participated in the importation:

	1896.	1897.	1898.
Germany	682	357	262
Belgium	3,831	677	1,541
Spain	160	210	162
France	1,085	752	1,054
United States	2,147	1,590	2,909
Italy	42	2,976	1,067
Argentine Republic	148	955	.....

The production is furnished chiefly by the six shoe factories, with steam power. The machine-made goods are mainly in use. They are of inferior quality and of low price. Men's boots of local calf upper leather, with rubber inserts, pegged, cost 1.40 to 1.60 *pesos*, equal to 6 to 7 *marks*. Women's shoes of the same material cost from 1 to 1.20 *pesos*, equal to 4.35 to 5 *marks*. The handmade goods are much more durable and somewhat more expensive. There is a slight exportation to Brazil. The home industry is, through the richness of the country in the raw material, in which great progress is being made in its preparation, very favorably placed, and can in case of necessity always depend upon help from the customs duties. The importation of shoes from Germany is hardly possible in view of the prevailing conditions.

Venezuela.—The demand for shoes of the Venezuelan people consists of about 5,000,000 pair of sandals and 1,500,000 pair of shoes or boots of all kinds, and is entirely supplied by the home industry. There are 757 shoemakers and shoe establishments in the country. Two large factories in Caracas employ 200 workmen. Their efforts to afford the country cheaper shoes have, however, not entirely driven out the shoemakers. On the contrary, handmade goods are preferred, this branch, often carried on as a house industry, furnishes generally a good and profitable employment. The two factories in Caracas have up to this time done nothing in regard to exportation, and

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owing to the comparatively speaking high prices of the production will probably not be able to do so for some time. The importation of foreign footwear into Venezuela is forbidden by the customs tariff of May 21, 1897. Foreign competition is therefore out of the question.

THE COMMERCE OF THE WORLD.

The Treasury Department of the United States is preparing a statistical abstract which will show the imports and exports of every country in the world which issues reports of its commerce. The aim of the Bureau of Statistics is to present a comparative picture of the world's commerce, not only of to-day, but for a long term of years, extending into the past, the measures of value and quantity prevailing in the United States being employed.

This is the first time such a thing has ever been attempted, and it will be an important contribution to commercial history. The opening chapter shows the annual exports and imports of 47 different nations, running back from the present date as far as records have been kept. The next chapter will give the details—the different articles of merchandise exported and imported and the different countries among which the commerce of each nation has been distributed.

The high position of the United States among commercial nations and the enormous development of foreign trade will not only gratify but surprise every patriotic citizen, and the comparison with other nations will astonish the world. The comparisons of the commerce of the United States with the official figures issued by the Governments of Great Britain, France, and Germany are indeed amazing. For example, the following statement shows the development of the foreign commerce of Great Britain and the United States during the century:

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1800.	1899.	Per cent of increase.	1800.	1899.	Per cent of increase.
Great Britain	\$81,310,000	\$2,043,896,450	2400	\$111,107,000	\$1,287,151,345	1059
United States	52,121,891	685,441,892	1215	31,840,903	1,203,931,222	3681

The first comparison shows how much more able the people of the United States are to supply their own wants than those of Great Britain. The imports of this Republic in 1800 were nearly two-thirds as much as those of Great Britain, while at the end of the century they are less than one-third. At the same time the exports of the United States have increased three times as rapidly as those of Great Britain. Although in 1899 the exports of the United States were less by \$80,000,000 than those of Great Britain, in 1900 the United States

surpassed Great Britain, with a total of \$1,394,483,082, of which \$433,851,756 were manufactured articles in which the two countries were in direct competition.

The records of France do not go back so far as the beginning of the century; therefore the comparisons must begin with 1831, and are as follows:

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1831.	1899.	Per cent of increase.	1831.	1899.	Per cent of increase.
France.....	\$72,182,000	\$872,032,000	1,108	\$88,088,000	\$801,452,000	810
United States	82,008,110	685,441,899	724	59,218,683	1,203,931,222	1,993

It will thus be seen that while the United States has kept pace with Great Britain, it has surpassed France in the production of articles needed by the outside world as well as those required by its own people. There is a popular impression that the French surpass all others in supplying their own necessities and furnishing their own luxuries, but these figures show that their own dependence upon foreign nations has been increasing with the years and that the balance of trade is now largely against them.

A comparison with the German Empire can not extend back of its origin in 1872, but the figures from that date are extremely interesting and significant, as can be seen by the following table:

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1872.	1899.	Per cent of increase.	1872.	1899.	Per cent of increase.
German Empire	\$793,726,000	\$1,304,977,000	64	\$564,165,000	\$801,452,000	42
United States	560,419,034	685,441,892	24	425,487,131	1,203,931,242	181

In the case of Austria-Hungary, the record begins with the year 1860; Belgium, 1831; France, 1831; Germany, 1872; Italy, 1861; the Netherlands, 1860; Russia, 1861; Spain, 1860; Norway, 1860; Sweden, 1860; Canada, 1851; Mexico, 1873; the Argentine Republic, 1870; Chile, 1860; China, 1868; Japan, 1874; India, 1851; Australia, 1851; Egypt, 1874, and Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 1851, in each case the figures covering the entire period from the earliest date named to the present time. The subsequent chapters will give the details of the commerce of each of these countries.

A specially interesting fact developed by the study of the figures given above, as well as the comparisons with those of other nations, is that in the case of the United States they show with much greater frequency than in any other country a favorable "balance of trade," or excess of the value of exports over imports. Of the 47 countries

included in this comparison, 18 show an excess of exports over imports, and 29 an excess of imports over exports. The principal countries which show an excess of exports over imports are Canada, Mexico, the Argentine Republic, Chile Australasia, India, Egypt, Spain, Austria-Hungary, and Russia. No one of the 18 countries whose exports exceed imports shows a balance of trade approaching that enjoyed by the United States, and a compilation of the excess of exports in the entire group of 18 countries having such excess gives a grand total of only \$414,845,000, in the latest obtainable year, as against an excess of \$544,542,131 in favor of the United States alone in the fiscal year 1900.

POWDERED COAL AS A FUEL.

In the MONTHLY BULLETIN for November, 1900 (p. 1051), there is an article on "Coal Dust Briquettes," and a description of a process for their manufacture in Chicago. A Philadelphia newspaper recently noted a new appliance for the burning of coal as dust and not in the form of briquettes. On account of the strike in the coal-mining regions in the latter part of 1900, and the consequent threatened coal famine, there has been considerable experimenting with other fuel than anthracite coal by the operators of steam plants in the United States. It is a well-known fact that the use of bituminous coal causes so much smoke that many municipalities have passed ordinances prohibiting the use of soft coal. With this factor against them the users of large quantities of fuel began investigating, and discovered a machine that made pulverized coal a possible fuel of the future. It is stated that the Illinois Central Railroad experimented with this device for a week and claimed that the coal prepared by this process was the cheapest and best fuel available, being, at the same time, almost smokeless.

Appliances for firing by coal dust reduce the coal to an impalpable powder as fine as wheat flour, which, when injected through a special form of burner along with the requisite air supply, burns in the furnace like gas. Combustion, it is stated, is perfect and almost instantaneous, and the proper admixture of air is easily ascertained and registered. The volumetric analysis of samples of the escaped gas indicates that the highest possible efficiency in the use of any coal is obtained by this process. One great point in favor of the new appliance is that it may be adjusted readily, and without any appreciably extra cost, to any style or kind of boiler.

In a machine for preparing the dust the run-of-mine coal is dumped into a large hopper and fed to a crusher. If wet, it is passed through a dryer and thence to a pulverizer. After leaving the mill the dust is carried into an air separator, where revolving fans divide the fine,

flaky particles from the coarser grains, the latter being returned for regrinding.

If this process is all that is claimed, it will not only enable the mine operator to dispose of much coal that is now wasted, but will also have the effect of increasing the wages of miners, who are now paid only for the coal which can be used in furnaces.

RIGHTS OF PATENTEES.

At Brussels, Belgium, on December 13, 1900, the International Conference for the Protection of Industrial Property, the United States being represented by the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and its Envoy Extraordinary to Belgium, adopted the following resolutions:

“First. The period of exclusive rights, previously fixed at six months for patents and three months for industrial designs, models, and trademarks, is extended to a year for the first named and four months for the second named.

“Second. Countries signing the convention enjoy reciprocally the protection accorded by each country to its citizens against unfair competition.

“Third. Patents can not lapse because they are not put in circulation, except after a minimum delay of three years, dating from the first application in countries where the patent is allowed and in cases in which the conditions of the patent do not justify causes of inaction.

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

In the course of an article on the trade of the Argentine Republic the “New York Commercial Bulletin” says that if the manufacturers of the United States would make stronger efforts to capture the trade available in the River Plate region they would shortly drive out their European rivals, which are principally those of England, Germany, and Belgium. The time is at hand for such a movement, now that prices and deliveries are more favorable from the United States in all that pertains to manufactured iron and steel. In other branches of finished products the requirements to increase trade with that country are to furnish what they have been in the habit of using and not what the manufacturers think they ought to have, just because to deviate from their ordinary method of shipping goods might add some slight expense. There are said to be now in Buenos Ayres a number of United States sales agents of good reputation only too willing to make sales on commission. These agents can best aid manufacturing concerns in the introduction of their wares, besides giving valuable

practicable hints as to how certain lines of goods should be packed, etc., prior to shipping. Freight rates from New York to Argentine ports (which, by the way, are equal by all the lines) are just as advantageous for merchants and manufacturers trading from American as from European ports. An observer says it would surprise those not familiar with the Argentine trade to see the contents of a British or German manifest to Buenos Ayres. It contains a great variety of manufactured goods. Among the leading shipments are those of dry goods, ready-made clothing for both sexes, other wearing apparel, such as shirts, stockings, etc. A good share of this trade could be secured by United States firms if properly handled.

The Austro-Hungarian Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro, in a report to his Government, calls the attention of his countrymen to the favorable chances that exist in Brazil for the sale of pianos. This report has been sent to the Department of State by the American Vice-Consul at Frankfort, Mr. HANAUER, and it may be well for piano manufacturers here to take heed by the suggestion made. In part the report says:

"French pianos are well introduced here; but these instruments have of late deteriorated in their quality. After two or three years' use their sound becomes unbearably metallic. Nor is sufficient regard paid to the hot and moist climate. Still, for want of better instruments and because the French article has been well advertised, they continue to meet with ready sale at high prices. Last year a few pianos of Bohemian (Austrian) manufacture were introduced in Curitiba, the capital of the State of Parana, and have given great satisfaction. One of the best selling pianos is the short square, called 'Mignon,' 175 centimeters long, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ octave, which sold at the factory for 400 Austrian florins (about \$160 in United States currency). Pianos which are more popular and most in use cost at the factory about 300 florins (\$120). These instruments must be ornamentally and highly finished, have cast-steel frames and light mechanism, which, however, must be impervious to moisture."

Offers for the leasing of the iron mine at Agualtaea would probably be entertained by the Government of Honduras. It is said to be the richest iron mine in the country, being partly magnetic and superior for the manufacture of steel.

It is stated that machines for cleaning coffee, shelling and grinding corn, hulling rice, and cotton seeders might find ready sale in the Republic of Haiti. Samples of the machines should be exhibited to prospective purchasers.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

The Mexican Consul at San Francisco, California, announces that during the month of November, 1900, the total shipments of American merchandise through that port to Mexico amounted to \$135,648. In addition to this amount there were shipped from San Francisco to Mexican ports merchandise of foreign origin—such as rice, liquors, linen goods, spices, silks, etc.—valued at \$6,664. The number of Mexican dollars exported to Hongkong during the month was 169,213.

The principal importations consisted of argentiferous ores, gold and silver bullion, gold coin, Mexican dollars, and sundry articles, such as hides, coffee, nuts, shells, fish, etc., to the value of nearly \$500,000.

The Consul of the Republic of Haiti at Boston reports that there were exported from that city, consigned to Port au Prince and Cape Haytien, from October 6 to December 28, 1900, merchandise to the value of \$4,282.02. These exports consisted chiefly of machinery, fine hardware, etc.

Taking the value of the exports shipped from Boston to Haiti during the last four years, it is seen that in 1896 they were valued at \$10,857; in 1897, \$6,595; in 1898, \$8,823; in 1899, \$15,452, and in 1900, \$17,463.

The imports for 1900 consisted of 2 tons of guiacum and 7,010 tons of logwood. One thousand five hundred and fifty tons of this logwood came from Cape Haitien, 690 tons from Gonaives, 250 tons from Port au Prince, and 4,520 tons from Port de Paix.

The Acting Consul-General of Mexico at New York advises that the imports through that port during the month of November, 1900, were as follows: Heniquen, 23,653 bales; coffee, 607 sacks; hides, 524 bundles; hides, loose, 4,511; ixtle fiber, 2,781 bales; goatskins, 468 bales; deerskins, 254 bundles; crude rubber, 70 bales; tobacco, leaf, 343 bales; cigars, 115 boxes; broom root, 3,369 bales; chicle gum, 697 bales; fustic, 15,683 pieces; Tecali marble, 68 pieces; hair, 8 bales; lead bullion, 102,380 bars; metals, 599 boxes; ores, 3,930 sacks; sarsaparilla, 181 packages; vanilla, 20 boxes; alligator skins, 79; heron plumes, 2 boxes; bones, 980 bundles; honey, 127 barrels; cedar logs, 293; mahogany logs, 4,204; jalap, 12 sacks; copper bullion, 11,168 bars. During the same month 12 ships, carrying 180,008 packages, were cleared, and 16 ships, bringing 177,814 packages, were entered.

BOOK NOTICES.

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

Recently statements have appeared in the public press to the effect that manuscripts have been discovered in China which show that navigators of that country discovered America long prior to the time of Columbus. In an interview regarding this claim Mr. WU TING-FANG, Chinese Minister to the United States, expressed himself to a representative of the "Chicago Times-Herald" as follows:

"I do not know what the records of China, if there are any on this subject, show as to the part our people played in the discovery of America, but I am convinced to a certainty that Chinamen landed on the Pacific slope hundreds of years ago and left such traces and works as to make their authorship beyond question. After I had reached manhood and had gone into this particular study I found undeniable facts tending to this conclusion.

"I am aware that eminent men of all nations have a share in the claim that the Chinese, either by accident of storm or by intention, were carried from our country to the then strange land of the Far West. I do not know that one particular man headed an expedition to this continent from China, but all signs point to the truthfulness of this opinion. I would like to call attention to a fact which may or may not be generally known by your people. For centuries it has been reported that Chinese boats have been driven to the shores of Alaska and even on the coast farther south. There is no denying that Chinese junks have been found in a partially dismantled condition on the Pacific coast within our memory. It is fair to presume that my ancestors met with the same fortunes while at sea, and that they, too, were carried by currents and winds far to the east and of necessity were landed on the coast of this continent. I know that evidences of the Chinese have been found in Mexico and California and can point to different authorities on archaeology to bear me out in this assertion."

That the Chinese were the first discoverers of the American continent is not improbable, but it might still be a wilderness had it depended upon them to spread the news to the rest of mankind. However that may be, many scientific writers are of the opinion that the human race began with the Mongolians, and there have been numerous articles unearthed in North America which would seem to confirm the opinion of the Chinese Minister. Dr. SHELDON JACKSON has from time to time brought from Alaska ancient articles obtained

from the natives which were of Chinese origin. Among them was a coat of mail made of walrus skin, probably 3 inches thick, that was alleged to have been centuries old and was covered with characters which, according to archaeologists, were undoubtedly Chinese. This was presented to the Princeton University.

JOSÉ IGNACIO RODRÍGUEZ, LL. D., of Washington, an acknowledged authority on Spanish and Spanish-American law and a learned lawyer and distinguished jurist of the National Capital, has just published in Havana, Cuba (press of the Propaganda Literaria), an important work consisting of 529 pages, entitled "Anexión de Cuba" (Annexation of Cuba). Dr. RODRÍGUEZ was Secretary of the International American Conference, of the International American Monetary Commission, and acted as unofficial adviser to the Government of the United States at the Peace Commission which concluded the celebrated Treaty of Paris by which the late war between Spain and the United States was terminated. An attentive perusal of the book shows it to be a comprehensive, interesting, and careful historical compilation with respect to the origin, development, and practical manifestation of the idea of the annexation of the Island of Cuba to the United States of America. The volume is divided into 39 chapters, followed by an appendix in 11 parts, which not only adds to its value and importance, but renders it an exceedingly useful book of reference to those students of history who are concerned in the material progress and future destiny of the beautiful Pearl of the Antilles.

The work was not prepared, says the author, with the view of defending the idea of the annexation of Cuba to the United States, nor has it been his purpose to combat it, his only object being to present an imposing array of proven facts, grouped together in such a logical, convenient, and systematic manner that the reader can not fail to arrive, unaided and without great mental effort, to such natural conclusions as are warranted by the evidence in the premises. He also states that the work is a collection of documentary evidence, or, better still, a brief wherein the student of history will readily and easily find abundant and reliable material for reflection and thought.

The author, who has kindly donated a copy of his book to the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics, was born in Cuba, where he was educated and graduated in law, all of which lends weight and importance to this interesting and valuable publication.

Señor Don FEDERICO R. CIBILS, Director of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry of the Department of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic, Buenos Ayres, has published an interesting pamphlet consisting of some 50 pages, entitled "Intercambio y Producción" (Interchange and Production). The publication was compiled from a collection of notable articles furnished by Mr. CIBILS to the press of the

country, and is divided into three parts. The first part treats of "Brazil and the Argentine Republic," and discusses in a clear, concise, and intelligent manner the subject of the exchange of commodities between the two countries, considering the question both from the present status of trade and from its probable future development under the fostering care and protection of the sister Republics. The question of reciprocal franchises and direct navigation are touched upon and the advantages to be derived from closer trade relations and greater facilities of commercial intercourse are emphasized and their importance shown in a logical and convincing manner. This particular part of the book, treating as it does a subject of such vast and far-reaching importance, will be used by the author as the basis of a work which he has in preparation, entitled "Intercambio Comercial de la República Argentina con las principales naciones, sus tarifas respectivas y los tratados existentes y su denuncia" (Commercial Interchange of the Argentine Republic with the Principal Nations, their Tariffs, Treaties, etc.). The second part of this important publication has for its title "La República Argentina" (The Argentine Republic), and is an extract of and commentary on that chapter of the recent work of Mr. PAUL LOUIS entitled "La Guerra Económica" (Economic War). In the third part of this essay the author quotes statistics with reference to the cattle and sheep industry of the Argentine Republic taken from the publication known as "Stock Vacuno y Lanar Argentino" (Sheep and Cattle of the Argentine Republic). This part of the subject is discussed in a comprehensive manner, and valuable statistics with respect to this industry are given, and some errors which appeared in the book referred to are corrected and explained.

Among the most important books that have been published with respect to the mineral production of the Republic of Bolivia that have been printed recently at La Paz are the useful and interesting works compiled by Señor DON MANUEL V. BALLIVIÁN, Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Geographic Society of Great Britain and Honorary Corresponding Member of the International Union of American Republics, in collaboration with other distinguished scientific men of that nation, are the comprehensive essays entitled "El Estaño en Bolivia y Apuntes sobre Bismuto" (Tin in Bolivia and Notes upon Bismuth), "El Oro en Bolivia" (Gold in Bolivia), and "El Cobre en Bolivia" (Copper in Bolivia). The first of these essays has already been referred to in the MONTHLY BULLETIN, and, as its title indicates, treats of the wonderful tin deposits of Bolivia, as well as of the extensiveness and abundance of the bismuth to be found in some of the mining regions of the country. The other two books are complete and comprehensive expositions of gold and copper mining in

Bolivia at the present time. They contain a large amount of valuable data and give detailed and reliable information regarding the auriferous and cupriferous ores of the Republic, together with a geological description of the principal gold and copper bearing districts of the nation. The mining industry of Bolivia is capable of a vast amount of development and is constantly growing in importance, as is shown from the interest manifested in old workings and the activity displayed in the search and denouncement of new mines. Señor BALIVIA and his able coadjutors are contributing in a most effective and practical manner to the ultimate development on a large scale of the great natural mineral wealth of the Republic by disseminating in their books and essays such desirable and valuable data with respect to the mines and minerals of Bolivia.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the kindness and courtesy of the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Salvador, at San Salvador, for copies of the following important official publications recently issued by the Government of that country:

1. "Organización del Servicio Diplomático y Consular y Sobre Recepción de Ministros Diplomáticos Extranjeros y de sus Privilegios" (Organization of the Diplomatic and Consular Service, and concerning the reception of the Foreign Diplomatic Corps and their Privileges).
2. "Ordenanza del Ejército" (Army Regulations).
3. "Reglamento Interior del Poder Ejecutivo" (Rules Governing the Executive Power).
4. "Código de Sanidad de la República de El Salvador" (Sanitary Code of the Republic of Salvador).
5. "Tarifa de Aforos y Ley de Facturas Consulares" (Tariffs and Law concerning Consular Invoices).
6. "Memoria de Relaciones Exteriores" (Report of the Minister of Foreign Relations).
7. "Código de Agricultura" (Agricultural Code).

These volumes are exceedingly interesting and useful books of reference, and form a valuable addition to the collection of publications in the library which treat exclusively of this progressive Central American Republic.

In the latter part of October, 1900, President CAMPOS SALLES, of Brazil, paid a visit to President ROCA, of the Argentine Republic. During the time of that visit unusual attention was bestowed upon the Brazilian President. Perhaps one of the most delicate honors was in the circulation of a book written by Dr. MARTÍN GARCÍA MÉROT, formerly Minister to the United States, but now the Minister of Agriculture in the Argentine Republic. This book bore the title "El Brazil Intellectual" (Intellectual Brazil), a large part of which was devoted to President CAMPOS SALLES and the work he had accom-

plished for his country. With reference to the literary ability of the President, Dr. GARCIA MÉROU said: "All honor him as a parliamentary orator and eminent lawyer, indicated by public opinion as the most worthy of holding the portfolio of Justice in the first Cabinet of the Provisional Government (after the revolution of November, 1889), but it is not so generally known that Dr. CAMPOS SALLES is a brilliant writer, as is shown in his interesting 'Letters from Europe.' This work is not marked by rhetorical phrases or pretensions to wit, but it shows the mature thought of the statesman expressed in an eloquent, fluent form, with elegance and conciseness."

The Twentieth Century began on Tuesday, January 1, 1901, in the Pacific Ocean just east of the Friendly Islands, says JOHN RITCHIE, Jr., in an article contributed to the "Ladies' Home Journal." He goes on to explain that the theoretical line marking 180° east and west of Greenwich has two irregularities in it, put there by the agency of man in the arrangement of business affairs. The Russians brought eastward the day of St. Petersburg and established it in Alaska, but when the United States came into possession of that country the authorities deemed it wise to have one day throughout the United States, and so the date line was set 10° to the west of the actual meridian, so as to include in the day of this country its outermost possession. For this reason the island of Attu in the Alaskan archipelago, in 170° east longitude, is the latest place on the earth to retain any certain day. In the same manner certain groups of islands in the southern Pacific have been included in the day of Australia and New Zealand, with which they have business relations, although some of them lie east of the one hundred and eightieth meridian.

The case of the Argentine Republic with respect to the question of the Andean boundary between that country and Chile has been printed in accordance with the request of the arbitration tribunal appointed by the British Government. The work consists of four large quarto volumes. There is also to be issued a large atlas of maps, historical and modern, the latter being mostly drawn from the results of surveys of engineers connected with the boundary commission. Apart from their leading purpose, these books will be of permanent value to geographers and scientists. They are illustrated with several sectional maps of the region, and what is more attractive, with a large number of landscapes reproduced from photographs. These pictures convey an idea of the magnificent scenery and the grandeur of the Andes Mountains. The results of recent explorations by Dr. FRANCISCO P. MORENO and others upon the eastern side of the Cordilleras, have disclosed the fact that there are many districts in this region where the land is capable of being converted into valuable territory.

The "Geographical Magazine" for December, 1900, contains an important and interesting article by Col. F. F. HILDER, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, upon "Gold in the Philippines." This is the first contribution on the subject in American literature, and gives definite information as to the extent and location of the gold deposits in the Philippine Islands. "Gold is widely distributed throughout the Island of Luzon," Colonel HILDER says, "but how many of the deposits will prove rich enough to pay for systematic work and the introduction of machinery remains a problem which the future must solve." The writer says that the prospectors are very sanguine of securing good results whenever the country resumes its peaceful conditions. He notes that in other parts of the Archipelago extensive gold deposits exist which are said to be very rich, but which have never been developed because of the scarcity of labor.

There has just been published by the Government of Costa Rica an interesting and useful brochure, entitled "Estudio é Informe sobre el Café de Costa Rica" (Facts and Figures upon Costa Rican Coffee), compiled and arranged by Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Costa Rica near the Government of the United States, Washington. Señor CALVO has made a thorough and detailed investigation of this important subject, and presents in the publication mentioned a clear, concise, and intelligent exposition of the results arrived at and the conclusions reached by facts and figures, illustrated and explained by the use of valuable statistical tables showing the production and exportation of this important product from Costa Rica and its movement and consumption in Europe and the United States for a number of years past.

Among the works recently acquired by the Library of this Bureau is "Ridpath's Universal History," in 17 volumes, written by the late JOHN CLARK RIDPATH, LL. D., author of a number of books of great historic value. The work contains an account of the origin, primitive condition, and race development of the greater divisions of mankind, and also of the principal events in the evolution and progress of nations from the beginning of the civilized life to the close of the Nineteenth Century, with a preliminary inquiry on the time, place, and manner of the appearance of man on the earth from recent and authentic sources. The work is profusely illustrated with colored plates, ethnological charts, historical maps, type pictures, sketches, and diagrams.

The Bureau of American Republics has received an interesting pamphlet, consisting of 69 pages, entitled "La Vainilla" (The Vanilla), the author of which is Dr. R. LÓPEZ PARRA, of the city of Mexico. The essay is divided into three parts. The first treats of the cultivation,

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preparation, classification, packing, price, and exportation of Mexican vanilla. The second part discusses the vanilla of other countries, and contains a history of its production and culture in foreign lands, etc. The third division is devoted to a general résumé of the subject, and contains valuable data and information concerning the vanilla of Mexico as well as that of the Central and South American Republics. The book contains a number of valuable engravings and sketches illustrative of the subject.

"Vera Cruz Ilustrado" (Vera Cruz Illustrated) is the title of a handsome quarto volume issued by Messrs. S. PEARSON & SON, London. This is the fourth book of a series on the resources of the States of the Mexican Republic. A special feature of the present volume is the photographic reproduction of very many objects of interest. The subject-matter is printed in both the Spanish and the English languages, and contains much of interest regarding the State of Vera Cruz, with special reference to the harbor works and railways.

The Christmas number of the "Northwestern Miller" (Minneapolis) is one of the most artistic publications ever issued by a trade journal in the United States. Out of the 84 pages of reading matter only 14 are given over to the usual milling news, the remainder being devoted to literature and illustrations of a high order. Several well-known authors contribute articles of decided merit, many of them being embellished by beautiful illustrations, while throughout the typography of the book is most excellent.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN acknowledges receipt of the first number of an exceedingly interesting and important semi-monthly publication entitled "El Agricultor y Criador Mexicano" (The Mexican Farmer and Stockman). The journal is devoted entirely to the farming and stock-raising interests of Mexico, and is copiously illustrated with handsome and appropriate engravings.

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- Barreiro y Ramos. Gran almanaque de el Siglo. 1901. Año XXX, Tomo IX. Montevideo, Barreiro y Ramos, [1900]. 544 pp. 4°.
- Bolivia y Chile. Una circular diplomática por XX. [Pseud.] Santiago de Chile, Imp. Barcelona, 1900. 63 pp. 4°.
- Cibils, Federico R. Intercambio y producción. Artículos publicados en "El Pais" en Setiembre y Octubre de 1900 por Federico R. Cibils, Director de Comercio é Industrias del Ministerio de Agricultura. Buenos Ayres, J. Peuser, 1900. 49 pp. 8°.
- Chaigneau, J. Federico. Derrotero del Estrecho de Magallanes i de la Tierra del Fuego. Valparaiso, Tip. de La Armada, 1900. 241 pp. 4°.

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- Gomez, Tomas Y. Nociones elementales de gramática castellana escritos para las escuelas de instrucción primaria. Octavo edición. Guadalajara, Ancira y Hermanos, 1900. 140 pp. 12°.
- Instituto Geográfico Argentino. Boletín del Instituto. Tomo XXX. Núm. 7-12. Buenos Aires, El Instituto, 1900. 253, 551 pp. 8°.
- Iowa Masonic Library. Quarterly Bulletin. Vol. 3. No. 4. Cedar Rapids, 1900. 73, 95 (2) pp. 8°.
- Mansoulet, J. Julio. Gufa-Crónica de la frontera Araucana de Chile años 1892-93. Apuntes históricos, geográficos, etc. Santiago de Chile, Imp. Barcelona, 1893. 136 pp. 4°.
- Mason, Otis T. The Latimer Collection of Antiquities from Porto Rico in the National Museum and the Guesde Collection of Antiquities in Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, West Indies. Washington, Smithsonian Institution, 1899. 837 pp. 8°.
- Our Islands and Their People as Seen with Camera and Pencil. * * * Edited by William S. Bryan. New York, N. D. Thompson, [1899]. 384 pp. F.
- Pacific Commercial Museum. The Pacific Commercial Museum. * * * Its History, Purposes, Officers, By-laws. October, 1900. San Francisco, Payot, Upham & Co., 1900. 32 pp. 12°.
- Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana. Timehri. Journal of the Society. * * * Vol. XII, 1898-99. Demerara, Argosy Print [1900]. 182 pp. 8°.
- Sociedad Geográfica de La Paz. Boletín de la Sociedad. Año II, Tomo II, Núm. 3. La Paz, Tipo. Litográfico, 1900. 144 (1) pp. 8°.
- Vega, Nicolas. La Inmigración Europea en Chile, 1882 á 1895. Paris, Agencia General de Colonización del Gobierno de Chile. 1896. Maps. 192 pp. 4°.

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- Informe del Prefecto y Comandante General del Departamento de Oruro * * * Cochabamba, Tip. "El Comercio," 1900. 51, XLI pp. 4°.
- Memoria del Ministro de Hacienda é Industria presentada á la legislatura de 1900. La Paz, Imp. del Estado, 1900. 61 pp. 4°.
- Memoria del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, 1900. La Paz, Taller Tipo. Litográfico, [1900]. LXI pp. 4°.
- Memoria que presenta el Ministro de Justicia é Instrucción Pública ante el Congreso ordinario de 1900. La Paz, Taller Tipo. Litográfico, 1900. 219, III pp. 8°.

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- Commercial and Emigrational Guide to Brazil. Compiled and translated from official documents by José Coelho Gomes * * * 2d ed. Washington, J. P. Wright, 1886. 58 pp. 8°.
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- . Message addressed to the Legislative Congress of São Paulo on the 7th of April, 1897, * * * by the President of the State. São Paulo, Typ. do "Diario Oficial," 1897. 28 pp. 8°.
- L'Empire du Brésil à l'Exposition Universelle de 1876 à Philadelphie. Rio de Janeiro, Tip. do Imperial Instituto Artistico, 1876. vi, 542 (1) pp. 8°.

Mensagem dirigida ao Congresso Nacional 1893, 1894. Rio de Janeiro, Imprensa Nacional, 2 vols. (Message for 1894 received in English.)

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Memoria del Ministerio de Culto. 1895. Santiago, Imp. Mejia, 1896. 59 pp. 8°.

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- Annual Report of Commissioner of Patents. 1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 854 pp. 4°.

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- Boletín de Minas. Lima, Perú. Monthly.
 Boletín del Instituto Geográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic.
 El Hacendado Mexicano. Mexico, Mexico. Monthly.
 El Pensamiento Latino. Santiago, Chile. Semimonthly.
 El Pabellón de Honduras. Tegueigalpa, Honduras. Weekly.
 La Prensa. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Daily.
 Revista Comercial. Guayaquil, Ecuador.

PERMANENT LIBRARY FILES.

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

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- Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
 Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
 Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
 Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
 Bollettino Mensile. Rosario. Monthly.
 La Industria Molinera. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
 La Nación. Buenos Ayres. Daily.
 La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.
 La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres.
 La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres. Semimonthly.
 Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres.
 Review of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres. Weekly.

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- Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels. Weekly.

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- El Comercio. La Paz. Daily.
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CHILE.

- Chilian Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
 Diario Oficial de la República de Chile. Santiago. Daily.
 Revista Comercial e Industrial de Minas. Santiago. Monthly.
 Verhandlungen des Deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Vereins. Santiago.

COLOMBIA.

- Diario Oficial. Bogotá. Daily.
 El Correo Nacional. Bogotá.
 La Estrella de Panama. Panama. Weekly.
 Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá. Monthly.
 Star and Herald. Panama. Weekly.

COSTA RICA.

- Boletín de la Biblioteca Nacional. San José.
 La Gaceta. (Oficial.) San José. Daily.

CUBA.

- La Escuela Cubana. Havana. Weekly.
 Revista del Foro. Havana. Quarterly.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

- El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
 Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.

ECUADOR.

- Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil. Weekly.
 Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito. Daily.

ENGLAND.

- Board of Trade Journal. London. Weekly.
 British Trade Journal. London. Monthly.
 Commercial Intelligence. London. Weekly.
 Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London.
 Feilden's Magazine. London. Monthly.
 Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
 Geographical Journal. London. Monthly.
 Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London. Quarterly.
 Mining (The) Journal. London. Weekly.
 South American Journal. London. Weekly.
 Tenders and Contracts. London.
 Times (The). London. Daily.
 Trade and Navigation Reports. London. Monthly.

FRANCE.

- Le Nouveau Monde. Paris. Weekly.
 Moniteur Officiel. Paris. Weekly.
 Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
 Revue Générale des Sciences. Paris. Semimonthly.
 Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
 Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.

GERMANY.

- Der Tropenpflanzer. Berlin. Monthly.
 Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
 Handels-Kammer zu Hannover. Hannover.
 Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha. Monthly.
 Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin. Monthly.
 Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin.

GUATEMALA.

- Diario de Centro-America. Guatemala. Daily.
 El Guatemalteco. Guatemala. Weekly.
 La República. Guatemala. Daily.

HONDURAS.

- Boletín Legislativo. Tegucigalpa.
 Gaceta Judicial. Tegucigalpa.
 La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa.

MARTINIQUE.

- Les Colonies. St. Pierre. Daily.

MEXICO.

- American (The) Evolution. Mexico.
 Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. Mexico. Monthly.
 Boletín de Estadística. Mérida. Semimonthly.
 Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca.
 Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca.
 Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. Mexico. Monthly.
 Boletín Telegráfico. Mexico. Daily.
 Diario Oficial. Mexico. Daily.
 El Agricultor Mexicano. Ciudad Juárez. Monthly.
 El Economista Mexicano. Mexico. Weekly.
 El Estado de Colima. Colima. Weekly.
 El Progreso de Mexico. Mexico. Weekly.
 El Republicano. Aguascalientes. Weekly.
 La Gaceta Comercial. Mexico. Daily.
 Le Mexique. Mexico. Bimonthly.
 Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. Mexico. Monthly.
 Semana Mercantil. Mexico. Weekly.

NICARAGUA.

- Diario Oficial. Managua. Daily.
 El Comercio. Managua. Daily.
 La Patria. León.

PARAGUAY.

- La Enseñanza. Asunción. Semimonthly.
 Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción. Monthly.

PERU.

- Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima. Monthly.
 El Comercio. Lima. Daily.
 El Economista. Lima. Weekly.
 El Peruano. Lima. Daily.
 Padrón General de Minas. Lima.
 Revista de Ciencias. Lima. Monthly.

PORTO RICO.

Boletín Mercantil de Puerto Rico. San Juan. Daily.
La Correspondencia. San Juan. Daily.

SALVADOR.

Diario del Salvador. San Salvador. Daily.

UNITED STATES.

American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
Anglo-American Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Arts. Philadelphia. Quarterly.
Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
Coal Trade Journal. New York. Weekly.
Cram's Magazine. Chicago. Monthly.
Expansionist (The). New York, N. Y. Daily.
Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.
Field Columbian Museum Publications. Chicago.
Forum, The. New York. Monthly.
Hispano-America. San Francisco, Cal. Monthly.
India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
Modern Machinery. Chicago. Monthly.
Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
National Geographic Magazine. Washington. Monthly.
New-Yorker Handels-Zeitung. New York City.
Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo. Monthly.
Publications of the New England Free Trade League. Boston.
Scientific American. New York. Weekly.
Scientific American. Export Edition. New York. Monthly.
United States Consular Reports. Washington. Daily and Monthly.

URUGUAY.

Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
El Siglo. Montevideo. Daily.
La Nación. Montevideo. Daily.
Revista de la Unión Industrial é Uruguaya. Montevideo. Semimonthly.

VENEZUELA.

Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.
Venezuela. Caracas. Monthly.
Venezuelan Herald. Caracas.

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REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR.

Según los informes publicados por la prensa argentina, el comercio exterior de aquel país durante los nueve meses del año civil de 1900 estuvo representado por las siguientes cifras:

Importación, \$87,461,371, oro, y la exportación en \$122,518,293, oro. En las importaciones ha habido un aumento de más de \$200,000, oro, comparadas con las de igual período en 1899, mientras que las exportaciones han disminuido casi en cinco millones de pesos oro. En detalle el comercio fué así:

[Valor en pesos, oro.]

Países.	Importación.	Exportación.	Países.	Importación.	Exportación.
Africa		\$2, 518, 388	Francia	\$8, 724, 739	\$14, 550, 856
Alemania	\$12, 556, 877	16, 511, 128	Italia	11, 699, 364	3, 213, 665
Antillas	17, 830	246, 438	Países Bajos	136, 317	3, 515, 111
Bélgica	6, 985, 157	16, 169, 445	Paraguay	1, 371, 337	134, 082
Bolivia	92, 042	530, 368	Reino Unido.....	30, 141, 521	16, 432, 653
Brasil	2, 882, 373	4, 045, 250	Uruguay	335, 611	1, 728, 415
Chile	114, 465	574, 968	Otras procedencias y destinos.....		5, 625, 345
España	2, 854, 622	1, 722, 674	Á órdenes.....		30, 266, 312
Estados Unidos.....	9, 321, 475	4, 733, 185			

La enorme cifra de \$30,266,312, oro, importe de la exportación á órdenes, tiene su explicación en la gran cantidad de cereales que se cargan en puertos argentinos con destino al canal ó á San Vicente, en buques despachados "á órdenes," para que sigan con la carga á los puertos que luego se indica á los capitanes.

La notable disminución en las exportaciones, se atribuye en gran parte á la enfermedad del ganado que causó grandes estragos en los distritos criadores de la República, produciendo la paralización temporal de una de las industrias más importantes del país.

Por la tabla precedente se ve que las importaciones de la Gran Bretaña fueron las mayores de todas durante el tiempo en referencia, siguiéndole en orden á importancia Alemania, Italia, los Estados Unidos, Francia y Bélgica. Los países para donde se exportó la mayor cantidad fueron en orden á importancia Alemania, la Gran Bretaña, Bélgica, Francia, Estados Unidos y Brasil. Las principales exportaciones para el Brasil fueron trigo y harina, cuyo comercio entre los dos países ha aumentado rápidamente durante los últimos años.

BOLIVIA.

TRATADO DE EXTRADICIÓN.

Ha sido sancionado por el Congreso Nacional y promulgado por el Presidente de aquella República, el decreto que aprueba el Tratado de Extradición que con fecha 21 de abril de 1900 firmaron en la Ciudad de La Paz el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Bolivia y Mr. GEORGE H. BRIDGMAN, Ministro de los Estados Unidos cerca de aquel Gobierno, y se ordena el canje de las ratificaciones respectivas. Con la misma fecha, 3 de noviembre de 1900, ha sido promulgada también la Convención Postal firmada en aquella capital entre los funcionarios mencionados.

FERROCARRILES EN LA REPÚBLICA.

El Presidente de la República ha promulgado la ley del Congreso que dispone que todo el rendimiento del estanco de alcoholes y aguardientes y el que proviene del impuesto que grava el caucho producido por el Departamento de La Paz, se aplique por el término de tres años á la construcción de un ferrocarril del Lago de Titicaca á La Paz, conforme á los estudios aprobados por el Gobierno. También se ha facultado al Ejecutivo para estipular las condiciones de un contrato de construcción de los ferrocarriles de Viacha á Oruro, en conexión con los ramales de Guaqui á La Paz, y de Oruro á Cochabamba, ofreciendo en garantía la primera sección del ferrocarril que se construya, más el producto del estanco de alcoholes por el tiempo que fuere necesario, al interés del 6 por ciento anual, de acuerdo con las leyes de la materia.

BRASIL.

LÍMITES CON LA GUAYANA FRANCESA.

La sentencia arbitral del Consejo Federal Suizo en la cuestión de límites pendiente entre la República del Brasil y la de Francia, con motivo de las fronteras de la Guayana francesa, y cuyo origen histórico se remonta hasta fines del siglo XVII, fué entregada á las partes interesadas en Berna, el 1° de diciembre de 1900. El laudo demarca las fronteras brasileras por el Oyapoc de una parte y de otra por la línea de la separación de las aguas de la hoya del Amazonas, desde la cabecera principal del Oyapoc hasta la frontera de las posesiones holandesas de la Guayana, es decir, la línea de los montes de Tumucumaque.

De esta suerte el Brasil obtiene el límite marítimo que desde el año de 1688 venía reclamando el Portugal, la antigua metrópoli. Francia, por su parte, había reclamado siempre el río Araguay, una línea paralela al Amazonas y la margen izquierda del río Branco.

El laudo concede al Brasil 147,000 millas cuadradas del territorio en disputa y á Francia cerca de 3,000 millas cuadradas al norte de la cadena de Tumucumaque.

La sentencia del tribunal arbitral dice así:

1°. Que el río Japoc ó Vicente Pinçon del artículo 8 del Tratado de Utrecht, es el Oyapoc que desemboca al oeste del Cabo Orange, como queda establecido por los documentos que el Brasil sometió al tribunal, y que el "thalweg" de dicho río, desde su desembocadura hasta sus cabeceras, constituirá definitivamente la primera de las líneas fronterizas entre el Brasil y la Guayana Francesa.

2°. Que la otra línea fronteriza desde las cabeceras del Oyapoc hasta el punto donde encuentra territorio holandés, será la que el artículo 2 del Tratado de Arbitraje ha indicado como solución intermedia, es decir, la línea de la división de las aguas en los montes Tunuc-Huniac, que forman el límite setentrional de la hoya del Amazonas.

COMERCIO DE RIO Y SANTOS EN SEIS MESES.

Según el "Boletim do Servicio Commercial" que se publica en Rio Janeiro, las exportaciones verificadas en el primer semestre de 1900 por los puertos de Rio Janeiro y Santos alcanzaron en su totalidad á 33.652:152 milreis oro ó sea £6,035,866. Estas exportaciones están divididas en cuatro grandes clases que son: primera, animales y sus productos; segunda, minerales y sus productos; tercera, vegetales y sus productos, y cuarta, valores.

Según la misma publicación el café embarcado por los puertos de Rio Janeiro y Santos durante el semestre en referencia alcanzó á

£5,490,638, siendo el número de sacos de café exportados, de 60 kilogramos cada uno, durante ese período 1,309,248 por el puerto de Rio Janeiro y 1,458,670 por el puerto de Santos; Victoria exportó 108,191 sacos y Bahía 53,150 sacos, ó sea un total de 2,929,259 sacos. Las exportaciones á los Estados Unidos durante el mismo período fueron como sigue: Nueva York, 1,493,460 sacos; Baltimore, 161,305; Nueva Orleans, 67,236; y Galveston, 21,905.

Durante el primer semestre de 1900 entraron á Rio Janeiro 691 buques de vapor y 203 de vela de diversas procedencias y zarparon del mismo puerto 704 vapores y 218 buques de vela. En el puerto de Santos este movimiento fué como sigue: vapores, 257 entradas y 261 salidas; buques de vela, 27 entradas y 30 salidas.

CREACIÓN DE UNA LÍNEA DE VAPORES.

El Gobernador del Estado de Pará ha promulgado una ley estableciendo un servicio de buques de vapor entre Pará y Europa. Según esta ley el Gobierno recibe propuestas para el establecimiento de dicha línea de vapores entre Pará y un puerto de Rusia sobre el Mar Báltico, con estaciones en diferentes puntos. Los vapores han de tener una velocidad de 14 millas por hora y una capacidad mínima para dos mil toneladas de carga y espacio para trescientos pasajeros.

CHILE.

DEPÓSITOS DE AZUFRE.

El Cónsul alemán en Tacna informa á su Gobierno sobre los depósitos de azufre que se encuentran en Chile. Según este funcionario, los depósitos de azufre en Chile comenzaron á explotarse en 1888, habiéndole llegado su desarrollo á tal extremo que el azufre de Sicilia, que se importaba antes en grandes cantidades en la Provincia de Tarapacá, ya no tiene allí tanta demanda, empleándose en su lugar el producto del país. Los depósitos de la Provincia de Tacna distan como 21 millas de este puerto. Un sindicato de Nueva York, cuyo capital es de \$5,000,000, dice el informe en referencia, se propone ampliar las minas y establecer grandes oficinas y un ferrocarril de cable de 6 millas de largo por las montañas de San Francisco, en la Provincia de Tacna, ó bien uno de vapor desde las minas al puerto de Tacna para exportar aquel producto á Nueva York. Según los cálculos de esta compañía pueden estimarse en 10,000 toneladas de azufre en bruto el producto mensual de las minas, en cuyo caso el valor de 1 tonelada, puesta en Nueva York, se calcula en \$15. Las exportaciones de azufre para las salitreras de Tarapacá ha sido durante los tres últimos años como sigue: 1896, 1,016 toneladas; 1897, 1,639, y 1898, 2,060.

COSTA RICA.

ESTUDIO SOBRE EL CAFÉ.

Del informe sometido al Gobierno de la Republica de Costa Rica por el Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNADO CALVO, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en Wáshington, son los datos que aparecen á continuación:

El café de Costa Rica, por regla general, tiene el grano muy parecido al de Java, es grueso y oblongo y de un calor amarillento y á veces verdoso; por este motivo, al mismo tiempo que por lo bien aereditado que está el artículo en los Estados Unidos, al pasar á segundas manos recibe generalmente el nombre de Java ó de Moca, habiendo desaparecido casi por completo su nombre original, pues no figura en absoluto como café de Costa Rica. Sometido á análisis, la Sección de Química del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos presentó un informe que demuestra que el café de Costa Rica, cuyas muestras fueron tomadas indistintamente de distintas partidas, contiene de 1.16 á 1.27 por ciento de cafeína. La buena calidad del grano no depende precisamente de la mayor ó menor cantidad de cafeína que contenga, sino del aroma especial del producto. El análisis químico, hecho por el profesor CHARLES E. MUNROE, Catedrático de Química de la Universidad de Colombia, en Wáshington, dice entre otras cosas, lo siguiente:

“El aroma de las muestras molidas y de las infusiones del café de Costa Rica fué riquísimo; el del número 1 decididamente aceitoso, mientras que el del número 3 fué marcadamente acaramelado. El sabor de las infusiones participó de las mismas condiciones características de su olor. La infusión del número 4 fué tan parecida á la del café de Java que sería difícil distinguirla de la de este.”

La muestra número 3 se diferenció del café de Java en ser más dulce; el número 2 tuvo el sabor del Java; el número 1 de nuez. Termina el informe del profesor diciendo que en su opinión los cafés de Costa Rica son de excelente calidad.

En los Estados Unidos el café de Costa Rica tiene muy buena aceptación y alcanza los mejores precios del mercado, lo cual se desprende de datos tomados de los informes estadísticos del Departamento del Tesoro en Washington, sobre las importaciones durante los años fiscales de 1897-98 y 1898-99, según los cuales se ve que de las doce procedencias indicadas ocupa Costa Rica el quinto lugar en lo que se refiere á la cantidad de su café importado en los Estados Unidos, que en 1897-98 alcanzó á 13,748,544 libras, avaluadas en \$1,958,257, siendo el precio por término medio a que se vendió el artículo en Nueva York durante el año \$0.1424 por libra. En el año fiscal de 1898-99 las impor-

taciones de café de Costa Rica arrojaron la cifra de 16,625,721 libras por \$2,406,246, veudidas, por término medio, durante el año á 14.48 centavos por libra.

CUBA.

COMERCIO DE LA ISLA EN EL AÑO FISCAL DE 1900.

La División de Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos, ha hecho público un sumario del comercio de la Isla de Cuba durante el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900. Este trabajo demuestra que durante el período en referencia las importaciones de mercancías alcanzaron á \$71,681,187, figurando en esta cantidad la suma de \$4,045,754 que entraron libres de derechos. Las importaciones están clasificadas como sigue: artículos de alimentación y animales, \$33,154,016, ó sea 40 por ciento del total; artículos manufacturados \$23,919,206, ó 34 por ciento; artículos en bruto ó fabricados en parte, \$918,860, ó 1 por ciento; artículos de lujo y otros, \$4,604,743, ó 6 por ciento, y artículos varios, \$9,084,362, ó 13 por ciento del total general.

Durante el mismo período se importó oro acuñado por valor de \$5,093,096, en la proporción siguiente: Estados Unidos, \$4,242,438; España, \$302,243; Francia, \$530,000; México, \$18,415. Las importaciones de monedas de plata llegaron á \$95,016. También se importó plata en pasta de los Estados Unidos por valor de \$514.

Por países las importaciones fueron así: Europa, \$31,475,343; Asia, \$247,601; Africa, \$330; Estados Unidos, \$34,347,008; México, \$3,605,538; Canadá, \$44,154; Centro América, \$907,036; Sud América, \$4,484,892; y Las Antillas, \$1,757,911, entrando Puerto Rico en esta última suma con la cantidad de \$1,611,237. El total general de las importaciones, incluyendo el oro y la plata, alcanzó á \$76,869,813, habiéndose verificado el grueso de este comercio por el puerto de la Habana, en la suma de \$57,901,652.

El valor total de las importaciones, incluyendo oro y plata, verificadas por la Isla desde la fecha de la ocupación americana, es decir, desde el 17 de julio de 1898 hasta el 30 de junio de 1900 se eleva á la cifra de \$113,846,603, correspondiendo al puerto de la Habana \$85,336,777.

Las exportaciones de mercancías de Cuba durante el año fiscal en referencia están valoradas en \$45,228,346, clasificadas como sigue: productos de la agricultura, \$28,551,846, ó 63 por ciento del total; artículos manufacturados, \$13,706,346, ó 30 por ciento; productos forestales, \$649,013, ó 1 por ciento; producto de las minas, \$794,399, ó 2 por ciento; artículos varios, \$1,526,742, ó 4 por ciento del total. Las exportaciones de oro acuñado se elevaron á \$3,830,301, así: Estados

Unidos, \$2,285,750; España, \$2,551, y Francia, \$1,542,000. Durante el mismo período la plata acuñada que se exportó alcanzó el valor de \$422,345, correspondiéndole á los Estados Unidos, \$5,000; á España, \$185,745, y á Francia, \$231,600. También se exportó mineral de plata por valor de \$560, de los cuales correspondió á los Estados Unidos, \$460, y el resto á Francia; de manera que el total de las exportaciones de oro y plata, verificadas en el año fiscal en referencia, allegó á \$4,253,206.

Por países las exportaciones, incluyendo oro y plata, fueron como sigue: Europa, \$11,149,472; Asia, \$13,555; Africa, \$93,400; Estados Unidos, \$36,912,629; Canadá, \$234,642; México, \$63,727. Las exportaciones para Centro América alcanzaron á \$7,185; Sud América, \$626,484; para las Antillas, \$138,961, correspondiendo á Puerto Rico, \$1,580; Oceanía, \$241,497, estando representada en está suma las Islas del Hawai por valor de \$6,426, de suerte que las exportaciones de Cuba, incluyendo oro y plata, alcanzaron en el período en referencia á la suma de \$49,481,552. El puerto de la Habana esta representado en esta suma con la cantidad de \$29,713,766. Las exportaciones totales de la Isla, desde la ocupación americana hasta el fin del año fiscal en referencia, arrojan la cifra de \$81,394,525, en la cual corresponde al puerto de la Habana la cantidad de \$44,693,942.

ECUADOR.

SITUACIÓN COMERCIAL.

La "Revista Comercial de Guayaquil" en un número reciente trae un estudio de la situación mercantil del país durante los meses de septiembre y octubre de 1900. Dicha publicación se refiere á la actividad con que se han llevado á cabo los trabajos del Ferrocarril del Sur, y al contrato que ha sido aprobado por el Congreso para la construcción de una vía férrea entre Bahía de Caráques y Quito. También se refiere á un proyecto presentado al Congreso por los Señores MARTIN REINBERG Y CIA. para la construcción de un muelle de hierro en el puerto de Guayaquil.

Con referencia á la cosecha de cacao, hasta el 31 de octubre de 1900 la calcula en 315,094.03 quintales contra 466,647 en igual período del año anterior. Las exportaciones de este fruto durante los diez primeros meses de 1900, las calcula en 13,626,412 kilogramos, correspondiéndole á Francia, 6,176,422; á los Estados Unidos, 2,055,362; á Inglaterra, 2,035,909; á Alemania, 1,742,168, y á España, 1,370,029. Ninguno de los otros países para donde se exportó este fruto tomó más de 57,000 kilogramos.

La exportación del café durante el mismo período alcanzó á 1,406,367 kilogramos, correspondiéndole el primer lugar á Chile con 601,471;

el segundo lugar á Los Estados Unidos con 295,249 kilogramos, y siguen después Alemania, Inglaterra y Francia.

Los ferrocarriles urbanos produjeron durante el mismo período 203,628 soles.

La ley que grava con un 23 por ciento la importación y con un 50 por ciento la exportación fué sancionada por el Ejecutivo. La primera rige para todos los artículos que se introduzcan desde el 1º de enero de 1901, y la segunda para todos los que se exporten desde el 15 de diciembre de 1900, exceptuándose de este recargo el café, la paja toquilla y la tagua.

IMPUESTOS Y SU INVERSIÓN.

“El Registro Oficial” de Quito publica el decreto del Congreso, fechado á 12 de octubre de 1900, por el cual se dispone que, del impuesto de 80 centavos sobre cada quintal de cacao que grava á la provincia de El Oro, se invierta la mitad en la continuación del ferrocarril de Machala á Cuenca; 25 centavos en la canalización de ríos, y en la construcción de un hospital y una casa municipal.

EL SALVADOR.

JUNTA CENTRAL DE AGRICULTURA.

El “Boletín de Agricultura” de San Salvador, en su número correspondiente al mes de diciembre de 1900, trae un Decreto Ejecutivo por el cual se establece en la capital de la República una Junta Central de Agricultura cuyas atribuciones y deberes son poner en práctica las disposiciones que sobre el fomento del ramo contiene el Código de Agricultura y cumplir las del Gobierno concernientes al progreso y engrandecimiento de tan importante industria. También trae la misma publicación el reglamento respectivo decretado por el Presidente de la República.

IMPUESTOS SOBRE EL COMERCIO.

La República de El Salvador ha gravado con un impuesto indirecto de 3 pesos, plata, por cada cien kilogramos peso bruto, la importación de las mercaderías que se introduzcan á la República, exceptuándose la maquinaria de vapor, hidráulica ó de mano para la agricultura; arados, y otros instrumentos para el cultivo de la tierra; abonos, tambores de hierro para bálsamo; filtros ó destiladores de toda clase, pelo de liebre y otros para sombreros; telares de todas clases; tinta de imprenta ó litografía, y yeso preparado para el uso de establecimientos de instrucción. Este impuesto es transitorio y ha sido necesario, dada la fuerte amortización actual de la deuda flotante y consolidada.

Otro Decreto Ejecutivo dispone exceptuar del pago de derecho é impuestos fiseales y municipales establecidos ó que en lo sucesivo se

establezcan, por el término de diez años, la exportación de toda clase de maderas de construcción y de tintes, del tabaco, azúcar, papas, arroz, maíz, frijoles y toda clase de cereales y brozas minerales como oro, plata, cobre, etc., con el objeto de impulsar y favorecer por todos los medios posibles la exportación de los principales productos agrícolas, industriales y minerales que constituyen la riqueza del país.

NUEVO CENSO.

Ha dispuesto el Poder Ejecutivo que se proceda á levantar el censo de la República, haciendo un nuevo y completo empadronamiento el día 1° de marzo de 1901. Con este motivo se ha publicado el decreto que determina la manera de llevarlo á cabo.

FACTURAS CONSULARES.

Con fecha 2 de noviembre de 1900 el Poder Ejecutivo de El Salvador adicionó el acuerdo de 20 de octubre anterior, que fué reproducido en el número de diciembre último del *BOLETIN MENSUAL*, página 1312, con los siguientes artículos:

“4. Los Cónsules de El Salvador cobrarán cinco pesos, oro, por los manifiestos ó sobordos que visaren, de toda carga que se destine á nuestros puertos y que no atraviere el Istmo de Panamá.

“5. Si la referida carga fuere trasbordada en alguno de los puertos del Pacífico, no necesitará traer, desde el puerto de embarque, los manifiestos visados, pues el Cónsul de El Salvador, en el puerto del trasbordo, visará los cuatro ejemplares del respectivo sobordo ó manifiesto, cobrando por la vista diez pesos en plata.

“6. Los Cónsules de El Salvador, en cualquier punto latino-americano que se embarque carga dirigida á este país y que no atraviere el Istmo de Panamá, cobrarán igualmente diez pesos, plata, por visar los manifiestos ó sobordos antes expresados.”

DEUDA EXTERIOR.

En el mes de noviembre de 1900, según el acta publicada en el “Diario del Salvador”, se incineraron en el Palacio de Justicia bonos por valor de £716,860, correspondientes á la denominada deuda inglesa procedente de los empréstitos levantados por El Salvador en 1889 y 1892.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

RELACIÓN DE LAS IMPORTACIONES.

En la página 28 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados

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

REVISTA DEL AÑO DE 1900.

Si notable fué el progreso alcanzado en los Estados Unidos durante 1899, no menos brillantemente ha cerrado con el año de 1900 el último del siglo que pasó. En todos los ramos de la industria del país se han hecho adelantos prodigiosos; su comercio ha alcanzado cifras que rayan en los billones; su riqueza ha aumentado como en ningún otro tiempo, en la historia de su vida como nación, más aún, no tiene paralelo en los anales del mundo. No podría entrarse en el siglo XX bajo auspicios más halagüeños. El mejor exponente de la prosperidad del país es el mensaje que el Presidente McKINLEY dirigió al Congreso con motivo de la apertura de sus últimas sesiones, y que comenzaba manifestando que por todas partes se veían evidencias de la prosperidad nacional é individual y pruebas de la influencia benéfica y poderosa de las instituciones republicanas.

Cuál ha sido durante el siglo el desarrollo de los Estados Unidos puede medirse al considerar que en 1800 alcanzaba su población á algo más de 5,000,000; al terminar 1900 el número de habitantes es más de 76,000,000. Para aquella época 16 Estados constituían la República, cuyo territorio medía 909,050 millas cuadradas; hoy son 45 Estados, 5 Territorios, además del Distrito de Columbia, donde está situada la Capital de la República, y las Islas del Hawaii, y la extensión superficial alcanza á 3,846,595 millas cuadradas.

En la parte económica durante el año de 1900, hasta el 30 de junio, término del año fiscal, las rentas excedieron á las del período correspondiente del año anterior en \$79,527,060, mientras que durante los seis años precedentes sólo hubo déficits que alcanzaron la suma de más de \$280,000,000. Las rentas durante el año fiscal de 1900 alcanzaron á más de \$500,000,000 y las erogaciones á \$488,000,000; las aduanas produjeron más de \$200,000,000, la renta interna cerca de \$300,000,000, mientras que los ingresos por varios conceptos se aproximaron á \$40,000,000. Los gastos del Gobierno disminuyeron considerablemente durante ese período, los del Departamento de la Guerra, por ejemplo, reduciéndose en \$95,000,000 y los de la Marina en cerca de \$66,000,000.

Esta situación excelente del Tesoro permitió la amortización de bonos por valor de \$56,500,000. Para el 30 de noviembre el balance efectivo en las cajas de la Tesorería subía á la suma de \$139,303,794, sin contar la reserva de \$150,000,000. En el fondo general, que es distinto al de reserva y el de depósito, había para el 30 de noviembre de 1900 más de \$70,000,000 en moneda y pasta de oro y cerca de \$23,000,000 en certificados de oro para ser emitidos, garantizados por oro acuñado y en pasta, lo cual arroja una cantidad total de oro no afecto á pagos de más de \$93,000,000. Este mismo estado floreciente del Tesoro permitió al Secretario de aquel ramo recoger del 30 de junio de 1899 á igual fecha de noviembre del año en referencia, el empréstito consolidado de 1901, al 2 por ciento, por más de \$25,000,000. Hicieronse también otras transacciones de alta finanza que han rendido al Gobierno una utilidad neta de \$10,000,000, al mismo tiempo que ha reducido en más de \$7,000,000 la responsabilidad del Tesoro para el pago de intereses, desde la fecha en que se refundió la deuda hasta el 1 de julio de 1904.

Cuál ha sido el progreso mercantil ó industrial del país nada lo demuestra mejor que el estudio del comercio extranjero. Por la primera vez en su historia el total de las importaciones y exportaciones ha pasado de \$2,000,000,000. Las exportaciones alcanzaron en el año fiscal de 1900 á \$1,394,483,082, es decir, fueron por cerca de \$168,000,000 mayores que el año anterior. Las importaciones en el mismo año alcanzaron á \$894,941,184, ó sea un aumento de cerca de \$153,000,000 sobre el año anterior. Este aumento, que se debe en su mayor parte á la introducción de materias primas para atender á las necesidades de la industria manufacturera del país, indica mejor que nada el rápido desarrollo de estos intereses, lo cual se nota también en el hecho de que las exportaciones de productos manufacturados americanos alcanzaron durante la época en referencia á \$433,851,756, es decir, un aumento de 28 por ciento sobre las exportaciones del año fiscal anterior. Al aumento en las exportaciones han concurrido los productos manufacturados, como ya se ha dicho; los de la agricultura; los de minería, y en seguida todos los otros que constituyen el tráfico que para el extranjero hacen los Estados Unidos.

Para fines del año fiscal de 1900 las entradas y depósitos de oro y plata verificadas en los cuños y oficinas de ensaye alcanzaron por junto á \$238,755,736.24 y la cantidad de moneda acuñada durante aquel período se elevó por junto á \$141,301,960.36. Para fines del año civil de 1900 la acuñación total en los Estados Unidos ha sido valorada en \$137,699,401.

Los fondos pertenecientes al Gobierno depositados en los bancos nacionales alcanzaron en 30 de junio de 1900 á \$98,736,806 en 240 bancos, mientras que los capitales de todos los bancos nacionales tuvieron un aumento líquido de cerca de \$20,000,000 durante aquel período.

La deuda de los Estados Unidos con intereses, no vencidos y por pagar, era el 1° de julio de 1900, \$1,023,443,390. El aumento neto del dinero en circulación hasta el 1° de noviembre fué de \$175,465,266 en un total de \$2,139,181,412, que dividido entre la población calculada del país da una circulación por cabeza de \$27.82.

Durante el año arribaron á puertos de los Estados Unidos 448,572 inmigrantes. Este influjo de inmigración es una de las causas á que obedece el desarrollo fenomenal del país. También se verificó el censo que arroja un total de población de 76,295,220, es decir, 13,234,948 habitantes sobre el censo de 1890.

Larga sería la tarea de entrar á estudiar uno á uno los mil ramos de la industria y del comercio que han seguido, durante el año que acaba de terminar, esa progresión ascendente en su desarrollo que ha dado á los Estados Unidos puesto de preferencia entre las naciones del mundo. En el BOLETÍN MENSUAL se ha venido publicando todo aquello referente á esta materia, de modo que ha de ser una repetición hasta cierto punto inútil mencionar de nuevo hechos ya sabidos. La excelencia del producto americano queda demostrada por la extensión de su comercio; comercio que no obstante los grandes progresos que ha hecho en la América Latina, no ha alcanzado aquel desarrollo que las necesidades de esos países por una parte, y por otra la adaptabilidad perfecta del producto americano, parecen demandar. Son la agricultura, la minería y en una palabra la explotación de las fuentes naturales de riqueza de la América Latina la base de la prosperidad de aquellos pueblos; es la maquinaria americana para la explotación de esos veneros de riquezas la que más se adapta á esos fines.

Los Estados Unidos consecuentes con su política comercial han celebrado convenios especiales con varios países del Viejo y del Nuevo Mundo y tienen en vía de arreglo otros varios. Cuál es la expresión de esta idea puede verse en el último mensaje del Presidente, que se expresa á este respecto, diciendo que la política de la reciprocidad descansa de manera manifiesta en los principios de equidad internacional y ha sido tantas veces aprobada por el pueblo de los Estados Unidos que no debería dudar el Congreso de ponerla en vigor. "Este Gobierno," dice el Presidente, "desea conservar las relaciones comerciales más justas y amigables con todos los países extranjeros, haciendo caso omiso de la rivalidad industrial que necesariamente se desarrolla con la expansión del comercio internacional. Créese que los Gobiernos extranjeros por lo general abrigan los mismos propósitos, aun cuando en algunos casos hay exigencias que pesan sobre ellos en favor de una legislación especialmente hostil á los intereses americanos."

Siguiendo la misma vía de hacer más extenso el comercio americano y mejor conocidos los productos industriales de este país y aquellos que forman el comercio extranjero del resto de la América, se ha de celebrar en Búfalo una Exposición Pan-Americana á principios del

año en curso. Los trabajos de la junta directiva de este certamen, durante el año en referencia, han tenido el mejor éxito y casi todos, si no todos los países latino-americanos han de concurrir á él, acreando de esta manera los intereses comerciales del continente.

Es otra prueba aún de los deseos que animan á todas las naciones de la América para estrechar los lazos de amistad fraternal que las unen la próxima reunión en la Ciudad de México del segundo Congreso Pan-Americano, que por primera vez celebró sus sesiones en Wáshington del 2 de octubre de 1889 á 19 de abril de 1890. En realidad no debería mencionarse este hecho al referirse á la historia de los Estados Unidos en 1900, pero como demuestra el buen deseo de completar la obra que se inició en este país, no se ha creído fuera de lugar hacer esta referencia.

Es también digno de nota que por la primera vez en muchos años, y quizás en la historia de los Estados Unidos, el cuerpo diplomático latino-americano residente en Wáshington es el más completo, nueva demostración del deseo de estrechar las relaciones que desde el tiempo del nacimiento político de todas las naciones latino-americanas existe entre ellas y esta República.

Á la Exposición de París asistieron los Estados Unidos recibiendo los expositores americanos 240 grandes premios, 597 medallas de oro, 776 medallas de plata, 541 medallas de bronce y 322 menciones honorables, es decir, un total mayor que el que se adjudicara á cualquiera otra nación. Cuánto significa esto lo explican mejor las siguientes palabras del mensaje á que se ha hecho referencia:

“Este reconocimiento significativo del mérito, en competencia con las exposiciones escogidas de todas las otras naciones, hecho por jurados casi en su totalidad representantes de la Francia y otros países competidores, no solamente es de lo más placentero, sino que tiene valor especial desde el momento en que nos da puesto en primera línea en las cuestiones internacionales de producción y de demanda, mientras que una gran parte de las adjudicaciones hechas á las artes y manufacturas artísticas han sido una prueba, que no se esperaba, del estímulo de nuestra cultura nacional debido á la prosperidad hija de la riqueza natural y de la excelencia en las industrias.”

Durante el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1900 el comercio de los Estados Unidos con todos los países de la América alcanzó, según datos oficiales, á la suma de \$170,461,647 por importaciones y \$116,114,326 por exportaciones. En estos totales está comprendido el comercio de Cuba, Puerto Rico y las Guayanas Inglesa, Francesa y Holandesa. El BOLETÍN de la Oficina publica mensualmente un resumen de la estadística relativa al comercio de los Estados Unidos con los otros países del continente, de suerte que sólo basta mencionar los principales artículos que forman el grueso de dicho comercio. Entre las importaciones hechas á los Estados Unidos de la América latina ocupa el primer lugar el café, que durante el año económico de 1900 se

importó, según estadísticas oficiales, en la cantidad de 748,546,777 libras con un valor de \$47,329,851. México contribuyó á esta cantidad con más de 35,000,000 de libras por valor de \$3,312,608; las Repúblicas de Centro América con más que 43,500,000 libras por valor de \$4,356,407; la América del Sur está representada en 660,182,633 libras, avaluadas en \$38,929,513, de lo cual corresponde al Brasil solamente 601,520,169 libras con un valor de \$34,333,762. El valor de las importaciones de las Antillas se elevó á \$731,323 representados por 9,250,000 libras. Las otras importaciones principales fueron caucho ó hule, por cerca de \$20,000,000; eneros y pieles, por más de \$13,500,000; azúcar, por más de \$25,500,000; henequén, por más de \$11,500,000; cacao, por más de \$2,500,000; frutas, más de \$3,500,000; plomo en galápagos, barras, etc., más de \$2,500,000; tabaco, cerca de \$8,000,000, y lana, más de \$3,000,000.

Las exportaciones principales verificadas por los Estados Unidos en ese mismo año económico para los países de la América latina fueron harina de trigo, por más de \$7,500,000; petróleo y otros aceites minerales, por cerca de \$5,500,000; madera de construcción, \$4,500,000; tejidos de algodón, \$3,500,000; manteca, \$3,500,000; provisiones de todas especies, \$3,000,000; carbón mineral, \$2,800,000; instrumentos para la agricultura, \$2,775,000; ferretería, \$1,925,000; aceites vegetales, \$1,600,000; carros y coches, \$1,900,000; muebles, \$1,300,000; instrumentos científicos y otros, \$1,100,000; rieles, \$1,000,000; maíz y trigo, \$1,200,000.

El año que acaba de terminar ha visto desarrollarse de una manera asombrosa las vías de comunicación internas de los Estados Unidos, al mismo tiempo que se han establecido nuevas comunicaciones con el extranjero, que acercan cada día más los mercados consumidores del mundo á los inmensamente productores de esta nación. El siglo XX, pues, comienza bajo los mejores auspicios y es de esperarse que durante su transcurso sigan gozándose de los beneficios que la industria incansable del americano tiene derecho á esperar y que ha de ser, en día no muy lejano, factor del progreso material de los países que forman la Unión Internacional.

PRESUPUESTO FISCAL PARA 1902.

El día 3 de diciembre de 1900 presentó el Secretario de Hacienda al Congreso de los Estados Unidos el presupuesto para el año fiscal que termina el 30 de junio de 1902, del cual se extracta el cuadro siguiente por orden de departamentos: Cuerpo Legislativo, \$10,956,700.45; Poder Ejecutivo, \$283,400; Departamento de Estado, \$2,125,148.76; Departamento del Tesoro, \$158,869,136.43; Departamento de la Guerra, \$176,658,345.75; Departamento de la Marina, \$88,913,248.76; Departamento de lo Interior, \$170,799,705.09; Departamento de Correos, \$6,295,877; Departamento de Agricultura, \$4,669,050; Sección de

Trabajos, \$177,980; Departamento de Justicia, \$6,993,170; ó sea un total general de \$626,741,762.24. El presupuesto para 1901 alcanzó á \$631,081,994.86.

ACUÑACIÓN DE MONEDAS.

El informe presentado por el Director del Cuño indica que durante el año civil de 1900 la acuñación total en los Estados Unidos se elevó á la suma de 175,699,563 piezas de moneda, valoradas en \$137,699,401, de la manera siguiente: monedas de oro, \$99,272,942.50; monedas de plata, \$36,295,321.45; monedas fraccionarias de níquel y bronce, \$68,337.64.

Durante el mes de diciembre de 1900 la amonedación total alcanzó á \$7,758,580, así: oro, \$4,576,697; plata, \$2,880,555, y monedas fraccionarias \$301,382.

Durante el año en referencia la Casa de Moneda de Filadelfia acuñó para el Gobierno de Costa Rica 370,000 monedas de oro por valor de \$1,047,041.

COMERCIO EN DIEZ MESES.

La floreciente condición del comercio de los Estados Unidos durante los diez meses que terminaron en octubre pasado, según los datos que acaba de publicar la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda, es asombrosa.

El aumento de las exportaciones y el valor del algodón en rama durante ese tiempo representa más de la mitad del que arrojan las estadísticas sobre las exportaciones americanas durante el mismo período en el año de 1899. En resumen, el comercio de los principales productos de origen y de consumo en los Estados Unidos, durante los diez meses que terminaron en octubre de 1900, comparados con igual período en 1899, es así:

	1900.		1899.	
	Exportaciones.	Importaciones.	Exportaciones.	Importaciones.
Algodón en rama.....	\$228,491,898	\$6,128,996	\$138,770,618	\$4,331,844
Provisiones y productos de lechería...	155,281,280	1,887,963	151,523,988	1,748,353
Hierro, acero y sus manufacturas.....	109,492,297	17,824,445	86,167,205	12,474,941
Aceites que todas clases.....	85,256,379	5,724,382	73,157,724	5,187,081
Cereales.....	56,556,989	1,350,440	57,916,496	1,327,166
Cobre y sus manufacturas.....	51,041,957	12,602,205	32,752,495	9,188,896

Durante los once meses que terminaron en noviembre el valor de los productos y mercancías exportados excedieron el valor de las importaciones declaradas en más de \$572,000,000, es decir, \$34,000,000 más que en el período correspondiente del año de 1898 y \$148,000,000 en exceso de los productos por igual concepto durante los diez meses del año de 1899.

LA COSECHA DE CEREALES DE 1900.

Las estadísticas del Departamento de Agricultura referentes á la cosecha de cereales en los Estados Unidos durante 1900, calculan la de trigo en 522,229,505 *bushels* y el área de cultivo en 17,597,643 hectáreas, tomando el promedio del producto á razón de 30.367 *bushels* por hectárea. El producto del trigo de invierno se calcula en 350,025,409 *bushels* y el de primavera en 172,204,096 en un área de cultivo que mide 10,617,522 hectáreas del primero y 6,570,121 hectáreas del segundo.

La superficie que se acaba de sembrar de trigo de invierno se calcula en más de 12,250,000 hectáreas.

La producción de maíz en 1900 se calculó en 2,105,102,516 *bushels*; avena, 809,125,989; cebada, 58,952,833; centeno, 23,995,927; trigo candéal, 9,566,966; papas, 210,926,897 *bushels*, y heno 50,110,906 toneladas. La superficie de cultivo del maíz pasó de 33,700,000 hectáreas; la de avena, de 11,000,000 de hectáreas; cebada, más de 1,000,000; centeno, más de 600,000; trigo candéal, más de 250,000; papas, más de 1,000,000 y heno más de 15,500,000 hectáreas.

La cosecha de maíz en 1900 fué una de las cuatro más grandes que se han cogido, mientras que la de avena no ha tenido más que un rival. Las cosechas más pequeñas desde 1887 han sido la de cebada y centeno; la de trigo candéal ha sido la más pequeña desde 1883 y la de heno la más pequeña de todas desde 1888.

LA PRODUCCIÓN Y LA INDUSTRIA DEL HIERRO.

En ninguna parte del mundo existe el inmenso movimiento en el tráfico de mineral de hierro que tiene lugar en la región occidental de los lagos de los Estados Unidos. En los cuarenta y cinco años que han pasado desde que se estableció la industria del hierro en los distritos mineros del lago Superior se han embarcado por allí 171,700,000 toneladas de este mineral, siendo de notar que en 1899 alcanzó este tráfico á 18,251,804 toneladas y que en 1900 arrojó una cifra mayor en 1,000,000 de toneladas que la del año anterior.

El capital invertido en la explotación de estas minas y en el transporte del producto se calcula hoy en \$300,000,000, cantidad que aumenta cada año. El desarrollo del capital empleado en esta industria ha dado por resultado en los últimos tres meses la construcción de cerca de 30 vapores de acero para hacer el tráfico, al costo de \$6,500,000, aproximadamente, y la construcción de talleres en uno de los puertos en donde se transborda el mineral del ferrocarril á los buques y cuyo costo se calcula en \$5,000,000. Enormes son también las sumas que se emplean en la fabricación de otros trabajos, todos necesarios para el buen desarrollo de la industria, tales como instalaciones de bombas, grúas, etc.

Las diversas compañías interesadas en el transporte del mineral de hierro tienen flotas capaces de transportar desde 1,000,000 hasta 4,500,000 de toneladas de mineral, desde las cabeceras del lago Superior, y en muchos casos estos embarques se efectúan por ferrocarril. Es de notarse que durante los últimos cuatro años los embarques han alcanzado á más de la mitad de lo que eran anualmente en los últimos cuarenta años. El promedio por año, durante los cuatro corridos de 1897 á 1900 inclusive, se calcula en 60,000,000 de toneladas, mientras que el total por cuarenta años atrás alcanza á 110,000,000 de toneladas.

Este incremento se debe al empleo de métodos perfeccionados para la explotación del mineral. Las máquinas que funcionaban á la mano, las grúas pequeñas, la pólvora que se usaba para los barrenos y los carros pequeños empleados en el transporte del mineral hasta los puertos de embarque, han sido reemplazados por el vapor, el aire comprimido, la electricidad y las últimas aplicaciones de la ciencia.

EXPORTACIÓN DE RIELES DE ACERO Y EFECTOS PARA FERROCARRILES.

Según los datos que aparecen publicados por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos, las exportaciones de rieles de acero en el año de 1900 alcanzaron á \$12,000,000, ó sea por término medio \$1,000,000 mensuales. Estos resultados son tanto más notables cuanto que no fué hasta el año de 1897 en que las cifras por un año alcanzaron á \$1,000,000. En el año fiscal de 1890 el valor total de rieles de acero exportados fué \$315,000; en 1896, \$540,000; en 1897, \$2,500,000; en 1898, \$4,500,000; en el año fiscal de 1899, \$5,250,000, y en el año civil de 1900, como ya se ha dicho, \$12,000,000. De estas exportaciones corresponde á Europa cerca de \$1,000,000, á México igual cantidad, cerca de \$2,000,000 á la América del Sur, \$4,000,000 á la América inglesa y \$2,000,000 á Asia y la Oceanía.

En muchos casos los rieles de acero exportados de los Estados Unidos van junto con locomotoras americanas y se calcula que el valor de las exportaciones de locomotoras durante el año alcanzará á \$5,000,000. El número de carros de ferrocarril de igual procedencia exportados en el mismo período suman la cantidad de \$3,000,000 y puede calcularse en más de \$1,000,000 el valor del otro material rodante. Si al conjunto de estas sumas se añaden \$6,000,000, que representan el valor de aparatos para telégrafos, teléfonos y para la electricidad y otros usos científicos que se han exportado, se tendrá que durante el año en referencia los Estados Unidos han enviado á los otros países del mundo rieles, locomotoras, carros de ferrocarril, etc., por valor de más de \$25,000,000.

Los pedidos de efectos para ferrocarriles, material rodante y para construcción que han recibido los fabricantes en los Estados Unidos y que les tendrá ocupados durante los primeros meses de 1901, son más

extensos que nunca. Apenas puede decirse que hay un taller ó una fábrica de locomotoras, rieles, ó carros de ferrocarril en el país que no haya recibido algún pedido para la exportación. Es también digno de nota que el número de pedidos por informes que aquellos fabricantes han recibido del extranjero es mayor de lo que ha sido hasta ahora en igual época en años anteriores. Periódicos comerciales de Nueva York anuncian que el Gobierno de Chile ha hecho en aquella ciudad un pedido por 300 vagones de ferrocarril y el de Costa Rica otra por 30 carros de carga. Además de estos trabajos para los dos Gobiernos las empresas particulares de ferrocarriles en el extranjero han solicitado presupuestos de los Estados Unidos. Se asegura que por medio de los comisionistas de Nueva York se han recibido pedidos para los ferrocarriles en México, Cuba, la República Argentina, Brasil, Japón, Australia, Las Antillas y el Sur de África.

PRODUCCION DE LANA.

Los datos recogidos por el Departamento de Agricultura indican que el número total de cabezas de ganado lanar en los Estados Unidos en 1900, alcanzó á 41,883,065, es decir, cerca de 1,700,000 cabezas más que en el año anterior. El 1° de enero de 1885 el número de cabezas de ganado lanar pasaba de 50,000,000, cifra que declinó en 1898, en cuya época llegó al número de 37,657,000. El valor total de los rebaños el 1° de enero de 1895 se calculó, en números redondos, en \$108,000,000; para el 1° de enero de 1900 se avaluó en \$122,666,000. Según el cuadro en donde aparece el promedio del valor de este ganado, cada oveja se calculó en \$2.93 en 1900, que es la valuación más alta de que se ha tenido noticia en los últimos veinte años.

Los cálculos oficiales del trasquile verificados por la Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de Lana dan la cifra de 288,636,621 libras, ó sea un excedente de más de 15,000,000 de libras sobre el trasquile de 1899. El vellón por término medio pesaba 6.46 libras. El mercado de lana en 1900 fué el peor de que se ha tenido noticia desde 1896, debido á varias causas, entre otras el aumento de los rebaños, la guerra en el Sur de África, y los disturbios en China.

Boston es el gran mercado de lana de los Estados Unidos y el número total de pacas de este artículo que llegó á aquel mercado durante el año de 1900 ha sido calculado en 181,440 pacas de lana del país y 146,818 de lanas extranjeras, contra 705,592 pacas del país y 101,242 del producto extranjero durante el año de 1899. Las ventas alcanzaron en aquel mercado á 136,654,600 libras de lana del país y 20,213,500 libras de lanas extranjeras, lo que hace un total de 156,868,400 libras, cifra que indica una disminución de cerca de 200,000,000 de libras comparadas con el año de 1898. Las existencias de lana del país el 1° de enero de 1901, sin vender, en los Estados Unidos se ha estimado en 204,345,500 libras, contra 123,348,500 el 1° de enero de 1900. Las

existencias de lana extranjera el día primero del año en curso alcanzaban á 29,483,500 libras, contra 25,265,060 en igual fecha del año anterior. No obstante la circunstancia de que el año 1900 fué desastroso para el mercado de lana, y á pesar de las grandes existencias á la vista se cree que el año de 1901 sea con mucho superior al que acaba de expirar. Las estadísticas demuestran que un año sí y otro no hay siempre una reacción y que durante el mes de diciembre de 1900 se notó en el mercado un ligero aumento en los precios.

El subsecretario del Tesoro ha dirigido á los jefes de aduanas de los puertos principales una circular relativa á la clasificación de las lanas. Se ha hecho una nueva clasificación de las lanas pasando algunos de la clase tercera á la clase primera; en la clase segunda se ha declarado admisible toda clase de pelo de cabra y se han añadido veinte muestras nuevas á la clase tercera. Con respecto á la clase primera se ha enviado á los examinadores varias muestras que han de servirles de modelo para la clasificación de las lanas, entre ellas doce muestras de la República Argentina, tres de Chile, tres del Perú y tres del Uruguay, y además dos de México, una del trasquile de primavera y la otra del trasquile de otoño. En la clase segunda hay tres muestras del Perú, una de alpaca, otra de llama y otra de vicuña. En la clase tercera se ha incluido una muestra de lana sin lavar de Córdoba, en la República Argentina; una de lana sin lavar de Chile, llamada Valparaíso criolla, y otra de lana de México criolla. La lista de lanas que han de tomarse como tipo para dirimir cualquier cuestión que se presente comprende, entre otras, una sin lavar producto del cruzamiento de la raza Lincoln, procedente de Buenos Aires, otra sin lavar de Punta Arenas y otra sin lavar del trasquile de primavera de México, todas las cuales están incluidas en la clase primera. En la clase tercera hay dos muestras, una de Córdoba sin lavar y otra criolla de Chile.

La clasificación de estas lanas ha sido hecha por razas.

El cálculo del trasquile en el mundo, según lo ha hecho la Asociación de Manufactureros de Lana de los Estados Unidos, arroja un total general de 2,685,105,013 libras en 1900, contra 2,681,819,545 libras en 1899. Del trasquile de 1900 las clases 1 y 2 alcanzan á 2,092,389,013, correspondiendo así á la clase tres 592,717,000 libras. Este mismo cálculo estima el total de lana en los Estados Unidos 288,636,621 libras; 12,000,000 de libras para las posesiones británicas en el continente y 5,000,000 para México; es decir, 305,636,621 libras para toda la parte norte de América. La República Argentina aparece con 370,000,000; Uruguay, 96,000,000; Venezuela, 15,000,000; Chile, 7,500,000; Brasil, 1,500,000, y otros países de Sud América 20,000,000 de libras, lo que arroja un total de 110,000,000 para aquel continente. Centro América y las Antillas aparecen con una producción de 5,000,000 de libras. En 1900 el producto del trasquile en los Estados Unidos aparece con un

aumento de 16,500,000, el de Sud América 6,000,000, mientras que el cálculo hecho para Centro América y las Antillas fué el mismo de 1900.

EL FRIJOL SOY Ó SOJA COMO FORRAJE.

El Profesor THOMAS SHAW, una de las autoridades más notables de este país en agricultura, especialmente en lo que se refiere á la alimentación del ganado, profesor en el Colegio Agrícola del Estado de Minnesota, ha publicado una interesante obra bajo el título de "Soiling Crops and the Silo" (Pastos Verdes y el Silo). En ella hace referencia al frijol llamado Soy ó Soja como alimento para el ganado.

Dicho frijol es una planta anual que bajo condiciones favorables alcanza una altura más ó menos de cuatro pies. Como forraje para el ganado vacuno y porcino es excelente y probablemente haya de dar iguales resultados en la mantención del ganado caballar y ovino, aunque hasta ahora los experimentos que se han hecho con esta mira no son lo bastante para formarse un juicio exacto. Como pasto verde ó pasado es excelente para las vacas de ordeña, lo mismo que la haba molida y revuelta con otro alimento. Con excepción del cacahuete ó maní, quizás no exista otro producto vegetal que contenga en tan alta proporción sustancias que en una forma tan digerible sirvan para fortalecer los huesos del ganado, al mismo tiempo que engordarle.

El rendimiento de la cosecha varía según las condiciones del terreno, pero puede decirse en lo general que en tierra ordinaria el producto puede estimarse de diez á quince toneladas por acre. Esta planta, como producto alimenticio para el ganado, debe considerarse más bien por su riqueza que por su cantidad. No se produce lo mismo en las latitudes setentrionales, ni da los mismos resultados que en las más al sur, alcanzando su mejor éxito al sur del paralelo 40° latitud norte. Casi todos los terrenos de los llanos abiertos son excelentes para su cultivo, que también es frondoso en los terrenos en donde se da bien el maíz. Puede cultivarse con éxito aun en los terrenos en donde no se da el trebol.

Como este frijol se siembra con frecuencia con el objeto de cortarlo verde, debe usarse la cultivadora y la arrastra después de haber arado el terreno. Cuando la intención es aguardar la completa madurez de la planta, entonces el arado no es tan necesario, pero la superficie del terreno debe emparejarse y pulverizarse para recibir la semilla. Cuando se destine para forraje el modo de sembrarlo que da mejores resultados es el sistema de surcos, para lo cual pueden emplearse la sembradora de maíz ó de cualquier otro cereal. La distancia entre los surcos depende de la calidad del terreno, la clase de la semilla y la época en que se verifica la siembra, variando la distancia por término medio á treinta pulgadas, entre un máximo de cuarenta y un mínimo de veinte y cuatro pulgadas. Cuando la siembra se hace para recoger la

semilla, la distancia entre surcos debe ser mayor que cuando es para alimento verde ó seco. El frijol no debe sembrarse antes de que la estación del calor haya entrado bien, y en los Estados Unidos la siembra puede continuarse mientras haya probabilidades de que madure el grano antes de que lleguen las primeras esearchas. En el Estado de Kansas, por ejemplo, han madurado antes de las heladas siembras hechas sobre terrenos en donde en el mes de julio se había segado el trigo.

Cuando la superficie del terreno no esté expuesta á la acción de los vientos que pueden arrastrar la tierra, debe usarse la arrastra antes y después de la siembra á menos que el terreno sea bastante húmedo. La planta crece con gran rapidez.

Cuando la siembra se ha hecho con el objeto de recoger la haba, se puede cortar con una cosechadora de rastrillo, mientras que la segadora es más conveniente para cortar la planta verde ó pasada. Cuando ésta ha de usarse verde como alimento, debe cortarse al principiar la floración y seguir el corte hasta que ya esté proxima á pasarse. Cuando se haya de usar la planta seca, debe cortarse en el momento en que están á medio erocer los frutos, pues si se deja el corte para más tarde se caen las hojas y se endurecen los tallos. Vale más cortar la planta verde que aguardar hasta que se madure. El sistema empleado en la alimentación del ganado es el mismo que se sigue con el garbanzo.

LA BOLSA DE CAFÉ DE NUEVA YORK.

Las transacciones verificadas en La Bolsa de Café de Nueva York durante el año de 1900 fueron las de mayor escala desde el año de 1891. En 1900 dichas transacciones subieron á 7,442,250 sacos, contra 4,427,500 sacos en 1899. El mes en que se ejecutaron las transacciones más fuertes fué julio, aleanzando éstas á 1,024,500 sacos, mientras que en el mes de mayo sólo llegaron á 268,500 sacos. El precio más alto á que se cotizaron las entregas futuras fué 9.20 centavos en el mes de julio por las entregas de marzo, y en diciembre llegó al minimum de 5.35 centavos por las entregas de enero y diciembre.

EL TABACO EN LA EXPOSICIÓN PAN-AMERICANA.

El tabaco es una de las producciones de importancia en 33 de los Estados y Territorios de los Estados Unidos, así como de todos los países de este hemisferio y bien sabido es cuanto han producido y producen actualmente Las Antillas.

En la Exposición Pan-Americana algunos cultivadores del país, con la ayuda del Gobierno Federal, piensan hacer una magnífica exposición para demostrar no solamente las diferentes especies y productos de la hoja, tal como se cultiva en diferentes lugares, sino también para dar á conocer la manera de propagar esta planta y los métodos tan diversos

de cosechar, curar, preparar y manipular la hoja, según la clase de tabaco elaborado á que se destine. También los métodos para comprobar la fertilidad que tienen las semillas, tanto en envases de arcilla como entre hojas de papel secante; los numerosos métodos de cultivo que han alcanzado buen éxito; las semillas más adaptables á diferentes terrenos y climas, y la mezcla de tabaco de los Estados Unidos con tabaco extranjero; y los efectos producidos por esta combinación en la fibra y el gusto, serán cuidadosamente demostrados.

Los experimentos que se han hecho para producir hojas ya oscuras ya claras, sirviéndose de diferentes clases de terreno, han dado resultados parcialmente buenos. Se cree que se alcanzará éxito mayor y más importante en este sentido al adquirir otros conocimientos sobre la causa de esta influencia. El Profesor J. H. JENKENS de la Estación de Agricultura del Estado de Connecticut, en New Haven, y MARCOS A. FLOYD, perito en tabaco del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, han hecho recientemente el experimento de sembrar tabaco de semilla de la Habana y de Sumatra en terrenos de Connecticut. Las plantas crecen bajo una ligera cubierta de género transparente, colocada á 9 piés sobre el terreno y sostenida por una ligera armadura. Esta cubierta proporciona la ventaja de conservar la humedad y de conseguir una temperatura uniforme. Esta cubierta, al impedir la radiación de la tierra, eleva la temperatura desde 5 hasta 10 grados y sirve de protección á las fuertes lluvias. Debajo de la cubierta, las hojas se dan más pequeñas y más finas y tienen un color verde más brillante, creciendo las plantas más esbeltas que las cultivadas al aire libre. Este éxito alcanzado se refiere al tabaco de Sumatra porque los resultados obtenidos en cuanto á la planta de semilla de la Habana no han sido completamente satisfactorios.

El tabaco está íntimamente relacionado con la historia de los Estados Unidos. En tiempos primitivos, en que el dinero estaba sumamente escaso como medio circulante, se hacía uso del tabaco para suplir la deficiencia del medio de cambio, pues era artículo corriente de exportación.

Á pesar de la gran cantidad de tabaco que se cosecha en el continente americano y en las islas adyacentes, sin embargo se importa en grande escala de otras partes del mundo. Como la hoja es indígena de América, y el cultivo de la planta tiene éxito tan general, parece superflua esta importación. Con conocimiento perfecto de los métodos apropiados y de la aplicación científica para producir tabaco, según el gusto popular, América debería suplir al mundo entero todo el tabaco que pudiera consumir.

DIVISIÓN DE NEGOCIOS INSULARES.

De acuerdo con la disposición del Secretario de la Guerra, la sección creada en 13 de diciembre de 1898 con el nombre de "División de Aduanas y Negocios Insulares," se llamará en lo adelante "División de

Negocios Insulares" y sus atribuciones son todo aquello que se relaciona con los asuntos civiles dependientes del gobierno de Cuba y las Filipinas.

LA COSECHA DE ALGODÓN DE 1900-1901.

La producción probable de algodón en los Estados Unidos, según las estadísticas del Departamento de Agricultura, para el año de 1900-1901 alcanzará á 10,100,000 pacas. Para hacer este cálculo se han empleado los mismos métodos que se usaron el año pasado. Hay miles de desmotadores de algodón que se han empadronado por la primera vez durante este año. Se calcula que la producción de algodón desmotada por acre sea como sigue: Virginia, 180 libras; Carolina del Norte, 199; Carolina del Sur, 151; Mississippi, 159; Luisiana, 234; Texas, 226; Arkansas, 223; Tennessee, 177; Missouri, 275; Oklahoma, 318; Territorio Indio, 289 libras por acre. La superficie de cultivo, eliminando los terrenos que no producirán nada, se calcula en 25,034,734 acres.

COMERCIO DE FILIPINAS.

La División de Negocios Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra acaba de publicar un sumario del comercio de las islas Filipinas durante los once meses que terminaron el 31 de mayo de 1900. El valor de las mercancías importadas durante el período en referencia alcanzó á \$18,390,698 y el oro y la plata á \$1,806,340, lo que arroja una importación total de \$20,196,938. El valor total del comercio de importación con los Estados Unidos llegó á la cifra de \$1,450,807.

El valor de las exportaciones durante el mismo período subió á \$19,459,003, de los cuales \$17,634,391 por concepto de mercancías y \$1,824,612 por oro y plata. El valor de las exportaciones á los Estados Unidos fué de \$3,594,577. Durante el mismo período el total de las exportaciones de cañamo de Manila fué de 69,644 toneladas, avaluadas en \$10,582,173, de cuya suma correspondió á los Estados Unidos la cantidad de \$3,405,808.

CABLE EN LAS FILIPINAS.

Dentro de poco quedará establecida la comunicación por cable entre diferentes islas del archipiélago Filipino. Según informes, el vapor *Burnside* salió hace poco de la Isla de la Damaguete con el objeto de tender 600 millas de cable.

DERECHO DE PROPIEDAD INDUSTRIAL.

La Conferencia de la Unión Internacional para la protección de la propiedad industrial, á la cual enviaron sus representantes los Estados Unidos y que tuvo efecto en Bruselas, aprobó, las resoluciones siguientes:

I. El período de derechos exclusivos, que había sido fijado antes en seis meses para las patentes y tres para los dibujos industriales, modelos

y marcas de fábrica, se ha prorrogado en un año para el primero y cuatro meses para los segundos.

II. Los países signatarios de la Convención gozarán recíprocamente de la protección que cada país de por sí concede á sus propios ciudadanos contra la competencia ilegal.

III. Las patentes no caducan porque no se hayan puesto en circulación, sino después de un mínimo de tres años desde el día en que se hizo la primera solicitud en los países donde se ha concedido la patente, y en los casos también en que las condiciones de la patente no justifican las causas de demora ó inacción.

NUEVA LÍNEA DE VAPORES.

Hace pocos días que zarpó del puerto de Nueva Orleans en su primer viaje á la Isla de Puerto Rico el vapor *Arkadia*, de la New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company, llevando un cargamento de provisiones de todas clases. Dicho vapor tiene una capacidad de 2,000 toneladas de carga, y, junto con los otros buques de la línea destinados á este comercio, hará viajes mensuales entre Nueva Orleans, Mayagüez, Ponce y San Juan.

GUATEMALA.

FERROCARRIL DEL NORTE.

El día 3 de diciembre de 1900, el Presidente de la República de Guatemala, Don MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA, presentó á la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa en las sesiones extraordinarias de 1900 un mensaje especial, en el cual dice que un acontecimiento de verdadera significación para el porvenir de Guatemala será la conclusión por cuenta del Estado del Ferrocarril del Norte, y con ese objeto somete al Congreso el contrato, que si se lleva á cabo cambiará la situación actual de Guatemala poniéndola por el norte en fácil y pronta comunicación con las naciones más importantes de ambos mundos.

El contrato ha sido hecho por RICHARD BARTHEL en representación de "The Central American Company, Incorporated," y en sus cláusulas se obliga á completar la construcción del Ferrocarril del Norte de Guatemala desde su actual término, en un punto denominado "El Rancho," hasta la ciudad de Guatemala, dentro de un período de treinta y tres meses. En pago de la construcción de las sesenta millas que faltan por hacer el Gobierno de Guatemala emitirá obligaciones por valor de \$4,000,000 en oro, pagaderos dentro de diez años desde la fecha en que se firme el contrato y con el interés anual del 6 por ciento, no capitalizable y en cuenta corriente.

Al celebrar un arreglo final con la compañía, en cuanto expiren diez años de firmado el contrato el Gobierno pagará á la compañía el precio

del contrato original y entrará inmediatamente en posesión de todo lo perteneciente al ferrocarril. Cualquiera cuestión ó disputa respecto del cumplimiento del contrato por cualquiera de las partes contratantes se arreglará por medio de arbitraje. En los trenes ordinarios la empresa se compromete á conducir gratis las balijas del correo y sus conductores. Para garantía del cumplimiento del contrato, la compañía depositará en el Tesoro Nacional la cantidad de \$200,000 en bonos de la deuda del Gobierno, y al firmar el contrato \$50,000 de estos bonos. Las mercaderías procedentes de puntos fuera de Guatemala, ó destinadas á ellos en tránsito, pueden ser transportadas por el Ferrocarril del Norte sin pago de derechos de importación.

NUEVA LEY DE MINAS.

Con fecha 12 de noviembre de 1900, el Presidente Constitucional de la República de Guatemala, dictó un decreto relativo á la explotación de minas en el país, cuya parte principal es como sigue:

ARTÍCULO 1. Ninguna persona podrá titular en nombre propio más de una mina.

ART. 2. Las sociedades compuestas de tres ó más personas podrán obtener concesión para beneficiar hasta tres minerales.

ART. 3. Con las limitaciones que establece la ley vigente los actuales propietarios de minas ya tituladas á su favor conservarán los derechos que hubieren adquirido.

ART. 4. Quedan en vigor las demás disposiciones legales que existen sobre la materia, siempre que no se opongan á la presente.

IMPORTACIONES DEL EXTRANJERO.

El Encargado de Negocios de Bélgica en Guatemala ha enviado á su Gobierno un informe acerca del comercio extranjero de dicha República, en el curso del cual manifiesta que el primer lugar en las importaciones corresponde á los tejidos de algodón, de los cuales se surte en Inglaterra, Alemania, los Estados Unidos y Francia. Siguen en importancia materiales para ferrocarril, telégrafos y efectos eléctricos, que casi en su totalidad se introducen de los Estados Unidos y una pequeña parte viene de Inglaterra y Alemania. Casi toda la harina es de procedencia americana, así como materiales de construcción, hierro manufacturado, conservas alimenticias, drogas y medicinas, cerveza, maquinaria de toda clase, y uno que otro artículo de menor importancia. El resto del comercio corresponde á Francia, Alemania y Inglaterra, en su mayor parte. España, Italia, el Japón, China y Bélgica están también representados en las estadísticas comerciales de Guatemala.

MEXICO.

INGRESOS Y EGRESOS EN 1899-1900.

En el mes de octubre de 1900, se hizo mención en el BOLETIN MENSUAL del estado de las finanzas de México, dando aproximadamente los guarismos referentes á los ingresos del país y haciendo notar que en lo que se refería á los egresos estaba incompleto. El resultado general del ejercicio económico de 1899-1900, según el "Diario Oficial" de aquella República, fué el siguiente:

Ingresos por todos los ramos normales del presupuesto, \$64,261,076.39, y egresos por iguales conceptos \$57,944,687.85; de suerte que el excedente de los ingresos respecto de los egresos alcanzó á \$6,316,388.54. Además de los ingresos ordinarios, los de carácter extraordinario, según la cuenta del Gobierno, inclusive la devolución hecha por el de los Estados Unidos de América al de la República Mexicana de los fondos depositados en poder de aquel Gobierno por la reclamación de la Compañía Minera del Abra, montante á \$349,436, alcanzan á \$720,477.11. Comparado el resultado del año en referencia con el de los cinco años anteriores se ve que los excedentes han fluctuado, siendo el mayor correspondiente al año de 1898-99 y el menor el de 1897-98.

PRESUPUESTO PARA EL AÑO FISCAL DE 1901-2.

Con fecha 14 de diciembre de 1900, envió al Congreso de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos el Señor Don J. Y. LIMANTOUR, Secretario de Estado y del Despacho de Hacienda y Crédito Público, la exposición de motivos de la iniciativa de presupuestos para el año económico de 1901-2. Es un interesante documento que revela el estado satisfactorio de las finanzas del país.

La estimación del producto de todos los ingresos para el año en referencia la calcula el documento en cuestión en la suma de \$61,694,000, mientras que los egresos alcanzan á \$61,577,990.24, lo que arroja una diferencia en favor de los ingresos de \$116,009.76.

En el curso de la Exposición hace notar el Ministro que durante el año fiscal de 1897-98 México importó artículos por más de \$97,000,000; en 1898-99 por más de \$107,000,000, mientras que las exportaciones en ambos años fueron \$137,000,000 y \$148,000,000 respectivamente, lo que indica un aumento de \$10,000,000 por ambos conceptos, siendo el exceso de las exportaciones respecto de las importaciones en ambos años de \$40,000,000. En el año fiscal de 1899-1900 las importaciones alcanzaron la cifra de \$129,000,000, aumentando así en \$22,000,000 el valor de los artículos sobre el de los importados en el año anterior, al paso que las exportaciones sólo subieron á \$158,000,000, es decir, \$10,000,000 más que en el año fiscal anterior.

Las exportaciones en el año de 1899-1900 se pueden dividir en dos grandes clases, que son metales preciosos, los cuales se exportaron por \$79,200,000, y otros artículos exportados por la suma de \$79,000,000. La exportación de pesos fuertes mexicanos durante los meses de julio á octubre, inclusive, de 1900 por las aduanas de Ciudad Juárez, Veracruz, Mazatlán, Progreso, Nogales y Laredo alcanzó á \$10,600,000, es decir, más de \$8,600,000 sobre la exportación habida durante iguales meses por las mismas aduanas en el año de 1899. La acuñación durante los mismos meses de 1900 alcanzó á \$5,184,534, lo que arroja una cifra de más de \$1,200,000 de diferencia á favor de igual período en el año anterior.

Calcula el Señor LIMANTOUR que el monto total aproximado de moneda en circulación en toda la República puede estimarse al rededor de \$90,000,000 en moneda de plata, divididos en \$50,000,000 en efectivo depositados en las cajas de los bancos y \$40,000,000 en manos del público.

Las existencias en efectivo de los bancos autorizados por la ley durante los diez primeros meses del año de 1900 han fluctuado entre \$50,000,000 y \$57,000,000, debida esta fluctuación á varias causas, entre otras la escasez de numerario y la menor introducción de plata en las casas de moneda. Esta última no depende de que haya disminuido el producto de las minas, aunque este no ha seguido el movimiento progresivo de años anteriores. Lo que ha pasado es que las oficinas metalúrgicas de la República se han transformado, disminuyendo más cada día el número de barras de plata que salen de aquellas que emplean aún el sistema antiguo, pues las otras por estar cerca de las fronteras ó los mares exportan directamente su producto. Dos causas han influido directamente en la exportación de moneda acuñada y son la demanda para el Asia, especialmente por razón de la guerra de China, y el alza en el valor de la plata provocada por las fuertes demandas de este metal que se han hecho últimamente y que continúan haciéndose en la India.

Los derechos de importación producidos en el año de 1899-1900 alcanzaron á \$27,696,979 y el presupuesto para 1901-2 por este concepto se calcula en \$26,000,000 y en \$691,000 los derechos de exportación en 1901-2.

Los impuestos sobre el comercio extranjero por todos conceptos se calculan en \$28,016,000; timbre y otros impuestos, \$26,024,000; impuestos en el Distrito, Territorios, \$3,288,000; servicios públicos y ramos menores, \$4,366,000, ó sea un total general de \$61,694,000.

Por lo que se refiere á los egresos éstos se calculan como se ha dicho en \$61,577,990.25 de modo que si se realizan todos los cálculos debe quedar un sobrante de \$116,000. El sobrante líquido á favor de la nación proveniente de ingresos anteriores alcanzó á \$31,799,921.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO.

Durante el trimestre corrido de julio á septiembre de 1900, según el Resumen publicado por la Sección de Estadística de la República Mexicana, el comercio extranjero de México fué como sigue:

Importación, \$13,965,793.38 oro ó sean \$29,603,846.13 plata, contra \$12,797,434 oro ó \$26,776.174 plata en igual período de 1899, y exportación, \$38,392,344.25 plata, contra \$32,944,855 plata en los tres meses de julio á septiembre de 1899. Las importaciones se dan en oro según valor de factura y su equivalente en plata mexicana y las exportaciones en plata mexicana y según valor declarado. Durante el trimestre en referencia México importó de los Estados Unidos por valor de \$6,562,113.93 plata mexicana, contra \$6,266,409 en igual período del año de 1899, y exportó para el mismo país \$29,537,986.24 plata mexicana en dicho trimestre de 1900, contra \$25,187,680 en el trimestre correspondiente del año anterior. El grueso de las importaciones se hizo por las aduanas del Golfo y por valor de más de \$9,000,000 plata mexicana, mientras que por la frontera del norte las importaciones alcanzaron á más de \$4,000,000 plata mexicana. Lo mismo se aplica á las exportaciones, estando valoradas en más de \$22,500,000 las que se hicieron por los puertos del Golfo y en cerca de \$12,000,000 las que se verificaron por las fronteras del norte.

INVERSION DE CAPITALS EXTRANJEROS EN LA REPÚBLICA.

En la ciudad de Monterrey, Estado de Nuevo León, México, se ha establecido una asociación bajo la dirección del Señor Don JULIO A. GALINDO, conocido abogado de aquella localidad, cuyo objeto es facilitar á los capitalistas extranjeros inversiones en aquel país, tratando de preferencia las materias siguientes:

Depósito de marcas de fábrica, obtención de patentes de privilegio, expedición de títulos de minas, concesiones de trabajos hidráulicos de todas especies, ferrocarriles industriales, tranvías, empresas eléctricas, registros de propiedad, instituciones de crédito mercantiles, informes sobre minas, criaderos y terrenos útiles para la agricultura, etc.

LA CRISIS ALGODONERA.

Con este título "El Hacendado Mexicano" hace notar que con motivo de la falta del algodón en algunas fábricas de la República fué necesario que varias de ellas suspendieran sus trabajos por algún tiempo. Al saberse en México que las cosechas de algodón de los Estados Unidos no habían sido el año pasado tan abundantes como en épocas anteriores se previó que las fábricas mexicanas sufrirían por esta circunstancia, y que en consecuencia aumentaría el valor de las diferentes manufacturas de esta fibra, teniendo que recurrir al algodón americano para satisfacer las necesidades de la industria.

MINAS DE AZUFRE.

El Gobierno de la República Mexicana, por medio del Despacho respectivo, ha celebrado un contrato con la sociedad llamada "Compañía Ferrocarrilera y Minera de Azufre," la cual se obliga á fundar en la municipalidad de Carbonera, distrito de Cerillos, Estado de San Luis Potosí, en un punto próximo á los criaderos del mineral de azufre allí existentes, un establecimiento para beneficiar dicho mineral y para elaborar los productos que de él se derivan, con las vías férreas y dependencias que fueren necesarias empleando para ello las máquinas y procedimientos más modernos.

PRODUCCIÓN DE ARROZ.

En el año de 1898 el valor total de arroz producido en los diferentes Estados de la República fué el siguiente:

Morelos.....	\$685,000	San Luis Potosí.....	47,000
Veracruz.....	539,000	Guerrero.....	46,000
Michoacán.....	306,000	Tabasco.....	23,000
Colima.....	202,000	Territorio de Tepic.....	153,000
Oaxaca.....	123,000		
Puebla.....	91,000		\$2,291,000
Jalisco.....	76,000		

La producción en kilos fué de unos 21,000,000. El Estado de Morelos es el más importante en este producto, así como para el azúcar.

PROGRESO INDUSTRIAL.

"El Correo de Sotavento," de Tlacotalpam, Estado de Veracruz, México, manifiesta que se ha organizado en Nueva Orleans una compañía con el título de "Mexican Sugar Refining Company, Limited, of New Orleans, Louisiana," cuyo capital monta á \$600,000, oro americano, representado por 6,000 acciones de \$100 cada una, con el propósito de explotar el cultivo de la caña de azúcar y del arroz en Tlacotalpam, para lo cual compró un terreno en las cercanías de aquella ciudad. También piensa instalar una fábrica de papel aprovechando el bagazo de la caña, la cáscara y el esparto del arroz. La compañía piensa abrir canales de irrigación, fundar ferrocarriles y un servicio de vapores para el desarrollo de su empresa.

PERÚ.**COMERCIO EN EL AÑO DE 1899.**

Las estadísticas recientemente publicadas por el Gobierno del Perú con el título de "Resumen de Comercio General en el Año de 1899" demuestran que el comercio extranjero de la nación durante el año

en referencia alcanzó á 54,854,494.59 soles. Las importaciones durante aquel período fueron 21,230,183.10 soles y las exportaciones 33,615,311.49. El comercio de cabotaje llegó á 25,916,919.28 soles sin contar con las cifras correspondientes al puerto de Iquitos, que no aparecen indicadas. Añadiendo al comercio extranjero al de cabotaje, resulta que el comercio general de la República alcanzó en el año de 1899 á 80,762,413.87 soles.

El estudio comparativo de las importaciones verificadas durante 1899 y las del año anterior arroja una diferencia de más de 500,000 de soles en 1898 más que en 1899.

El arancel peruano divide en nueve secciones las importaciones cuyos rendimientos en 1899 fueron como sigue: algodones, 3,770,317; lanas, 1,451,362; lencería, 233,073; sedería, 292,533; muebles y artículos costurados, 1,324,490; mercería y artículos diversos, 7,988,644; víveres y especias, 2,380,950; vinos y licores, 365,856, y medicinas y productos químicos, 927,720 soles. Durante este período, los cuatro primeros países que figuran en la lista de exportación en orden á su importancia fueron los siguientes: Inglaterra, 14,854,540 soles; Estados Unidos, 5,146,531 soles; Chile, 4,940,374 soles, y Alemania, 3,357,231 soles. Sigue Francia con cerca de 800,000 soles.

El examen de estos guarismos demuestra que comparadas estas exportaciones para el Perú, resulta que las de la Gran Bretaña fueron 2,299,400 soles en 1898 más que en 1899, mientras que las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos fueron 2,273,000 soles en 1899 en exceso de las del año anterior.

El valor total de las exportaciones hechas para el Perú en 1899 alcanzó á 30,725,911 soles contra 30,274,776 soles en 1898.

En lo que se refiere á las importaciones hechas por el Perú en el año de 1899, los Estados Unidos ocupan el tercer lugar, con 2,183,110 soles. El primer lugar le corresponde á Inglaterra, con 7,571,151; el segundo á Alemania, con 3,451,516; el cuarto lugar á Francia, con 1,733,952, y el quinto á Chile, con 1,525,657. Comparadas las importaciones generales durante el año 1899 con las de 1898 resulta un balance de más de 500,000 de soles á favor de 1899, habiendo alcanzado la importación total en 1899 á 18,734,949 soles, á lo cual hay que agregar las importaciones hechas por el puerto de Iquitos, que suman 2,495,234 soles, de manera que el total general de las importaciones es en realidad 21,230,183 soles.

Los principales artículos que exportó el Perú durante el año en referencia fueron minerales, 10,677,013 soles; azúcar y concreto, 10,103,519; lana, 3,118,076; y algodón, 1,787,478; que comparados con las cifras respectivas del año de 1898 arrojan un aumento de más de 1,000,000 soles en 1899, por lo que se refiere á minerales y de más de 882,000 soles por azúcar y concreto y una disminución de más de 682,000 soles en algodones.

Los derechos recaudados en todas las aduanas de la República, con excepción de Iquitos, produjeron 6,210,898 soles.

URUGUAY.

PROGRESO AGRÍCOLA.

En un artículo bajo el título "Estadística de Maíz," publicado en los "Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura de la República Oriental del Uruguay," aparece que la extensión del cultivo de este grano en 1899-1900 alcanzó á 145,668 hectáreas, equivalentes á cerca de 8 por ciento del territorio de la República. La cosecha se calculó en 77,093,944 kilogramos, siendo el promedio general de los rendimientos con relación al terreno cultivado de cerca de 600 kilogramos por hectárea, mientras que la siembra alcanzaba á 1,728,258 kilogramos de semilla. El autor hace notar que los rendimientos de la última cosecha no son tan satisfactorios como era de esperarse, dadas las causas que han afectado la producción general de cereales en aquel país.

La misma publicación se ocupa de un importante viñedo llamado "Chacraclara," que ocupa una extensión de 60 hectáreas, de las cuales 31 están plantadas con viñas y que en 1898 produjo 20,000 litros de vino Harreahua, 33,000 litros de Vidiella y 12,000 litros de vinos Cabernet y Gamay. En 1899 las plantaciones se modificaron y cuentan en almácigos 30,000 cepas americanas, más 35,000 cepas americanas de las cuales 20,000 han sido injertadas durante los dos ó tres últimos años. Este año se cosecharon 142,500 kilogramos de uva.

PRODUCCIÓN DE METALES PRECIOSOS EN EL MUNDO.

El informe del Director del Cuño sobre la producción de oro y plata en los Estados Unidos durante el año civil de 1899, varía muy poco en lo que se refiere á las cifras que representan el producto de estos metales publicadas á principios del año. Los verdaderos guarismos que representan la producción del oro y la plata en los Estados Unidos son \$71,053,400 oro y \$32,858,700 plata, tomando para esta valuación el promedio del valor comercial que han tenido estos metales durante el año. Por lo que se refiere al oro el producto de este país fué el más grande de que se tiene noticia en la historia de los Estados Unidos, superando al producto de 1898 en la suma de \$6,590,400 y en la cantidad de \$6,053,400 al del producto de 1853, que fué un año memorable, con motivo del rendimiento de los placeres de California. Los

productos mayores en 1899 corresponden á Alaska, en el distrito de Cabo Nome, que dió \$2,934,700; Colorado, \$2,787,500; Utah, \$1,165,400.

El producto de la plata en los Estados Unidos en 1899 fué poco más que el del año de 1898, siendo la producción de 54,764,000 onzas en 1899 contra 54,438,000 onzas en 1898. Durante el año la plata se cotizó en Londres por término medio á 60 centavos por onza ó sea un centavo más que durante el año anterior.

Los Estados de la Unión y los Territorios que produjeron mayor cantidad de estos metales en 1899 fueron los siguientes: Colorado, \$25,982,800 oro y \$13,597,740 plata; California, \$15,197,700 oro; Dakota del Sur, \$6,469,500 oro; Alaska, \$5,459,500 oro; Montana, \$4,760,100 oro y \$9,657,600 plata; Utah, \$3,450,800 oro, \$4,255,980 plata. Nevada produjo más de \$2,000,000 de oro, lo mismo que Arizona; Idaho, \$1,889,000 oro y \$2,311,080 plata, y Oregón cerca de \$1,500,000 oro. La producción de ninguno de los otros Estados alcanzó separadamente á \$1,000,000.

La producción total de oro en el mundo en 1899, la avalúa el informe en referencia en la cantidad de \$306,584,900, es decir, \$19,156,300 más que en el año de 1898. Los países donde hubo mayor aumento fueron los Estados Unidos, \$6,590,400; Canadá, especialmente en el Klondike, \$7,485,600; Australia, \$14,460,800. La disminución más importante ocurrió en el África, con una diferencia de cerca de \$7,000,000 contra el año de 1898, producida por la guerra del Transvaal. Á no ser por esto la producción del mundo en el año hubiera sido sin duda \$25,000,000 más de los guarismos que arrojan las estadísticas. El Klondike sólo produjo \$16,000,000.

La producción de plata en el mundo en 1899 alcanzó á 167,224,243 onzas de plata de ley, contra 165,295,572 onzas en 1898. México ocupa el primer lugar entre los países productores de este metal; síguele inmediatamente los Estados Unidos y el producto combinado de estas dos naciones alcanza á las dos terceras partes del producto total del mundo. El consumo de oro en las industrias se calcula en \$72,658,500 y el de la plata en \$24,595,000. El valor de la producción del oro y plata en todo el mundo durante el año civil de 1899, según el estudio á que se hace referencia, ha sido calculado así: oro, \$306,484,900 y plata, \$100,321,100. Los principales países productores de estos metales fueron los siguientes:

Países.	Oro.	Plata.	Países.	Oro.	Plata.
Estados Unidos.....	\$71,053,400	\$32,858,700	Chile.....	\$896,600	\$2,852,800
México.....	8,500,000	33,367,300	Colombia.....	1,809,500	2,112,900
Canadá y Terra Nova.....	21,324,300	2,047,000	Brasil.....	2,149,500	.....
África.....	73,227,100	.....	Venezuela.....	1,089,300	.....
Australia.....	79,321,000	7,632,000	Guayana británica.....	2,040,500	.....
Rusia.....	22,167,100	80,900	Guayana francesa.....	1,188,700	.....
Austria-Hungría.....	1,913,900	1,137,200	Perú.....	628,000	2,538,600
Alemania.....	74,200	3,745,200	China.....	5,547,400	.....
España.....	2,000	1,471,800	Corea.....	1,459,000	.....
Bolivia.....	68,500	6,506,400	La India británica.....	8,517,500	.....

Ninguno de los otros países produjo ni oro ni plata en cantidad suficiente para alcanzar \$1,000,000.

EL COMERCIO DEL MUNDO.

La Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos se ocupa en la preparación de un resumen general del comercio de todos los países del mundo, con el objeto de hacer un estudio comparativo del comercio universal desde hace algunos años hasta el presente.

Como esta es la primera vez que se ha hecho una obra semejante, su importancia para la historia del comercio es indudable. El primer capítulo está dedicado á una demostración estadística del comercio extraajero de cuarenta y siete naciones, á partir de los años desde que se han podido recoger informes referentes á la materia hasta nuestros días. El capítulo siguiente será consagrado á dar estos mismos informes en detalle.

La posición que ocupan los Estados Unidos entre las naciones mercantiles del mundo y el inmenso desarrollo que ha alcanzado su comercio extranjero son verdaderamente asombrosos, y esto se refiere especialmente á la comparación de los guarismos estadísticos oficiales de la Gran Bretaña, Francia y Alemania, que son las grandes potencias comerciales del mundo. El desarrollo del comercio extranjero de los Estados Unidos, comparado con el de la Gran Bretaña, durante el siglo, da los siguientes resultados:

	Importaciones.			Exportaciones.		
	1800.	1899.	Propor- ción de aumento.	1800.	1899.	Propor- ción de aumento.
Gran Bretaña.....	\$81,310,000	\$2,043,896,450	2,400	\$111,107,000	\$1,287,151,345	1,059
Estados Unidos.....	52,121,891	685,441,892	1,215	31,840,903	1,208,931,222	3,681

De aquí se desprende que los Estados Unidos pueden satisfacer las necesidades de su comercio interior mucho mejor que la Gran Bretaña. En 1800 las importaciones de esta República eran cerca de dos terceras partes más de las que efectuaba la Gran Bretaña, mientras que á fines del siglo representan menos de la tercera parte; al mismo tiempo las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos han aumentado con una rapidez tres veces mayor que las de la Gran Bretaña. En 1899 las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos fueron menores que las de la Gran Bretaña en la suma de \$80,000,000, y en 1900 las exportaciones totales de los Estados Unidos alcanzaron á \$1,394,483,082, en los cuales aquellos artículos manufacturados en que los dos países se hacen la competencia están representados por la suma de \$433,851,756.

Las estadísticas de Francia no alcanzan hasta principios del siglo, de modo que el estudio comparativo sólo comienza con el año 1831, y arrojan los siguientes guarismos:

	Importaciones.			Exportaciones.		
	1831.	1899.	Propor- ción de aumento.	1831.	1899.	Propor- ción de aumento.
Francia	\$72, 182, 000	\$872, 032, 000	1, 008	\$88, 088, 000	\$801, 452, 000	910
Estados Unidos	82, 008, 110	685, 441, 899	724	59, 218, 683	1, 203, 931, 222	1, 933

Esto demuestra claramente, que al mismo tiempo que los Estados Unidos se han mantenido casi al igual de Inglaterra, han sobrepujado á Francia en la producción de artículos de necesidad para el consumo del país y para la exportación. Es general la creencia de que la Francia no tiene rival en la producción de artículos para satisfacer las necesidades del consumo interior, así como en la producción de artículos de lujo; pero estos datos demuestran que su dependencia de otras naciones extranjeras ha ido aumentando con los años de modo que hoy el balance del comercio no le es favorable.

Las estadísticas referentes al Imperio Alemán parten de 1872, época de su fundación, pero los guarismos que representan su comercio arrojan datos interesantísimos, como puede verse por los siguientes:

	Importaciones.			Exportaciones.		
	1872.	1899.	Propor- ción de aumento.	1872.	1899.	Propor- ción de aumento.
Imperio Alemán	\$793, 726, 000	\$1, 304, 977, 000	64	\$564, 165, 000	\$801, 452, 000	42
Estados Unidos	560, 419, 034	685, 441, 892	24	425, 487, 132	1, 203, 931, 222	181

En el caso de Austria-Hungría las estadísticas comienzan en 1860; Bélgica, 1831; Italia, 1861; Los Países Bajos, 1860; Rusia, 1861; España, 1860; Noruega, Suecia, y Chile 1860; Canadá, India, y Australia, 1851; México, 1873; la República Argentina, 1870; China, 1868; el Japón y Egipto, 1874.

Uno de los rasgos más interesantes que se desprenden de estos guarismos, lo que ocurre con gran frecuencia, es que los Estados Unidos comparados con los otros países tienen un "balance favorable" del comercio, es decir, que el valor de las exportaciones excede al de las importaciones. Entre los 47 países que se han tomado como norma de comparación, 18 tienen un exceso de exportación sobre las importaciones y los 29 restantes vice versa. Los principales países en los cuales las exportaciones exceden á las importaciones son Canadá, México, República Argentina, Chile, Australia, India, Egipto, España, Austria-Hungría y Rusia. Ninguno de los 18 países cuyas exportaciones exceden á las importaciones arroja un balance que se acerque

siquiera al de los Estados Unidos por este respecto, y si se suman los excesos de las exportaciones de todo el grupo se encontrará un total de \$414,845,000, contra un superávit de \$544,542,131 á favor de los Estados Unidos, solamente durante el año fiscal de 1900.

CONSERVACIÓN DE LAS FRUTAS TROPICALES.

El sistema de conservar las frutas que hoy comienza á aplicarse en las Antillas y en Centro América, ha dado resultados muy satisfactorios hace muchos años en la Australia. El nuevo sistema es de evaporación y lo que lo hace superior á cualquier otro procedimiento es la rapidez con que se efectúan las operaciones y la limpieza absoluta del producto. Sólo se necesita cinco ó seis horas para convertir la fruta fresca en el producto pasado que dura meses y años, conservando siempre el gusto y en algunos casos haciéndose éste más refinado. El sistema empleado en la Australia ha merecido la aprobación del Gobierno, pues los productos alimenticios del país se someten á un análisis cuidadoso antes de que se les considere como de primer orden. En algunas de las Repúblicas de Centro América se ha empleado el procedimiento de evaporación con grande éxito especialmente en lo que se refiere á los bananos, y se ha empleado también en la conservación de otras frutas.

Como la maquinaria que se necesita para el procedimiento no es muy complicada y el costo primero de la fruta sumamente barato, resulta que es fácil vender el producto ya preparado á un precio muy bajo. Se están haciendo experimentos con otras frutas y vegetales, entre ellos la yuca, y parece que el producto después de sometido al procedimiento de la evaporación no sólo conserva el gusto natural sino también sus propiedades nutritivas. Según noticias, el ejército inglés recibe del puerto de Santo Tomás, en Guatemala, grandes cantidades de frutas y legumbres evaporadas y el gobierno de Jamaica se ocupa con grande interés en el asunto, á tal grado que su desarrollo puede llegar á causar serias dificultades al comercio de frutas frescas.

CARBÓN EN POLVO COMO COMBUSTIBLE.

En el BOLETÍN MENSUAL correspondiente al mes de noviembre de 1900 (página 1097) se publicó un artículo sobre ladrillos de polvo de carbón. Una publicación de Filadelfia llama la atención hace poco á un aparato que se ha hecho para quemar el carbón en polvo y no en la forma de ladrillos. Con motivo de la huelga que se efectuó en las regiones mineras de Pensilvania á fines del año de 1900, y que trajo consigo la amenaza de la escasez de tan importante combustible, se

han hecho muchos experimentos con otros productos, de los cuales ha resultado la conveniencia de emplear el polvo de carbón como combustible.

Es un hecho reconocido que el carbón bituminoso produce tanto humo que en muchos lugares la municipalidad ha dado decretos prohibiendo su uso. Esto dió motivo al estudio de la manera de emplear el carbón en forma de polvo y ha llegado á inventarse una máquina para reducir á polvo el carbón. Parece que un ferrocarril del Estado de Illinois ha estado haciendo experimentos durante una semana y que ha llegado á la conclusión de que el carbón preparado según esta procedimiento es el combustible mejor y más barato que se puede conseguir, al mismo tiempo que produce la menor cantidad de humo posible, siendo prácticamente sin humo. El aparato para quemar el polvo de carbón reduce este mineral á un polvo impalpable tan fino como la harina de trigo y que al ser inyectado en un quemador especial se quema como el gas. La combustión es perfecta y casi instantánea. El análisis que se ha hecho de los gases que escapan durante la combustión indica que esta es la manera más práctica de usar el carbón y que entre otras ventajas tiene la de ser un sistema que se puede añadir á poco costo y con facilidad á cualquier caldera.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

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

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

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

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

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

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

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

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

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

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

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

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

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

En la prensa de este país se han publicado últimamente noticias acerca del descubrimiento hecho en China de ciertos manuscritos que prueban que navegantes de aquel país descubrieron á la América mucho antes que COLÓN. Uno de los representantes del "Chicago Times-Herald" celebró con este motivo una entrevista con el Ministro de China en los Estados Unidos, S. E. WU TING FANG, quien se expresó como sigue:

"No sé lo que contengan esos documentos encontrados en China acerca de esta materia, pero estoy perfectamente convencido de que hace centenares de años los chinos desembarcaron en la costa del Pacífico, en donde han dejado obras y otros indicios que no pueden dejar duda fueron ellos los autores. Cuando me interesé en este estudio hallé pruebas inequívocas de este circunstancia. Hombres eminentes de todas las naciones participan de la creencia que los chinos, ya fuese por accidente ó ya intencionalmente, fueron desde nuestro país hasta las tierras lejanas al Occidente. No tengo la seguridad de que la expedición fuese dirigida por un solo hombre, aunque parece que haya sido así. Es digna de atención una circunstancia, que probablemente ignora la generalidad del pueblo americano. Hace siglos que se dice que embarcaciones procedentes de la China fueron arrojadas á las costas de la Alaska y aun más al sur. No se puede negar que en la costa del Pacífico se han encontrado desde tiempo inmemorial embarcaciones chinas desmanteladas, lo que induce á creer que mis antecesores fueron victimas de alguna tormenta en alta mar, de donde los vientos los arrojaron á las costas de este continente. Sé que en Méjico y en California hay evidencias de la presencia allí de los chinos y puedo citar varias autoridades en arqueología en prueba de esta aseveración."

Es probable que los chinos fueran los primeros descubridores de América. Sea como fuese, muchos hombres de ciencia creen que la raza humana comenzó con los mongoles, y en la América del Norte se han desenterrado varios efectos que parecen confirmar la opinión del Ministro de China. El Dr. SHELDON JACKSON ha traído de Alaska efectos chinos que poseían los naturales de aquella península, entre otros una cota de malla de piel de vaca marina, gruesa como de tres pulgadas, y que se dice haber sido hecha hace varios siglos. Esta reliquia está adornada con caracteres que, según la opinión de los arqueólogos, son indudablemente chinos. Hoy pertenece á la Universidad de Princeton, New Jersey.

El distinguido juriconsulto y perito en la legislación española, Doctor Don JOSÉ IGNACIO RODRÍGUEZ, Secretario que fué de la Conferencia Internacional Pan-Americana y de la Comisión Internacional Monetaria, uno de los consultores de los Estados Unidos en la Comisión de Paz que se reunió en París y puso término á la guerra con España, acaba de publicar en la Habana, imprenta de La Propaganda Literaria, una obra de 529 páginas con el título de "Anexión de Cuba." Es un interesante y minucioso estudio histórico sobre el origen, desenvolvimiento y manifestaciones prácticas de la idea de la anexión de la Isla de Cuba á los Estados Unidos. Consta el libro de 39 capítulos, seguidos de once apéndices que dan mayor valor histórico al trabajo, sirviendo al mismo tiempo de obra de consulta para la historia política de la Gran Antilla.

Manifiesta el autor que su trabajo no ha sido escrito para defender el pensamiento de la anexión de Cuba á los Estados Unidos de América, ni tampoco para combatirla. Su objeto no ha sido otro que el de presentar los hechos tales como están comprobados, encadenándolos convenientemente á fin de que el lector pueda sacar, por sí mismo y sin grande esfuerzo, las consecuencias que estine lógicas. Añade que no es un alegato este estudio, sino más bien un expediente, ó un memorial ajustado donde el estudiante de la historia encuentra á mano el material necesario.

El Doctor RODRÍGUEZ ha tenido la amabilidad de donar tan interesante obra á la librería de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas. El hecho de que el autor de la obra nació en Cuba, en donde se educó é hizo sus estudios, da mayor importancia á la que de por sí tiene el trabajo en referencia.

En un artículo publicado en el "Ladies Home Journal" Mr. JOHN RITCHIE, dice que el siglo XX comenzó el martes 1 de enero de 1901 en el océano Pacífico, un poco al este de las Islas Tongas ó de los Amigos. Esto lo explica manifestando que la línea imaginaria que marca 180° al este y al oeste de Greenwich tiene dos irregularidades debidas á las necesidades comerciales de la humanidad. Los Rusos establecieron en Alaska el día de San Petersburgo; pero cuando los Estados Unidos tomaron posesión de aquel territorio, las autoridades americanas creyeron conducente no tener sino un solo día en toda la extensión de sus dominios y la línea fué movida 10° al oeste del meridiano actual, de manera de poder incluir el día de los Estados Unidos en todas sus posesiones. Por esta razón la Isla de Attu, en el archipiélago de Alaska, situada á los 170° longitud este, es el único lugar del mundo que conserva un día fijo. De la misma manera ciertos grupos en el sur del Pacífico han sido incluidos en el día de Australia y de Nueva Zelandia con los cuales mantienen relaciones comerciales, aunque algunas de dichas islas quedan al este del meridiano 180°.

Bajo el título de "Intercambio y Producción" ha recopilado en un folleto de 50 páginas el Señor Don FEDERICO R. CIBILS, Director de Comercio é Industria del Ministerio de Agricultura de la República Argentina, una colección de interesantes artículos publicados por su autor en la prensa del país. La presente obra se divide en tres partes: la primera lleva por título "El Brasil y la República Argentina" y trata extensamente del intercambio comercial entre ambas Repúblicas, su presente y futuro, franquicias recíprocas y navegación directa. Este trabajo formará parte del libro que el autor tiene en preparación y que llevará por título "Intercambio Comercial de la República Argentina con las principales naciones, sus tarifas respectivas y los tratados existentes y su denuncia." La segunda parte se titula "La República Argentina" y es un extracto y comentario del capítulo que á ella se refiere de la obra reciente de PAUL LOUIS titulada "La Guerra Económica." En la tercera parte el autor estudia la estadística del "Stock Vacuno y Lanar Argentino" y corrige errores que se han deslizado en aquella obra.

La revista titulada "The Geographical Magazine" correspondiente al mes de diciembre de 1900 contiene un artículo sumamente interesante sobre "El Oro en las Filipinas," cuyo autor es el Coronel F. F. HILDER, de la Oficina de Etnología americana. Este es el primer artículo sobre la materia que se ha publicado en los Estados Unidos y contiene informes definitivos acerca de la extensión de los depósitos de oro que hay en las Islas Filipinas así como los lugares donde están situados. "Por toda la Isla de Luzón," dice el Coronel HILDER, "se encuentra el oro esparcido; cuáles sean las más ricas minas cuya explotación por medio de métodos sistemáticos y la introducción de maquinaria puedan dar resultado, es un problema que debe resolverse en el porvenir." Dice el autor que los mineros tienen grandes esperanzas de conseguir los mejores resultados tan pronto como se pacifique el país y que en otros lugares del archipiélago hay extensas minas que según informes son más ricas, pero que aun no se han desarrollado, á causa de la escasez de trabajadores.

Con el título "El Señor General Porfirio Díaz, Juzgado en el Extranjero," ha publicado el Licenciado MELESIO PARRA una interesante obra de 195 páginas, cuarto, en la cual se hallan reunidas las opiniones que respecto al General DÍAZ han emitido escritores extranjeros. La prensa de los Estados Unidos, la de Centro América, la de la América del Sur, la de Francia, España, Bélgica, Rusia, Alemania y Italia contribuyen todas á formar el libro en referencia. El autor divide la vida pública del General DÍAZ en dos grandes períodos, el primero, su brillante carrera militar, y el segundo, la era de paz de que goza el país y que fué iniciada en 1876. Hace más interesante la obra el hecho

de que las opiniones expresadas por extranjeros concuerdan en hacer justicia á las grandes dotes civiles y militares que adornan el Primer Magistrado de la vecina República.

Se ha recibido en esta Oficina un opúsculo de 69 páginas publicado en la ciudad de México con el título de "La Vainilla; su cultivo y beneficio en la República Mexicana y el extranjero y algunas consideraciones sobre el perfeccionamiento de este rico producto agrícola," por el Doctor R. LOPEZ PARRA. Divídese el trabajo en tres partes, la primera dedicada á la vainilla mexicana, su cultivo, su beneficio, clasificación, empaque, precio y exportación del producto. La segunda parte está dedicada á la vainilla extranjera, su producción, cultivo, enfermedades y beneficio, y la tercera á la exposición de las consideraciones generales que se desprenden del examen de los dos productos. Va acompañada la obra de ilustraciones que sirven para hacer más claro el texto.

Entre las obras últimamente adquiridas por la Biblioteca de esta Oficina, se cuenta la "Historia Universal," en 17 volúmenes y en inglés, de la pluma del Dr. JOHN CLARK RIDPATI, autor de varios libros de gran valor histórico. La obra en referencia estudia el origen, la condición primitiva, el desarrollo de la raza en las grandes divisiones de la humanidad, así como los rasgos más salientes de la evolución y progreso de las naciones desde sus principios de vida civilizada hasta los últimos años del siglo XIX. La obra va precedida de un estudio preliminar acerca del tiempo, el lugar y la manera como apareció el hombre en la tierra, y está profusamente ilustrada con láminas en colores, mapas, grabados, cartas etnográficas, etc.

El Señor J. G. BARTHOLOMEW, miembro de la Real Sociedad de Geografía de Edimburgo, ha preparado un mapa con el título de "Mapa Comercial de Sud América," el cual ha sido revisado por Mr. JOHN SAMSON, del cuerpo de redacción del "South American Journal" de Londres. La escala de este mapa es 1: 12,000,000 y su tamaño 25 por 35 pulgadas. Dicho mapa se considera como una excelente reproducción en menor escala de los últimos trabajos cartográficos que se han hecho en la América del Sur. Ha sido grabado en cobre é impreso en colores, y representa tan detalladamente cuanto lo permite la escala los principales rasgos topográficos y físicos del continente, los ferrocarriles y las líneas de vapor.

Á solicitud del tribunal arbitral nombrado por el Gobierno británico, el alegato de la República Argentina en la cuestión de límites andinos con Chile ha sido publicado ya en cuatro grandes volúmenes en cuarto. Esta obra irá acompañada de mapas tanto antiguos como modernos. Aparte del objeto principal á que obedece, la preparación de esta obra

tiene gran mérito como texto de consulta para los geógrafos y nombres de ciencia. El resultado de las recientes exploraciones hechas en aquella región por el Doctor Don FRANCISCO P. MORENO es importantísimo, pues ha encontrado allí terrenos que sólo necesitan del ayuda del hombre para convertirse en abundantes fuentes de riqueza.

Entre las obras más importantes que se han publicado acerca de la riqueza mineral de la República de Bolivia, se cuentan los trabajos hechos por el Señor Don MANUEL V. BALLIVIÁN en colaboración con otros hombres de ciencia, tales como la monografía titulada "El Estaño en Bolivia y Apuntes sobre Bismuto," de que ya se ha dado cuenta, y las otras tituladas "El Oro en Bolivia" y "El Cobre en Bolivia." El Señor BALLIVIÁN tiene en preparación dos trabajos más, titulado el uno "La Plata en Bolivia" y el otro "Escritos sobre la Geología en Bolivia."

"Veracruz Ilustrado" es el título de un hermoso volumen que acaban de publicar los Señores S. PEARSON & SON de Londres, y que es el cuarto tomo de la serie de publicaciones que dicha casa ha emprendido sobre las fuentes de riqueza de México. Entre los rasgos notables que se destacan en esta obra se cuentan varias reproducciones fotográficas de objetos de mucho interés. El texto está escrito en español é inglés y contiene datos interesantísimos acerca del Estado de Veracruz, especialmente á lo que se refiere á los trabajos de puerto y ferrocarriles.

El Gobierno de la República de Costa Rica acaba de publicar un folleto titulado "Estudio é Informes sobre el Café de Costa Rica," obra del Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de la República en los Estados Unidos. El Señor CALVO ha hecho en esta obrita un estudio detallado é interesante acerca de la materia de que trata, consiguiendo así llamar la atención del público en general hacia la excelencia del café costarricense y la demanda de que goza en Europa y en los Estados Unidos.

Hace poco se publicó en la capital de la República Argentina una obra tan importante como instructiva, cuyo autor es el Dr. J. B. ZUBIAR. Se titula "La Enseñanza Práctica é Industrial en la República Argentina," en la cual el autor se ocupa en un estudio profundo y detallado de la materia, basado en los datos que ha obtenido no sólo de fuentes oficiales y particulares sino en su larga carrera de educacionista.

La Biblioteca de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas ha recibido la edición oficial de la "Estadística Oficial de Aduanas de la República del Perú" para el segundo semestre del año 1899, que contiene datos referentes al comercio extranjero y de cabotaje. Es un volumen de más de 500 páginas, que va acompañado de un apéndice por separado bajo el título de "Resumen del Comercio General en el año 1899."

Con el título de "El Agricultor y Criador Mexicano" se ha comenzado á publicar en la ciudad de Chihuahua, México, una revista destinada al desarrollo de la agricultura en aquel país. El primer número que ha llegado á esta Oficina contiene artículos del mayor interés relativos á los asuntos de que es órgano la mencionada publicación.

El Señor Don CARLOS P. SALAS, Director del Departamento de Estadísticas de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, en la República Argentina, ha publicado un importante trabajo sobre las enfermedades contagiosas en la Provincia durante los diez últimos años. El trabajo contiene muchas láminas en colores y otros dibujos.

El Señor Don FRANCISCO DE VEYGA, de Buenos Aires, acaba de publicar un tratado científico de mucha importancia bajo el título de "Estudios Médico-Legales sobre el Código Civil Argentino." El Señor VEYGA es un jurisconsulto eminente que desempeña hoy la cátedra de medicina legal en la Universidad de Buenos Aires.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

VOL. X.

JANEIRO DE 1901.

No. 1.

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMMERCIO ESTRANGEIRO.

Segundo dados publicados pela imprensa argentina, o commercio estrangeiro do paiz durante os primeiros nove mezes do anno de 1900 foi como segue: importações, \$87,461,371 ouro; exportações, \$122,518,293 ouro. As importações, comparadas com as do mesmo periodo de 1899, mostram um augmento de mais de \$200,000 ouro. As exportações foram de \$5,000,000 ouro menos que as do mesmo periodo do anno anterior. O seguinte quadro mostra o movimento do commercio estrangeiro desta Republica:

Paizes.	Importação.	Exportação.	Paizes.	Importação.	Exportação.
Africa		\$2,518,388	França.....	\$8,724,739	\$14,550,856
Allemanha	\$12,556,877	16,511,128	Italia	11,699,364	3,213,665
As Antilhas	17,830	246,438	Os Palzes Baixos.....	136,317	3,515,111
Belgica	6,985,157	16,169,445	Paraguay	1,371,337	134,082
Bolivia	92,042	530,368	Grã Bretanha	30,141,521	16,432,653
Brazil	2,882,373	4,045,250	Uruguay	335,611	1,728,415
Chile	114,465	574,968	Outros palzes		5,625,345
Espanha	2,854,622	1,722,674	A ordens		30,266,312
Estados Unidos.....	9,321,475	4,733,185			

A enorme cifra de \$30,266.312 ouro, importancia da exportação a ordens, tem sua explicação na grande quantidade de cereaes que se carregam em nossos portos com destino ao canal ou a São Vicente, em navios despachados "a ordens," para que sigam com a carga aos portos que logo se indica aos capitães.

A notavel diminuição nas exportações se attribue em grande parte á enfermidade do gado que causou grandes estragos nos districtos cria-

dores da Republica, produzindo a paralyzação temporaria de uma das industrias mais importantes da Republica.

Pelo quadro precedente se vê que as importações da Grã Bretanha foram as maiores de todas durante o periodo em referencia, seguindo-lhe em ordem de importancia Allemanha, Italia, os Estados Unidos, França e Belgica. Os paizes para onde se exportou a maior quantidade foram em ordem de importancia Allemanha, a Grã Bretanha, Belgica, França, Estados Unidos e Brazil. As principaes exportações para o Brazil foram trigo e farinha, cujo commercio entre os dous paizes tem augmentado rapidamente durante os ultimos annos.

BRAZIL.

REGULAMENTO PARA O SERVIÇO DAS FACTURAS CONSULARES A QUE SE REFERE O DECRETO N. 3732 DESTA DATA.

CAPITULO I.—*Das facturas consulares.*

ART. 1º. As facturas consulares de que trata o art. 1º da lei n. 651, de 22 de Novembro de 1899, serão organisadas de conformidade com o modelo junto, attendidas as explicações constantes do Capitulo IV.

ART. 2º. As mercadorias que forem expedidas de paiz estrangeiro para consumo no Brazil, quer venham por via maritima, quer por via terrestre, com excepção das mencionadas no art. 3º, deverão ser acompanhadas de facturas consulares.

Paragrapho unico. São consideradas mercadorias, para os fins d'este regulamento, os valores em ouro ou prata e os titulos cotados em bolsa.

ART. 3º. Não é exigivel a factura consular—

(a) Das encommendas postaes de qualquer valor;

(b) Das encommendas cujo valor official não exceder de 50\$ ouro, ao cambio de 27 d. por 1\$000;

(c) Das amostras de valor inferior a 50\$000;

(d) Das bagagens dos passageiros de que tratam os arts. 16 e 17 das instrucções que bauxarão com o decreto n. 3529 de 15 de Dezembro de 1899, ainda que não acompanhem os seus donos;

(e) Das mercadorias procedentes de qualquer porto ou de ponto terrestre de paizes limitrophes, onde não existam autoridades consulares do Brazil.

ART. 4º. As facturas consulares serão apresentadas em quatro vias ao agente consular, o qual, depois de visul-as, lhes dará os seguintes destinos:

(a) A 1ª via será entregue ao carregador para o capitão do navio apresental-a á repartição aduaneira do ponto do destino, juntamente com o manifesto e conhecimentos de embarque. No caso de transporte por via terrestre será esse documento entregue ao carregador, que o dará ao conductor para o fim acima indicado;

(b) A 2ª via será enviada á Repartição do Serviço da Estatística Commercial no Rio de Janeiro;

(c) A 3ª via ficará no archivo do consulado;

(d) A 4ª via será entregue ao exportador ou carregador, que a remet-
terá ao consignatario para o despacho aduaneiro.

ART. 5º. A 1ª via das facturas, a qual terá um talão, conforme o modelo junto, para o fim prescripto no art. 27, n. 7, será escripta á mão ou á machina, em tinta indelevel, e deverá ser sellada antes de visada pelo agente consular. As outras vias poderão ser copiadas por qualquer processo em papel almasso, comtanto que sejam facilmente legiveis.

ART. 6º. A repartição aduaneira poderá fornecer certidão da 1ª via da factura á parte interessada, quando disto não resultar inconveniente ao serviço publico.

ART. 7º. Na falta de autoridade consular no porto de embarque ou no ponto da expedição, os consignatarios das mercadorias ou seus pre-
postos serão obrigados a apresentar para o despacho respectivo duas vias dos conhecimentos em substituição das facturas consulares; devendo uma destas vias ser sellada com sello de valor identico ao das facturas, e ficar archivada na repartição aduaneira, e a outra ser enviada na primeira opporrtunidade á Repartição do Serviço de Estatística Commercial.

ART. 8º. As mercadorias importadas directamente para o serviço da União ficarão sujeitas ao regimen das facturas consulares, das quaes não serão, porem, cobrados emolumentos.

Paragrapho unico. As disposições deste artigo serão applicadas aos objectos importados pelos agentes diplomaticos estrangeiros acredi-
tados junto ao Governo da Republica, e pelos navios de guerra das nações amigas, fundeados em portos do Brazil.

CAPITULO II.—*Legalisação das facturas.*

ART. 9º. A legalisação das facturas consulares deverá ser feita pelos agentes consulares do Brazil dos portos de embarque e dos pontos de expedição, quando esta se fizer por via terrestre.

1º. No caso de não haver autoridade consular no ponto da expedição por via terrestre, o conductor da mercadoria deverá apresentar á repartição fiscal do logar do destino, dentro de vinte e quatro horas, relação em duas vias da quantidade e conteúdo dos volumes, remetendo a dita repartição uma das vias á Repartição do Serviço de Estatística Commercial.

2º. Emquanto a autoridade consular na cidade de Manchester não for funcionario de carreira, as facturas das mercadorias embarcadas no porto daquella cidade serão legalisadas no respectivo vice-consulado ou no consulado de Liverpool, conforme convier ao exportador.

ART. 10º. O negociante que embarcar mercadorias em logar diverso daquelle em que estiver estabelecido, ainda que o embarque seja feito

em outro paiz, poderá assignar as respectivas facturas, que remetterá ao seu agente para serem legalisadas no consulado competente.

A legalisação, porem, não poderá ser feita senão em vista de reconhecimento escripto do dito agente, garantindo a authenticidade da firma do mencionado negociante.

Paragrapho unico. As disposições deste artigo são applicaveis ás expedições de mercadorias por via terrestre.

CAPITULO III.—*Emolumentos.*

ART. 11°. Os emolumentos das facturas consulares serão cobrados de accordo com a tabella que baixou com o decreto n. 2832 de 14 de Março de 1898.

ART. 12°. Na falta de estampilhas, o sello será cobrado por meio de verba lançada no documento competente.

ART. 13°. Os documentos apresentados para a prova de origem das mercadorias serão legalisados gratuitamente pelas autoridades consulares.

CAPITULO IV.—*Modelo das facturas consulares.*

ART. 14°. O modelo das facturas consulares deverá ser entendido do seguinte modo:

(a) Numero da factura. Compete exclusivamente á autoridade consular do porto de embarque da mercadoria ou á do logar da expedição, quando for o transporte por via terrestre, a numeração das facturas, a qual deverá ser iniciada em cada anno com o n. 1;

(b) Declaração. Será firmada pelo exportador, carregador ou seu preposto, que garantirá a exactidão da mesma; devendo a autoridade consular, no caso de duvida sobre a sua veracidade, fazer as observações que julgar convenientes;

(c) Nome e nacionalidade. Deverão ser mencionados, assim como si o navio é á vela ou a vapor;

(d) Porto de embarque da mercadoria. É aquelle em que a mercadoria foi effectivamente embarcada com destino ao Brazil;

(e) Porto de destino da mercadoria. É o ultimo porto aduaneiro para o qual a mercadoria tiver sido despachada. No caso de opção para outro porto deverá ser feita declaração neste sentido na factura, de conformidade com o modelo;

(f) Valor total declarado. Deve ser o valor total da factura, inclusive frete e despesas;

(g) Frete e despesas approximadas. Ao carregador ou exportador, quando não poder mencionar a quantia exacta do frete e despesas effectuadas depois da compra, é facultado fazer declaração da importancia o mais approximadamente possível;

(h) Agio da moeda do paiz da procedencia. Quando a mercadoria fôr procedente de paiz em que a moeda não tiver valor fixo ou o

respectivo cambio não fôr cotado na praça do Rio de Janeiro, é indispensavel declarar-se no logar competente da factura o agio do ouro ou cambio á vista sobre Londres.

Tem actualmente cotação na praça do Rio de Janeiro as taxas do cambio sobre a Grã Bretanha, França, Allemanha, Estados Unidos da America do Norte, Portugal e Italia;

(i) Marcas e numeros. (No verso do modelo.) Deverão ser escriptos na columna respectiva e em devida ordem;

(j) Quantidade e especies dos volumes. Sob esta rubrica deverão ser mencionadas, guardando tambem a devida ordem, a quantidade e especie dos volumes, isto é, si são caixas, barris, barricas, gigas, fardos, etc.;

(k) Especificação das mercadorias. Ao carregador ou exportador é facultado fazer a descripção das mercadorias de accordo com a nomenclatura official ou especifical-as segundo a natureza do material;

(l) Peso em kilogrammas, bruto e liquido. O peso-bruto será o do volume e o liquido o da mercadoria ou artigo;

(m) Valor parcial declarado, inclusive ou exclusive frete e despezas. Nesta columna trata-se do valor de cada artigo especificado na factura, inclusive ou exclusive frete e despezas;

(n) Paiz de origem. Para a materia prima, é o da sua producção, e para os artefactos de qualquer especie, aquelle em qua a materia prima tiver recebido beneficio.

Paragrapho unico. Quando em uma mesma factura tiverem sido incluidas mercadorias de diversas origens, o exportador ou o carregador deverá mencionar na columna respectiva a origem de cada uma.

ART. 15°. A especificação da mercadoria poderá ser feita no idioma do paiz da expedição, devendo, porem, o consignatario apresentar para despacho traducção da mesma por traductor publico ou particular.

ART. 16°. Os exportadores ou carregadores poderão mandar imprimir as facturas consulares com traducção interlineal (parcial ou integral) em qualquer idioma europeu, comtanto que não seja feita a menor alteraçáo na forma e dizeres do modelo.

ART. 17°. Os consulados fornecerão gratuitamente ao exportador ou carregador formulas das facturas, impressas em portuguez.

CAPITULO V.—*Deveres dos consules.*

ART. 18°. Incumbe aos consules e agentes consulares remetter á Repartição do Serviço da Estatistica Commercial no Rio de Janeiro, as segundas vias das facturas, depois de visadas, mencionando nos officios de remessa o numero ou quantidade das mesmas.

1°. No mez em que não houver facturas, a autoridade consular communicará o facto á sobredita repartição.

2°. A remessa das facturas deverá ser feita por via postal ordinaria, quando o seu peso não exceder de 50 grammas. Excedendo este peso,

serão as mesmas enviadas como encomendas postaes ou como papeis de negocio, registrados.

Art. 19°. O consul não poderá reter a factura ou deixar de legalisala sob pretexto algum.

Art. 20°. O consul deverá conferir as facturas e conhecimentos apresentados pelo capitão ou agente do vapor ou navio á vela com as declarações do manifesto, anotando á margem d'este os numeros das facturas que faltarem e indicando qual o responsavel pela falta.

Art. 21°. No caso de omissão de qualquer dos requisitos exigidos pelo Capitulo IV, o consul convidará o exportador ou carregador para preenche-la na propria factura, e si não for attendido, fará declaração neste sentido na dita factura.

Art. 22°. Sempre que se der accrescimo ou diminuição dos volumes constantes da factura já legalisada, deverá ser a mesma reformada, em quatro vias, lançando-se á tinta encarnada em cada uma das vias, de modo que fique bem visivel, a seguinte declaração: "Factura n. —, reformada."

Art. 23°. Os consules aceitarão como prova satisfactoria de origem qualquer dos documentos seguintes:

(a) Factura authentica do fabricante da mercadoria;

(b) Certidão passada pela autoridade do porto ou da Alfandega do logar do embarque, declarando que as mercadorias não foram embarcadas em transito, nem são procedentes de depositos alfandegados daquelle logar.

Paragrapho unico. Na impossibilidade de apresentação de qualquer dos documentos de que trata este artigo, o interessado produzirá documentos de outra natureza que comprovem a origem da mercadoria, afim de serem visados.

CAPITULO VI.—*Deveres e obrigações dos capitães e outros conductores.*

Art. 24°. Ao capitão do navio incumbe conferir as facturas com os conhecimentos, notando no manifesto as que faltarem e o motivo da falta. Essa nota será authenticada pelo consul, que deverá sempre que não julgar justo o motivo, fazer as convenientes observações no manifesto.

1°. Os capitães ou conductores que deixarem de observar as disposições do art. 4°, letra a, incorrerão na multa do art. 35, 1°, salvo se justificarem a omissão para o que lhes será concedido o prazo minimo de noventa dias pela Alfandega ou Mesa de Rendas.

2°. No caso de recusa por parte do consul em authenticar a nota de que trata este artigo, o capitão lavrará protesto perante o notario publico, cuja certidão enviará ao agente ou consignatario do navio no respectivo porto.

Art. 25°. Verificando-se accrescimo ou diminuição de volumes depois de fechado o manifesto, deverá o capitão fazer declaração a respeito no

acto da visita de entrada, procedendo a Alfandega sobre taes declarações nos termos do art. 353, 1º, da Nova Consolidação.

ART. 26º. Na falta de autoridade consular no porto de embarque ou quando, por qualquer outro motivo, a mercadoria não fôr acompanhada de factura consular, os capitães deverão entregar á Alfandega do porto do destino da dita mercadoria, dentro de vinte e quatro horas, uma copia fiel do manifesto, alem da exigida pelo art. 343 da Nova Consolidação, afim de ser remettida, na primeira oportunidade, á Repartição do Serviço de Estatistica Commercial no Rio de Janeiro.

CAPITULO VII.—*Das Alfandegas e Mesas de Rendas.*

ART. 27º. Incumbe ás Alfandegas e Mesas de Rendas:

1º. Exigir dos capitães as primeiras vias das facturas consulares que devem acompanhar o manifesto, impondo aos mesmos a multa do art. 35, 1º, no caso de falta.

2º. Não permittir o despacho das mercadorias que não vierem acompanhadas da competente factura consular, sem que o respectivo consignatario assigne termo responsabilizando-se a apresentar os documentos ou as provas que lhe forem exigidas dentro do prazo que lhe for marcado.

3º. Conceder prazo, sob termo de responsabilidade, para a apresentação de provas, nos seguintes casos:

(a) Quando se tiver dado extravio da primeira e quarta vias da factura;

(b) Quando fôr exigida a apresentação de provas de origem das mercadorias;

(c) Quando se verificar acrescimo ou diminuição de volumes, declarado pelo capitão;

(d) Quando o consignatario das mercadorias descriptas no art. 378, paragrapho unico, da Nova Consolidação o requerer.

4º. Archivar, conjunctamente com os manifestos dos navios, a primeira via das facturas, a qual deverá ser traduzida na lingua vernacula por conta da Repartição, todas as vezes que houver motivo para duvidar-se da traducção apresentada pelo consignatario.

5º. Exigir o reconhecimento da firma do consul, exarada nas facturas, quando suspeitar que a mesma não é verdadeira.

6º. Communicar á Repartição do Serviço da Estatistica Commercial as differenças verificadas entre as declarações da factura e as mercadorias a que ella se referir.

7º. Averbar as notas no talão picotado annexo á primeira via da factura, destacando-o e enviando-o na primeira oportunidade á mencionada Repartição.

8º. Exigir do consignatario a apresentação da traducção da factura consular.

ART. 28º. O empregado encarregado do manifesto, além das averba-

ções que lhe incumbem fazer no despacho, referente a marcas, numeros, quantidade e especie dos volumes, deverá verificar se as declarações da nota do despacho conferem com as da primeira via da factura, ou com as da respectiva traducção.

Não havendo divergencia, o dito empregado lançará no logar competente a nota seguinte: Confere com a factura o manifesto a fls.—No caso contrario, será a mesma divergencia notada, á tinta encarnada.

ART. 29°. Em caso de duvida sobre as mercadorias mencionadas na factura, a qual será apresentada ao conferente do despacho sempre que elle o exigir, este funcionario communicará o facto ao chefe da Repartição, e este, ouvindo sobre o caso o chefe da Repartição do Serviço da Estatistica Commercial, resolverá a questão.

ART. 30°. As Alfandegas e Mesas de Rendas só deverão exigir prova de origem, quando estiver estabelecida a tarifa differencial para qualquer paiz.

ART. 31°. Para a apresentação de provas de origem, fica concedido aos consignatarios o prazo até noventa dias, a contar da notificação pela Alfandega, o qual poderá ser prorogado quando se tratar de mercadorias procedentes de pontos longinquos.

CAPITULO VIII.—*Obrigações e deveres da Repartição do Serviço da Estatistica Commercial.*

ART. 32°. Á Repartição do Serviço da Estatistica Commercial, além das obrigações já prescriptas neste regulamento, incumbem mais o seguinte:

1°. Organizar a estatistica geral da importação directa de mercadorias e valores que se effectuar nos portos da Republica, de accordo com os dados constantes das facturas consulares.

2°. Prestar as informações que lhe forem requisitadas pelas Repartições de Fazenda ou pelas autoridades consulares.

3°. Communicar ao chefe da Repartição competente as irregularidades e omissões que verificar nas facturas.

CAPITULO IX.—*Nomenclatura das mercadorias.*

ART. 33°. A descripção das mercadorias nas facturas poderá ser generica, de conformidade com a nomenclatura official annexa, ou detalhada, declarando-se, neste caso, a natureza do material. Deverá ser adoptado um destes dois alvitres, sob pena da multa estipulada no art. 35, 4°, que será applicada ao consignatario, como unico responsavel.

ART. 34°. A nomenclatura official, com as respectivas instrucções para seu uso, será vertida para os idiomas francez, inglez, allemão, hespanhol e italiano, afim de ser enviada aos respectivos consulados.

Paragrapho unico. Quando a lingua vernacula do paiz da expedição não fôr nenhuma das especificadas neste artigo, será remettido um exemplar da nomenclatura e instrucções no idioma que fôr mais conhecido no referido paiz.

CAPITULO X.—*Das multas.*

ART. 35°. Os infraactores deste regulamento serão punidos com as seguintes multas, que lhes serão inpostas pelo inspector da Alfandega ou administrador da Mesa de Rendas:

1°. Pela falta ou não entrega da factura consular, não justificada, será imposta ao capitão do navio ou conductor, no caso de expedição por via terrestre, multa igual á do art. 363 da Nova Consolidação. (Art. 5°, n. 6 V, da lei n. 640, de 14 de Novembro de 1899.)

Desde que no manifesto do navio haja a declaração de haverem sido recebidas pelo consul todas as facturas ou justificadas as faltas, nenhuma responsabilidade caberá ao capitão ou conductor pelo extravio ou falta de recebimento deste documento pela estação fiscal competente.

2°. Fica tambem sujeito á multa de que trata o paragrapho antecedente pela falta de factura, o consignatario da mercadoria. (Art 5°, n. 6 V, da lei n. 640, citadas, e art. 1° da lei n. 651, de 22 de Novembro de 1899.)

3°. Pela divergencia da factura com o conteúdo do volume ou volumes na parte referente á quantidade, qualidade ou origem da mercadoria, verificada no acto da conferencia, será imposta ao respectivo consignatorio a multa de que trata o 1°.

Haverá a tolerancia de 10 por cento para mais ou para menos no peso declarado na factura.

4°. Pela omissão ou insufficiencia de outras declarações da factura, verificada pela Repartição do Serviço da Estatistica Commercial, será imposta a multa de 50\$ a 200\$000.

5°. Pelo não cumprimento das obrigações impostas pelo presente regulamento aos consules e outras autoridades consulares, ficarão os mesmos sujeitos á multa de 50\$ a 500\$, que lhes será imposta pelo Ministro da Fazenda, em vista de informação do chefe da Repartição do Serviço de Estatistica Commercial.

CAPITULO XI.—*Disposições geraes.*

ART. 36°. As depezas dos consulados com o serviço das facturas consulares será feita por conta dos emolumentos arrecadados pelas ditas facturas.

ART. 37°. É prohibida, tanto nos consulados como na Repartição do Serviço de Estatistica Commercial e nas Alfandegas e Mesas de Rendas, a exhibição das facturas consulares a pessoas extranhas ao objecto das mesmas.

ART. 38°. Nos casos omissos neste regulamento e que forem de natureza urgente, os consules e os chefes das Estações Fiscaes e da Repartição do Serviço de Estatistica Commercial resolverão como julgarem conveniente, dando, porem, conta do seu acto ao Ministerio da Fazenda para decisão final.

ART. 39°. O presente regulamento entrará em vigor em todos os consulados cincoenta dias depois de sua publicação no Diário Official, exceptuando-se os Consulados da India e Nova Zelândia, em que o prazo será de sessenta dias, e nas Alfandegas e Mesas de Rendas, logo que forem recebidas as novas facturas enviadas pelos consulados.

ART. 40°. Revogam-se as disposições em contrario.

LEI DE FIXAÇÃO DA FORÇA NAVAL DE 1901.

O Congresso Nacional decretou e o Presidente da Republica sancionou a seguinte lei:

A força naval, no anno de 1901, constará:

1°. Dos officiaes da armada e classes annexas, conforme os respectivos quadros.

2°. De 180 no maximo, aspirantes a guardas-marinhas.

3°. De 4.000 praças do corpo de marinheiros nacionaes, inclusive 300 praças para as tres companhias de foguistas e 100 para a companhia do Estado de Matto-Grosso.

4°. De 700 foguistas contractados de conformidade com o regulamento promulgado para os foguistas extranumerios.

5°. De 1.500 aprendizes marinheiros.

6°. De 450 praças do corpo de infantaria da marinha.

7°. Em tempo de guerra, do dobro do pessoal dos 3°, 4°, 5° e 6°.

ART. 2°. As praças e ex-praças que se engajarem por mais de tres annos e em seguida por dois, pelo menos, terão direito, em cada engajamento, ao valor, recebido em dinheiro, das peças de fardamento gratuitamente distribuidas aos recrutas.

LIMITES COM A GUYANA FRANCEZA.

A sentença arbitral do Conselho Federal Suisso na questão de limites pendente entre a Republica do Brazil e a de França com motivo das fronteiras da Guyana franceza foi entregue ás partes interessadas em Berna no dia 1° de Dezembro de 1900. O laudo estabelece a fronteira pelo *thalweg* do Oyapock da foz á nascente d'esse rio e da nascente para oeste pela linha divisoria das aguas nos montes Tunucumaque até o ponto de encontro com o territorio hollandez.

Deste modo o Brazil obtem o limite maritimo que desde o anno de 1688 tinha reclamado o Portugal, a antiga metropole. França, por sua parte, tinha reclamado sempre o rio Araguay, uma linha parallela ao Amazonas e a margem esquerda do rio Branco.

O laudo concede ao Brazil 147,000 milhas quadradas do territorio em litigio e á França cerca de 3,000 milhas quadradas ao norte da cadeia de Tunucumaque.

A sentença do tribunal diz assim: 1°. Que o rio Japoc ou Vicente Pincón do artigo 8 do Tratado de Utrecht, é o Oyapock, que desemboca ao oeste do Cabo Orange, como fica estabelecido pelos documen-

tos que o Brazil submetteu ao tribunal, e que o *thalweg* do dito rio, desde sua foz até sua cabeceira, constituirá definitivamente a primeira das linhas fronteiras entre o Brazil e a Guyana franceza. 2º. Que a outra linha fronteira, desde as cabeceiras do Oyapock até o ponto de encontro com o territorio hollandez, serà a que o artigo 2 do Tratado de Arbitramento tem indicado como solução intermediaria, é dizer, a linha da divisão das aguas nos montes Tumucumaque, que formam o limite septentrional da bacia do Amazonas.

COSTA RICA.

O CAFÉ DA REPUBLICA.

O presente artigo basea-se em dados tomados de um relatório submettido ao Governo da Republica de Costa Rica pelo Senhor JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Enviado Extraordinario e Ministro Plenipotenciario junto ao Governo dos Estados Unidos. Dos quadros organizados pelo Senhor CALVO se vê que os paizes productores de café exportaram para a Europa durante o anno de 1899, 9,165,700 saccos de café, dos quaes 8,867,400 saccos foram vendidos, deixando um *stock* no fim do anno de 298,300 saccos da colheita de 1899, o qual, juntado aos *stocks* dos annos anteriores, faz um supprimento total visível nos mercados da Europa de 4,114,800 saccos. As importações nos Estados Unidos durante o mesmo periodo foram de 6,433,900 saccos, dos quaes 6,271,900 saccos foram vendidos durante o anno, deixando um *stock* no fim de 1899 de 162,000 saccos, os quaes juntados aos 918,000 saccos que representam as existencias dos annos anteriores perfazem um *stock* total no principio de 1900 de 1,080,000 saccos. As vendas de 1899, comparadas com as do anno anterior, mostram um augmento de cerca de 1,000,000 de saccos.

O café de Costa Rica assemelha-se muito ao de Java, sendo o grão das duas variedades, grosso e oblongo, e de uma côr amarella e ás vezes um pouco verde. É um facto bem conhecido que na Europa, e em pequena escala nos Estados Unidos, o café costaricano é muitas vezes vendido sob o nome de Java ou Mocha, ao que é muito parecido não sómente pela côr do grão mas tambem pelo seu aroma. A secção de Chimica do Departamento da Agricultura fez analyses de varias amostras de café de Costa Rica, pelas quaes se vê que o café contem de 1.16 a 1.27 por cento de cafeina. A boa qualidade do grão não depende da maior ou menor quantidade de cafeina que contenha, mas do aroma especial do producto.

Nos Estados Unidos assim como na Enrope o café de Costa Rica tem muito boa acitação e alcança os melhores preços do mercado. No anno fiscal de 1898-99 as importações de café de Costa Rica nos Estados Unidos attingiram á cifra de 16,625,721 libras, no valor de \$2,406,246.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

REVISTA DO ANNO DE 1900.

Si foi notavel o progresso alcançado nos Estados Unidos durante 1899, não menos brilhantemente tem cerrado com o anno de 1900 o ultimo do seculo que passou. Em todos os ramos da industria do paiz se tem feito adiantamentos prodigiosos; seu commercio tem alcançado cifras que raíam nos bilhões; sua riqueza tem augmentado como em nenhum outro tempo na historia de sua vida como nação, e não tem parallelo nos annaes do mundo. Não poderia entrar-se no seculo XX sob auspicios mais favoraveis. O melhor exponente da prosperidade do paiz é a mensagem que o Presidente MCKINLEY dirigiu ao Congresso com motivo da abertura de suas ultimas sessões e que começava manifestando que por todas as partes se viam evidencias da prosperidade nacional e individual e provas da influencia benefica e poderosa das instituições republicanas.

Qual tem sido durante o seculo o desenvolvimento dos Estados Unidos, pode medir-se ao considerar que em 1800 alcançava sua população a um pouco mais de 5,000,000; ao terminar 1900 o numero de habitantes é de mais de 76,000,000. Naquella epocha dezeseis Estados constituíam a Republica, cujo territorio media 909,050 milhas quadradas; hoje são quarenta e cinco Estados, cinco Territorios, além do Districto de Columbia onde está situada a capital da Republica, e as Ilhas do Hawaii, e a extensão superficial alcança a 3,846,595 milhas quadradas.

Na parte economica durante o anno de 1900, até o 30 de Junho, as rendas excederam ás do periodo correspondente do anno anterior em \$79,527,060, emquanto que durante os seis annos precedentes só houve *deficits* que alcançaram a somma de mais de \$280,000,000. As rendas durante o anno fiscal de 1900 alcançaram a mais de \$500,000,000 e as despesas a \$488,000,000; as alfandegas produziram mais de \$200,000,000; a renda interna cerca de \$300,000,000, emquanto que a receita proveniente de outras fontes foi de cerca de \$40,000,000. As despesas do Governo diminuíram consideravelmente durante esse periodo, as do Departamento da Guerra, por exemplo, reduzindo-se em \$95,000,000 e as da Marinha em cerca de \$66,000,000.

Esta situação excellente do Thesouro permittiu a amortização de titulos por valor de \$56,500,000. No dia 30 de Novembro o balanço effectivo nas caixas da Thesouraria subia á somma de \$139,303,794, sem contar a reserva de \$150,000,000. No fundo geral, que é distincto do de reserva e o de deposito, havia no dia 30 de Novembro de 1900 mais de \$70,000,000 em moeda e barra de ouro e cerca de \$23,000,000 em certificados de ouro para serem emittidos, garantidos por ouro acunhado e em barra, o qual arroja uma quantia total de ouro não affecto a pagamentos de \$93,000,000. Este mesmo estado florescente

do Thesouro permittiu o Secretario daquelle ramo recolher, de 30 de Junho de 1899 a igual data de Novembro do anno em referencia, o emprestimo consolidado de 1901, a 2 por cento, por mais de \$25,000,000. Fizeram-se tambem outras transacções de alta importancia que tem rendido ao Governo uma utilidade liquida de \$10,000,000, ao mesmo tempo que têm reduzido em mais de \$7,000,000 a responsabilidade do Thesouro para o pagamento de juros desde a data em que se refundin a divida até o 1º de Julho de 1904.

Qual tem sido o progresso mercantil e industrial do paiz nada o demonstra melhor que o estudo do commercio estrangeiro. Pela primeira vez em sua historia o total das importações e exportações tem passado de \$2,000,000,000. As exportações alcançaram no anno fiscal de 1900 a \$1,394,483,082, é dizer, foram por cerca de \$168,000,000 maiores que no anno anterior. As importações no mesmo anno alcançaram a \$894,941,184, ou seja um augmento de cerca de \$153,000,000 sobre o anno anterior. Este augmento, que se deve em sua maior parte á introdução de materias primas destinadas ás industrias manufactureiras do paiz, indica melhor que nada o rapido desenvolvimento destes interesses, o qual se nota tambem no facto de que as exportações de productos manufacturados americanos alcançaram durante a epocha em referencia a \$433,851,756, é dizer, um augmento de 28 por cento sobre as exportações do anno fiscal anterior. Ao augmento nas exportações tem concorrido os productos manufacturados, como já se teu dito; os da agricultura; os de mineração, e em seguida todos os outros que constituem o trafico que para o estrangeiro fazem os Estados Unidos.

Em fins do anno fiscal de 1900 as entradas e depositos de ouro e prata verificados nas casas de moeda e officinas de ensaio alcançaram a \$238,755,736.24, e a quantia total de moeda acunhada durante aquelle periodo se elevou a \$141,301,960.36. Em fins do anno civil de 1900 a cunhagem total nos Estados Unidos tem sido avaliada em \$137,699,401.

Os fundos pertencentes ao Governo depositados nos bancos nacionaes alcançaram em 30 de Junho de 1900 a \$98,736,806 em 240 bancos, enquanto que os capitães de todos os bancos nacionaes tiveram um augmento liquido de cerca de \$20,000,000 durante aquelle periodo.

A divida dos Estados Unidos, com juros não vencidos e por pagar, era o 1º de Julho de 1900 \$1,023,443,390. O augmento liquido do dinheiro em circulação até o 1º de Novembro foi de \$175,465,266, em um total de \$2,139,181,412, que dividido entre a população calculada do paiz dá uma circulação por cabeça de \$27.82.

Durante o anno chegaram a portos dos Estados Unidos 448,572 immigrants. Este influxo de immigração é uma das causas a que obedece o desenvolvimento phenomenal do paiz. Tambem se verificou o recenseamento que arroja um total de população de 76,295,220, é dizer, 13,234,943 habitantes sobre a recenseamento de 1890.

Larga seria a tarefa de entrar a estudar um a um os mil ramos da industria e do commercio que tem seguido, durante o anno que acaba de terminar, essa progressão ascendente em seu desenvolvimento que tem dado aos Estados Unidos posto de preferencia entre as nações do mundo. No BOLETIM MENSAL se tem vindo publicando tudo referente a esta materia, de modo que ha de ser uma repetição até certo ponto inutil mencionar de novo factos já sabidos. A excellencia do producto americano fica demonstrada pela extensão do seu commercio; commercio que não obstante os grandes progressos que tem feito na America latina, não tem alcançado aquelle desenvolvimento que as necessidades desses paizes por uma parte e por outra a adaptação perfeita do producto americano parecem demandar. São a agricultura, a mineração, e, em uma palavra, a exploração das fontes naturaes de riqueza da America latina a base da prosperidade daquelles povos; são as machinas americanas para a exploração dessas fontes de riquezas as que mais se adaptam a esses fins.

Os Estados Unidos consequentes com sua politica commercial tem celebrado convenios especiaes com varios paizes do Velho e do Novo Mundo e tem em via de arranjo outros varios. Qual é a expressão desta idea pode ver-se na ultima mensagem do Presidente, que se exprime a este respeito dizendo que a politica da reciprocidade descansa de maneira manifesta nos principios de equidade internacional e tem sido tantas vezes approvada pelo povo dos Estados Unidos que não deveria duvidar o Congresso de pol-a em vigor. "Este Governo," diz o Presidente, "deseja conservar as relações commerciaes mais justas e amigaveis com todos os paizes estrangeiros, fazendo caso omissio da rivalidade industrial que necessariamente se desenvolve com a expansão do commercio internacional. Crê-se que os Governos estrangeiros pelo geral abrigam os mesmos propositos, ainda quando em alguns casos ha exigencias que pesam sobre elles em favor de uma legislação especialmente hostil aos interesses americanos."

Seguindo a mesma via de fazer mais extenso o commercio americano e melhor conhecidos os productos industriaes deste paiz e aquelles que formam o commercio estrangeiro do resto da America, ha de celebrar-se em Buffalo uma Exposição Pan-Americana a principios do anno em curso. Os trabalhos da junta directiva deste certamen durante o anno em referencia tem tido o melhor exito e quasi todos, si não todos os paizes latino-americanos hão de concorrer a elle, acereando desta maneira os interesses commerciaes do continente.

É outra prova ainda dos desejos que animam a todas as nações da America para estreitar os laços de amizade fraternal que as une, a proxima reunião na cidade de Mexico do segundo Congresso Pan-Americano, que por primeira vez celebrou suas sessões em Washington de 2 de Outubro de 1889 a 19 de Abril de 1890. Em realidade não deveria mencionar-se este facto ao referir-se á historia dos Estados

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Unidos em 1900, mas como demonstra o bom desejo de completar a obra que se iniciou neste paiz, não se tem julgado fóra de lugar fazer esta referencia.

É tambem digno de nota que pela primeira vez em muitos annos, e talvez na historia dos Estados Unidos, o corpo diplomatico latino-americano residente em Washington é o mais completo, nova prova do desejo de estreitar as relações que desde o tempo do nascimento politico de todas as nações latino-americanas existem entre ellas e esta nação.

Á Exposição de Pariz assistiram os Estados Unidos recebendo os expositores americanos 240 grandes premios, 597 medalhas de ouro, 776 medalhas de prata, 541 medalhas de bronze e 322 menções honorificas, é dizer, um total maior que o que se adjudicara a qualquer outra nação. Quanto significa isto o explicam melhor as seguintes palavras da mensagem a que se tem feito referencia:

“Este reconhecimento significativo do merito, em competencia com as exposições escolhidas de todas as outras nações, feito por jurados quasi em sua totalidade representantes da França e outros paizes competidores, não sómente é muito satisfactorio, mas tem valor especial desde o momento em que nos dá posto em primeira linha nas questões internacionais de produção e de procura, enquanto que uma grande parte das adjudicações feitas ás artes e manufacturas artisticas tem sido uma prova, que não se esperava, do estímulo de nossa cultura nacional devido á prosperidade filha da riqueza natural e da excellencia nas industrias.”

Durante o anno fiscal que terminou o 30 de Junho de 1900, o commercio dos Estados Unidos com todos os paizes da America alcançou, segundo dados officiaes, á somma de \$170,461,647 por importações e \$116,114,326 por exportações. Nestes totaes está comprehendido o commercio de Cuba, Porto Rico e as Guyanas ingleza, franceza e hollandeza. O BOLETIM da Secretaria publica mensalmente um resumo da estatistica relativa ao commercio dos Estados Unidos com os outros paizes do continente, de sorte que só basta mencionar os principaes artigos que formam o grosso do dito commercio. Entre os productos que os Estados Unidos importam da America latina occupa o primeiro lugar o café, que durante o anno economico de 1900 foi importado, segundo dados estatisticos, na quantidade de 748,546,777 libras, com um valor de \$47,329,851.

O Mexico contribuiu a esta quantidade com mais de 35,000,000 de libras, por valor de \$3,312,608; as Republicas da America Central com mais de 43,500,000 libras, por valor de \$4,356,407; a America do Sul está representada em 660,182,633 libras, avaliadas em \$38,929,513, lo qual corresponde ao Brazil sómente 601,520,169 libras, no valor de \$34,333,762. O valor das importações das Antilhas se elevou a \$731,323, representados por 9,250,000 libras. As outras importações principaes

foram borracha, por cerca de \$20,000,000; couros e pelles, por mais de \$13,500,000; assucar, por mais de \$25,500,000; hennequen, por mais de \$11,500,000; cacáo, por mais de \$2,500,000; fructas, por mais de \$3,500,000; chumbo em linguados, barras, etc., mais de \$2,500,000; tabaco, cerca de \$8,000,000, e lã, mais de \$3,000,000.

As exportações principaes verificadas pelos Estados Unidos nesse mesmo anno economico para os paizes da America latina foram farinha de trigo, por mais de \$7,500,000; petroleo e outros azeites mineraes, por cerca de \$5,500,000; madeira de construcção, \$4,500,000; tecidos de algodão, \$3,500,000; manteiga, \$3,500,000; provisões de todas as especies, \$3,000,000; carvão mineral, \$2,800,000; instrumentos para a agricultura, \$2,775,000; ferragens, \$1,925,000; azeites vegetaes, \$1,600,000; carros e carrnagens, \$1,900,000; moveis, \$1,300,000; instrumentos scientificos e outros, \$1,100,000; trilhos, \$1,000,000; milho e trigo, \$1,200,000.

O anno que acaba de terminar tem visto desenvolver-se, de uma maneira assombrosa, as vias de communicacão internas dos Estados Unidos, ao mesmo tempo que se tem estabelecido novas communicacões com o estrangeiro que acercam cada dia mais os mercados consumidores do mundo aos productores desta nação. O seculo XX, pois, começa sob os melhores auspicios e é de esperar-se que durante seu transecurso sigam gozando-se dos beneficios que a industria incansavel do americano tem direito a esperar e que ha de ser, em dia não muito longe, factor do progresso material dos paizes que formam a União Internacional.

CUNHAGEM DE MOEDA.

O relatorio apresentado pelo Director da Casa da Moeda indica que durante o anno commum de 1900 a cunhagem total nos Estados Unidos foi de 175,699,563 peças, no valor total de \$137,699,401, dos quaes \$99,272,942.50 representam o valor das moedas de ouro, \$36,295,321.45 as moedas de prata e \$668,337.64 as moedas fraccionarias.

Durante o mez de Dezembro de 1900 a cunhagem total alcançou a \$7,758,580, assim distribuida: ouro, \$4,576,697; prata, \$2,880,555, e moedas miudas \$301,382.

Durante o anno em referencia a casa de moeda de Philadelphia acunhou para o Governo de Costa Rica 370,000 moedas de ouro, por valor de \$1,047,041.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE TRILHOS DE AÇO.

Segundo dados organizados pela Secção de Estatisticas da Secretaria do Thesouro dos Estados Unidos, a exportação total de trilhos de aço em 1900 ascendeu a \$12,000,000, ou a \$1,000,000, pela média, por mez. Isto é o mais notavel pelo facto de que o anno de 1897 era o primeiro em que a exportação destes productos attingiu á somma de \$1,000,000. No anno de 1890 o valor total da exportação de trilhos

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de aço foi de \$315,000; em 1896 foi de só \$540,000; em 1897, \$2,500,000; em 1898, \$4,500,000; no anno fiscal de 1899, \$5,250,000, e no anno commum de 1900 a exportação é calculada em \$12,000,000. Desta quantia, cerca de \$1,000,000 representam o valor da exportação para a Europa; a exportação para o Mexico foi no valor de \$1,000,000; para a America do Sul, \$2,000,000; \$4,000,000 para a America britannica, e \$2,000,000 para a Asia e a Oceania.

Em grande numero dos casos as locomotivas americanas acompanham os trilhos de aço, e se calcula que a exportação destas durante o anno subirá a \$5,000,000. Calcula-se que a exportação de carros para estradas de ferro e *tramsways* attingirá á somma de \$4,000,000 durante o anno. Si se junta a estas sommas o valor das machinas electricas eapparelhos telegraphicos e telephonicos que se exportaram durante o anno, ver-se-ha que, para a construcção e exploração de estrados de ferro fóra dos Estados Unidos, os fabricantes do paiz teem supprido material no valor de \$25,000,000.

C FEIJÃO SOY OU SOJA COMO FORRAGEM.

O Professor THOMAS SHAW, uma das autoridades mais notaveis deste paiz em agricultura, especialmente no que se refere á alimentação do gado, professor no Collegio Agricola do Estado de Minnesota, tem publicado uma interessante obra sob o titulo de "Soiling Crops and the Silo" (Pastos verdes e o Silo). Nella faz referencia ao feijão chamado *Soy* ou *Soja* como alimento para o gado.

O dito feijão é uma planta annual que sob condições favoraveis alcança uma altura mais ou menos de quatro pés. Como forragem para o gado vaccum e suino é excellente e provavelmente tenha de dar eguaes resultados na manutenção do gado cavallar e ovino, ainda que até agora as experiencias que se teem feito neste sentido não são bastante para formar-se um juizo exacto. Como pasto verde é excelente para as vaccas leiteiras, assim como a fava moída e misturada com outro alimento. Com excepção do amendoim, talvez não exista outro producto vegetal que contenha em tão alta proporção substancias que em uma forma tão digerivel sirvam para fortalecer os ossos do gado e ao mesmo tempo engordal-o.

O rendimento da colheita varia segundo as condições do terreno, porém, pode dizer-se no geral que em terra ordinaria o producto pode estimar-se de 10 a 15 toneladas por geira. Esta planta, como producto alimenticio para o gado, deve considerar-se mais bem por sua riqueza que por sua quantidade. Não dá os mesmos resultados nas latitudes septentrionaes, nem nas mais ao sul, alcançando seu melhor exito ao sul do paralelo 40° latitude norte. Quasi todos os terrenos dos campos abertos são excellentes para seu cultivo, que tambem é frondoso nos terrenos em que se dá bem o milho. Pode cultivar-se com exito ainda nos terrenos em que não cresce o trifolio.

Como este feijão é semeado com frequencia com o objecto de cortar-o verde, deve usar-se a cultivadora e a grade depois de haver lavrado o terreno. Quando a intenção é aguardar a completa maduração da planta, então o arado não é tão necessario, mas a superficie do terreno deve emparelhar-se e pulverizar-se para receber a semente. Quando é destinado para forragem, o modo de semeal-o que dá melhores resultados é o systema de regos, para o qual pode empregar-se o semeador de milho ou de qualquer outro cereal. A distancia entre os regos depende da qualidade do terreno, a classe da semente e da epocha em que se verifica a sementeira, variando a distancia por termo médio a 30 pollegadas, entre um maximum de 40 e um minimum de 24 pollegadas. Quando a sementeira se faz para recolher a semente, a distancia entre regos deve ser maior que quando é para alimento verde ou secco. O feijão não deve ser semeado antes de que a estação do calor tenha entrado bem, e nos Estados Unidos a sementeira pode continuar-se enquanto haja probabilidades de que madure o grão antes de que cheguem as primeiras geadas. No Estado de Kamsas, por exemplo, têm madurado antes das geadas, sementeiras feitas sobre terrenos em que no mez de Julho se finha colhido o trigo.

Quando a superficie do terreno não esteja exposta á acção dos ventos que podem arrastar a terra, deve usar-se a grade antes e depois da sementeira a menos que o terreno seja bastante humido. A planta cresce com grande rapidez.

Quando a sementeira se tem feito com o objecto de recolher a fava se pode cortar com uma ceifeira de ancinho. Quando esta ha de usar-se como alimento, deve cortar-se quando a planta começa a florescer e seguir o corte até que já esteja proxima a passar-se. Quando se tenha de usar a planta secca, deve cortar-se no momento em que estão meio crescidos os fructos, pois si se deixa para mais tarde se caem as folhas e se endurecem as hastes. Vale mais cortar a planta verde que aguardar até que se amadureça. O systema empregado na alimentação do gado é o mesmo que se segue com o ervanço.

A COLHEITA DOS CEREAEs EM 1900.

A Secção de Estatisticas do Departamento da Agricultura calcula em 522,229,505 alqueires a colheita de trigo dos Estados Unidos em 1900. A area semeada de trigo foi de 42,495,385 geiras, sendo a produção média por geira de 12.29 alqueires. A produção de trigo de inverno é calculada em 350,025,409 alqueires e a de trigo de primavera em 172,204,096 alqueires. A area semeada de trigo de inverno no anno passado foi de 26,235,897 geiras, e a semeada de trigo de primavera de 16,259,488 geiras.

A area semeada de trigo de inverno em 1900 é calculada em 30,282,564 geiras. Ainda que esta area é um pouco mais extensiva que a semeada no outono de 1899, é todavia 600,654 geiras menos que a area realmente

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plantada, sendo essa differença devida ás areas semeadas de trigo de inverno no Estado de Nebraska, que os informes do Departamento deixaram de notar. A condição média da colheita de trigo em 1º de Dezembro foi de 97.1 por cento.

A produção de milho em 1900 é calculada em 2,105,102,516 alqueires; e a de aveia em 809,125,989 alqueires; cevada, 58,925,833 alqueires; centeio, 23,995,927 alqueires; trigo mourisco, 9,566,966 alqueires; batatas, 210,926,897 alqueires; feno, 50,110,906 toneladas. A area semeada destas colheitas foi como se segue: milho, 83,320,872 geiras; aveia, 27,364,795 geiras; cevada, 2,894,795 geiras; centeio, 1,591,326 geiras; trigo mourisco, 637,930 geiras; batatas, 2,611,054 geiras; feno, 39,132,890 geiras. A colheita de milho foi uma das quatro maiores que jamais se tem colhido, ao passo que a de aveia só uma vez tem sido sobrepujada. Por outro lado, as colheitas de cevada e centeio são as mais pequenas, com uma só excepção, que se tem realizado desde 1887; a colheita de trigo mourisco é a mais pequena havida desde 1883, e a colheita de feno, com uma excepção, a mais pequena desde 1888.

COLHEITA DE ALGODÃO DE 1900-1901.

A Secção de Estatísticas do Departamento da Agricultura calcula em 10,100,000 fardos a produção de algodão dos Estados Unidos para 1900-1901. Para fazer a estimativa da produção, seguiram-se os mesmos methodos que se empregaram o anno passado. Informações foram recebidas pela primeira vez de milhares de descaroçadores de algodão. A produção por geira é calculada assim: Virginia, 180 toneladas; Carolina do Norte, 139; Carolina do Sul, 157; Mississippi, 159; Louisiana, 234; Texas, 226; Arkansas, 223; Tennessee, 177; Missouri, 275; Oklahoma, 318; Territorio Indiano, 289. O numero de geiras semeadas é calculada em 25,034,734.

COMMERCIO DAS PHILIPPINAS.

A Divisão de Negocios Insulares do Departamento da Guerra acaba de publicar um summario do commercio das illas Philippinas durante os onze mezes que terminaram o 31 de Maio de 1900. O valor das mercadorias importadas durante o periodo em referencia alcançou a \$18,390,698 e o ouro e a prata a \$1,806,340, o que arroja uma importação total de \$20,196,938. O valor total do commercio de importação com os Estados Unidos chegou á cifra de \$1,450,807.

O valor das exportações durante o mesmo periodo subiu a \$19,459,003, dos quaes \$17,634,391 correspondem ás mercadorias exportadas e \$1,824,612 á prata. O valor das exportações aos Estados Unidos foi de \$3,594,577. Durante o mesmo periodo o total das exportações de canhamo de Manilha foi de 69,644 toneladas, avaliadas em \$10,582,173, de cuja somma correspondeu aos Estados Unidos a quantia de \$3,405,808.

CABO NAS PHILIPPINAS.

Dentro de pouco ficará estabelecido a communicação por cabo entre diferentes ilhas do archipelago Philippino. Segundo informações, o vapor *Burnside* sahi ha pouco da Ilha da Danuguete, com o objecto de collocar 600 milhas de cabo.

GUATEMALA.**NOVA LEI MINEIRA.**

“El Guatemalteco,” órgão official do Governo de Guatemala, em seu numero correspondente a 19 de Novembro de 1900, publica a importante lei mineira que foi promulgada pelo Presidente daquela Republica no dia 12 de Novembro proximo passado. A industria mineira de Guatemala é um ramo da riqueza natural do paiz que offerece vantagens excepcionaes para o emprego de capital. Com o objecto de proteger e fomentar essa industria, a Assembleia Legislativa Nacional decretou a seguinte lei:

ARTIGO 1º. Nenhuma pessoa poderá titular em nome proprio mais de uma mina.

ART. 2º. As sociedades compostas de tres ou mais pessoas poderão obter concessão para beneficiar até tres minas.

ART. 3º. Com as limitações que estabelece a lei vigente, os actuaes proprietarios de minas, já tituladas a seu favor, conservarão os direitos que honvessẽm adquirido.

ART. 4º. Ficam em vigor as demais disposições legaes que existem sobre a materia, sempre que não se opponham á presente.

ESTRADA DE FERRO DO NORTE.

O Presidente da Republica de Guatemala, Senhor MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA, enviou á Assembleia Legislativa no dia 3 de Dezembro de 1900, uma mensagem com referencia á Estrada de Ferro do Norte. Diz o Senhor Presidente que a conclusão dessa estrada será um acontecimento de grande importancia no desenvolvimento do paiz. Submette á consideração do Congresso um contracto para a construcção desse importante caminho de ferro, que, fallando commercialmente, é um emprehendimento do maior interesse e que liga-se intimamente com o progresso material e o bem-estar da Republica. Quando fór concluida e aberta ao trafego essa estrada, porá a região septentrional de Guatemala em communicação directa com as principaes nações commerciaes do mundo.

O contracto a que se refere a mensagem foi celebrado com o Senhor RICHARD BARTHEL, representante da “The Central American Company, Incorporated.” Segundo os termos deste contracto, a estrada

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de ferro tem de ser construída de "El Rancho," o seu actual ponto terminal, até a cidade de Guatemala, n'uma distancia de cerca de 60 milhas. Para custear a construção o Governo de Guatemala propõe-se a emittir a quantia de \$4,000,000 em apolices de 6 por cento, ouro, resgataveis dentro de dez annos contados da data da assignatura do contracto. Ao fim do prazo de dez annos, a estrada de ferro, com todo o material rodante, reverterá ao Governo de Guatemala.

IMPORTAÇÕES ESTRANGEIRAS.

Senhor WOLTERS, Encarregado de Negocios da Belgica em Guatemala, em um relatório que dirigiu ao seu Governo, diz que os principaes artigos importados por Guatemala são, primeiro, as fazendas de algodão que são usadas principalmente pelos indios e pelas classes menos abastadas da população. Seguem-lhes em importancia as importações de materiaes de estradas de ferro, materiaes telegraphicos e electricos, fazendas de lã, farinha de trigo, materiaes de construção, manufacturas de ferro, conservas em latas, drogas e remedios, cerveja, machinas, papel, folhas de ferro para telhados, artigos de couro, obras de vidro, louça, terra-cotta, etc.

As fazendas de algodão vêm em sua maior parte da Inglaterra, mas importam-se estas tambem da Allemanha, os Estados Unidos e a França.

Os materiaes de estradas de ferro e apparatus telegraphicos e electricos são importados principalmente dos Estados Unidos, Inglaterra e Allemanha.

As fazendas de lã vem da França, Allemanha, Inglaterra e Suissa. Quasi toda a farinha importada vem dos Estados Unidos, assim como os materiaes de construção.

As manufacturas de ferro são enviadas pela Allemanha e a Inglaterra.

As conservas em latas são importadas em sua maior parte dos Estados Unidos, Allemanha e França. A Hespanha, Italia e Inglaterra tambem contribuem a esta importação.

Os vinhos e licores importados procedem em maior parte da França. Porém, os vinhos da Hespanha, California, Italia e Allemanha tambem figuram em grande escala nesta importação. Quasi a metade das aguardentes importadas vêm da França; o restante procede dos Estados Unidos, Hespanha, Allemanha, Inglaterra e Italia.

Importam-se as sedas da França, os Estados Unidos, Inglaterra, Allemanha, Japão, China e Italia.

As drogas e remedios vêm dos Estados Unidos, França, Allemanha e Inglaterra.

A cerveja vem principalmente da Allemanha e dos Estados Unidos. A Inglaterra tambem envia uma quantidade consideravel.

As machinas são importadas dos Estados Unidos, da Allemanha, Inglaterra e França.

O papel vem em sua maior parte da Alemanha e França. Os Estados Unidos, Hespanha, Inglaterra e Italia tambem enviam papel em pequenas quantidades.

Folha de ferro para telhados é importada principalmente da Inglaterra e Alemanha. França e os Estados Unidos tambem figuram em pequena escala na importação deste artigo.

Os artigos de couro vêm quasi em sua totalidade de fabricas allemãs, norte-americanas, inglezas e francezas.

Da Alemanha, Belgica, França e os Estados Unidos são importadas as obras de vidro, louça e terra-cotta.

HONDURAS.

PAVILHÃO DE HONDURAS EM BUFFALO.

Principiou-se ultimamente a construcção do pavilhão de Honduras em que aquella Republica realizará uma exposição que lhe fará honra como membro da Pan-America. O edificio será construido na rua destinado aos edificios dos Estados e Nações estrangeiras. O plano do edificio tem uma rotunda octogona cercada de porticos ou alpendres a tres lados e de pavilhões a quatro lados, tendo ao outro lado cozinhas e salas de toucador. A rotunda central e dous dos pavilhões são destinados á exhibição dos productos do paiz. Os outros dous pavilhões terão um café e gabinetes de trabalho para os commissarios. Uma escadaria vai do pavimento terreo a uma galeria que cerca a rotunda e que recebe a luz por claraboias e trapeiras. Quatro grandes portas de forma circular dão entrada para a rotunda. Os porticos são bem protegidos e offerecerão ao visitante cansado agradavel lugar de repouso. O edificio será construido no estylo hispano-americano, sendo as decorações no estylo classico. O teeto será construido de telhas hespanholas e o exterior do edificio será coberto de uma camada de "staff." O architecto do edificio é o Senhor CHARLES INSCO WILLIAMS, de Dayton, Ohio, e Honduras.

MEXICO.

RECEITA E DESPEZA EM 1899-1900.

O BOLETIM MENSAL correspondente ao mez de Outubro de 1900 fez referencia as finanças do Mexico e deu a receita approximada da nação para o anno financeiro de 1899-1900, fazendo notar naquella occasião que a despesa ainda não foi determinada. O "Diario Oficial," da cidade de Mexico, acaba de publicar os dados estatisticos officiaes correspondentes ao anno economico de 1899-1900, pelos quaes se vê que a

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receita total daquella Republica foi de \$64,261,076.39 e a despeza de \$57,944,687.85, o que deixa um excesso de receitas sobre despezas de \$6,316,388.54. A receita extraordinaria do Governo, inclusive a quantia paga pelo Governo dos Estados Unidos em liquidação da reclamação mineira de Abra, foi de \$720,477.11. Comparando estes algarismos com os correspondentes aos cinco annos anteriores, se vê que o excesso das receitas sobre as despezas tem fluctuado consideravelmente, tal excesso sendo o maior em 1898-99 e o menor em 1897-98.

COMMERCIO ESTRANGEIRO.

Segundo estatisticas publicadas pela Repartição de Estatisticas da Republica do Mexico, o commercio estrangeiro daquelle paiz no primeiro trimestre do exercicio de 1900-1901, correspondente aos mezes de Julho, Agosto e Setembro, foi como se segue:

Importações, \$13,965,793.38 ouro, comparados com \$12,797,434 ouro no mesmo periodo de 1899. O valor das importações é dado em ouro, como fica consignado nas facturas. O Mexico importou dos Estados Unidos no periodo de que se trata mercadorias no valor de \$6,562,113.93, prata mexicana, contra \$6,266,409 no mesmo periodo de 1899, e exportou para os Estados Unidos productos no valor de \$29,537,986.24, prata mexicana, contra \$25,187,680 no mesmo periodo do anno anterior.

A maior parte das importações effectuaram-se pelos portos do Golfo do Mexico, sendo de mais de \$9,000,000, prata mexicana, o valor desta importação, ao passo que as importações feitas pelas alfandegas da fronteira septentrional foram no valor de mais de \$4,000,000 prata. As exportações effectuadas pelos portos do Golfo no periodo de que se trata montaram a \$22,000,000 e as feitas pelas alfandegas da fronteira a \$4,000,000.

ORÇAMENTO PARA O EXERCICIO DE 1901-1902.

O Ministro da Fazenda, o Senhor JOSÉ IVES LIMANTOUR, apresentou ao Congresso Nacional, no dia 14 de Dezembro de 1900, o projecto do orçamento para o exercicio de 1901-1902.

Neste relatorio a receita para o exercicio é orçada em \$61,694,000 e a despeza fixada em \$61,577,990.24, o que deixa um saldo de \$116,009.76. As importações, que em 1897-98 montaram a \$97,000,000, ascenderam a \$107,000,000 em 1898-99. As exportações em 1898-99 foram de \$148,000,000, contra \$137,000,000 em 1897-98. No exercicio financeiro de 1899-1900 as importações attingiram á enorme somma de \$129,000,000, o qual mostra um augmento de \$22,000,000 sobre as do anno anterior. As exportações em 1899-1900 foram de \$158,000,000, ou de \$10,000,000 mais que as do anno anterior. As exportações dividem-se em duas classes: (1) os metaes preciosos, no valor de \$79,200,000, e (2) os demais artigos, no valor de \$79,000,000.

A exportação de pesos mexicanos effectuada desde Julho a Outubro de 1900, inclusive, pelas alfandegas de Ciudad Juarez, Vera Cruz, Mazatlan, Progreso, Nogales e Laredo foi de \$10,600,000, o que é um augmento de \$8,600,000 sobre a exportação deste artigo durante equal periodo do anno anterior. A moeda cunhada durante os referidos mezes de 1900 montou a \$5,184,534, o que é \$1,200,000 menos que a cunhada nos mesmos mezes de 1899.

A quantia de prata em deposito nos bancos da Republica durante os primeiros dez mezes do anno de 1900 tem oscillado entre \$50,000,000 e \$57,000,000, devendo-se essa fluctuação a diversas causas, taes como a escassez de moedas miudas e ás reduzidas entradas de prata em barra nas casas de moeda da nação. Essa diminuição nas entradas não foi devido a uma redução na producção das minas, ainda que o augmento na producção de prata não foi tão notavel como em annos anteriores, mas aos estabelecimentos metallurgicos do paiz que fazem diminuir a producção das officinas de fundição menores que empregam methodos antiquados. As grandes officinas de fundição, estando situadas proximas á fronteira ou á costa, exportam seus productos directamente. Duas causas tem influenciado substancialmente a exportação de pesos de prata. Uma é a grande procura desta moeda na Asia como resultado da guerra chinesa, e a outra é a alta havida no valor da prata como resultado do consumo deste metal na India.

Os direitos de importação para 1899-1900 attingiram a \$27,696,979, e os para 1901-2 são orçados em \$26,000,000. Os direitos de exportação para 1901-2 são orçados em \$691,000. A receita proveniente de impostos sobre o commercio estrangeiro de todas as fontes é orçada em \$28,016,000; receita proveniente de sellos e outros impostos, \$26,024,000; impostos no Districto Federal e Territorios, \$3,288,000; receita do serviço publico e de outras fontes, \$4,366,000, ou um total de \$61,694,000.

SALVADOR.

FACTURAS CONSULARES.

Em data de 2 de Novembro de 1900, o Presidente da Republica do São Salvador modificou o decreto de 20 de Outubro do mesmo anno pelo additamento dos seguintes artigos:

4°. Os consules do Salvador cobrarão cinco pesos ouro pelos manifestos que visarem de toda carga que se destiue a nossos portos e que não atravesse o Isthmo de Panamá.

5°. Si a referida carga fosse baldeada em algum dos portos do Pacifico, não necessitará trazer, desde o porto de embarque, os manifestos visados; pois o consul do Salvador no porto onde se effectua a baldeação visará as quatro vias do respectivo manifesto, cobrando por este serviço dez pesos em prata.

6°. Os consules do Salvador, em qualquer porto latino-americano de que se embarque carga dirigida a este paiz e que não atravesse o Isthmo de Panamá, cobrarão igualmente dez pesos prata, por visar visarem os manifestos antes expressados.

CENTRO DE AGRICULTURA.

O numero do "Bulletin of Agriculture of the Republic of Salvador," de São Salvador, correspondente ao mez de Dezembro de 1900, contem um decreto auctorisando o estabelecimento na capital da nação de um Centro de Agricultura, que terá a seu cargo a execução das disposições do Código de Agricultura a respeito do fomento e desenvolvimento desse importante ramo da riqueza nacional.

NOVO IMPOSTO.

A Republica do Salvador tem decretado um imposto de tres pesos prata sobre cada 100 kilogrammas de mercadorias que se importam no paiz, com excepção dos seguintes artigos que são isentos: machinas a vapor, machinas e apparatus hydraulicos e agricolas, tambores de ferro para balsamos, filtros de todas as classes, pelles de coelho e outras pelles para chapéos, teares de todas as classes, tinta lithographica e de imprensa e giz para o uso das escolas. Esse imposto é temporario, tendo sido decretado para obter os meios para a amortização da divida consolidada e fluctuante.

Outro decreto do Presidente isenta do pagamento de direitos de exportação e de impostos municipaes por um periodo de dez annos madeiras de lei e de tinturaria de todas as classes, tabaco, assucar, batatas, arroz, milho, feijão, cereaes, desperdicios que contem ouro, prata, cobre, etc., com o objecto de fomentar e favorecer as industrias agricolas, manufactureiras e mineiras do paiz, que constituem a principal riqueza nacional.

DIVIDA ESTRANGEIRA.

Segundo um periodico da Republica, foram incineradas no Palacio da Justiça durante o mez de Novembro de 1900 apolices da divida contrahida com a Inglaterra em 1889 e 1892, no valor de £716,860.

PERU.

COMMERCIO PARA O ANNO DE 1899.

Segundo dados estatisticos publicados pelo Governo do Peru, o commercio estrangeiro daquelle paiz no anno de 1899 alcançou a 54,854,494.59 *soles*. As importações montaram a 21,230,183.10 *soles*, e as exportações a 33,615,311.49 *soles*. O commercio de cabotagem durante o anno (exclusive o de Iquitos) foi de 25,916,919.28 *soles*, o que faz o commercio total da Republica subir a 80,762,413.87 *soles*.

As importações de 1899 foram de 562,323.42 *soles* menos que as de 1898, como se vê da seguinte tabella, que mostra os principaes artigos importados com seus valores expressados em *soles*:

Artigos.	1898.	1899.
	<i>Soles.</i>	<i>Soles.</i>
Fazendas de algodão	4,067,668.82	3,770,317.57
Fazendas de lã	1,376,643.32	1,451,361.36
Fazendas de linho	250,128.23	223,073.42
Tecidos de seda	293,509.55	232,533.66
Movéis, etc	1,273,244.28	1,324,480.95
Ferragens, etc	8,456,067.90	7,988,644.22
Provisões de bocca, etc	2,261,453.65	2,380,950.21
Vinhos e licôres	509,758.69	365,856.57
Productos chmicos e medicinaes	799,797.69	927,720.62
Importações por Iquitos		2,495,244.39
Total	19,297,272.13	21,230,183.10

Dá-se em seguida um quadro demonstrativo das procedencias e dos valores das importações:

Paizes.	1898.	1899.	Paizes.	1898.	1899.
	<i>Soles.</i>	<i>Soles.</i>		<i>Soles.</i>	<i>Soles.</i>
Allemanha	3,401,887.91	3,451,516.01	Hespanha	155,941.28	146,621.68
Argentina	115.20	370.20	Estados Unidos	2,078,376.42	2,183,109.90
Austria	805.62	425.25	França	1,554,004.61	1,733,951.87
Belgica	600,393.90	591,919.11	Inglaterra	8,632,771.19	7,571,151.30
Bolivia	82,543.19	52,133.19	Italia	661,694.55	766,332.04
Brazil	146.16		Japão		3,094.50
America Central	73,166.01	49,186.25	Mexico	19,876.36	
Colombia	9,245.89	29,704.39	Portugal	150.00	885.80
Cuba		3,358.71	Suisssa	577.50	
Chile	1,368,630.44	1,523,636.80	Uruguay	28,447.71	10,139.51
China	526,649.25	634,415.65	Total	19,297,272.13	18,734,948.71
Equador	101,978.84	81,276.55			

As exportações da Republica durante o anno financeiro de 1899, exclusive das effectuadas pelo porto de Iquitos, montaram a 30,725,910.99 *soles*, o que mostra um augmento sobre as de 1898 de 451,135 *soles*. Dá-se em seguida um quadro comparativo das exportações de 1899 e 1898:

Paizes.	1899.	1898.	Paizes.	1899.	1898.
	<i>Soles.</i>	<i>Soles.</i>		<i>Soles.</i>	<i>Soles.</i>
Inglaterra	14,854,540.12	17,153,939.97	Hespanha	29,903.07	40,042.35
Estados Unidos	5,146,531.62	2,873,526.01	Mexico	7,533.00	31,573.20
Chile	4,940,373.97	4,588,479.28	Cuba	4,757.50	
Allemanha	3,337,231.28	2,763,772.79	America Central	2,597.00	19,978.20
França	799,626.00	820,952.25	Japão	259.17	
Bolivia	626,066.84	628,926.57	Argentina	225.00	8,500.00
Colombia	390,139.78	441,944.38	China	150.80	30,232.10
Equador	335,416.00	892,006.07	Uruguay	19.00	1,041.43
Belgica	197,379.08	12,065.21	Total	30,725,910.99	30,274,775.89
Italia	33,162.76	27,819.99			

Ver-se-ha destas cifras que ao passo que as exportações para a Inglaterra em 1899 foram de 2,299,399.85 *soles* menos que as de 1898, as exportações para os Estados Unidos em 1899 foram de 2,273,005.61 *soles* mais que as de 1898. Houve tambem um augmento notavel nas exportações para a Allemanha, Chile e Belgica, comparadas com as de 1898.

Os principais artigos exportados pelo Peru durante o anno de 1899 foram, segundo a classificação peruana, os seguintes: mineraes, 10,677,013 *soles*; assucar, 10,103,519; lã, 3,118,976, e algodão, 1,787,478 *soles*. Estes algarismos, comparados com os de 1898, mostram um augmento nas exportações de mineraes e assucar de 1,000,000 e 882,000 *soles*, respectivamente, e uma diminuição nas exportações de algodão, de 682,000 *soles*. As rendas aduaneiras cobradas na Republica, exclusive das da alfandega de Iquitos, montaram a 6,210,898 *soles*.

URUGUAY.

DESENVOLVIMENTO AGRICOLA.

Segundo um artigo intitulado "Corn Statistics" e publicado em um dos periodicos de Montevideo dedicados á agricultura e industrias comexas, a extensão da area sob cultivo de milho no anno de 1899-1900 foi de 134,254 hectares, ou cerca de 7.5 por cento do territorio do paiz. A colheita é calculada em 75,661 toneladas metricas, sendo a produção média de 528 kilogrammas por hectare. A quantidade de sementes de milho semeadas durante o anno foi de 1,689 kilogrammas. Não obstante o estado favoravel dessa cultura, a colheita foi inferior á média do anno anterior.

A mesma publicação contem informações relativas ao vinhêdo denominado "Chacaclara," a qual abrange uma area de 60 hectares. Trinta e um hectares desta vinha são plantados de videiras que produziram em 1898 20,000 litros de vinho da qualidade conhecida com o nome de "Harrealua," e 33,000 litros do vinho "Vidiella," e 12,000 litros dos bons vinhos denominados "Cabernet" e "Gamay." Em 1899, além das 35,000 videiras americanas que já estavam em produção, foram plantadas mais 30,000 estacas de selectas videiras americanas. A vindima em 1900 foi de 142,500 kilogrammas.

PRODUCCÃO DE OURO E DE PRATA NO MUNDO.

Segundo o informe do Director da Casa da Moeda dos Estados Unidos, a produção total de ouro no mundo em 1899 foi de \$306,584,900, e a de prata de \$100,321,100. A produção de ouro dos Estados Unidos foi de \$71,053,400, e a de prata de \$32,858,700, ou quasi um terço da produção total. O Director diz que, si não tivesse rompido a guerra no Transvaal, a produção de ouro teria sido \$25,000,000 mais. O Mexico occupa o primeiro lugar na produção de prata e este paiz e os Estados Unidos juntos produzem dous terços da produção de prata do mundo. A quantidade de ouro que se consome nas industrias do mundo é calculada em \$72,658,400, e a de prata em

§24,595,600. A produção de ouro e de prata nos principaes paizes productores foi distribuida no anno passado como segue:

Paizes.	Ouro.	Prata.	Paizes.	Ouro.	Prata.
Estados Unidos.....	\$71,053,400	\$32,858,700	Russia.....	\$22,167,100	\$80,900
Mexico.....	8,500,000	33,367,300	Allemanha.....	71,200	3,715,200
Canada e Terra Nova.	21,331,300	2,017,000	Bolivia.....	68,500	6,500,400
Africa.....	73,227,100	.....	China.....	5,574,100	.....
Australasia.....	79,321,600	7,612,000	India.....	8,517,500	.....

RELAÇÃO COMPARATIVA DO COMMERCIO DO MUNDO.

A Secção de Estatisticas do Departamento do Thesouro dos Estados Unidos está preparando um compendio estatistico da importação e exportação de todos os paizes que publicam estatisticas do seu commercio. O intuito da Secção de Estatisticas é preparar um quadro comparativo do commercio do mundo, não sómente de hoje, mas durante muitos annos atraz, sendo empregadas as medidas de valor e quantidade que prevalecem nos Estados Unidos.

Esta é a primeira vez que uma obra desta natureza tem sido emprendida e será uma contribuição importante á historia commercial. O primeiro capitulo demonstra a exportação e a importação por anno de quarenta e sete nações, desde os primeiros annos de que ha recorde até o presente. O segundo capitulo especificará os artigos exportados e importados e os diferentes paizes a que foi distribuido o commercio de cada nação.

O importante lugar que occupam os Estados Unidos entre as nações commerciaes do mundo e o enorme desenvolvimento do seu commercio estrangeiro não sómente darão muita satisfação a todos os cidadãos patrioticos mas tambem lhes causarão grande admiração. A comparação das estatisticas do commercio dos Estados Unidos com as dos Governos da Grã Bretanha, França e Allemanha é, na verdade, assombrosa. O seguinte quadro mostra o desenvolvimento do commercio estrangeiro da Grã Bretanha e dos Estados Unidos durante o seculo:

Paizes.	Importação.			Exportação.		
	1800.	1899.	Por cento do augmento.	1800.	1899.	Por cento do augmento.
Grã Bretanha.....	\$81,310,000	£2,013,896,450	2,400	\$111,107,000	\$1,287,151,345	1,09
Estados Unidos.....	52,121,891	685,411,892	1,215	31,810,903	1,203,931,222	3,684

A tabella 1ª demonstra quanto mais capacidade tem o povo dos Estados Unidos para supprir suas necessidades que o da Grã Bretanha. As importações dos Estados Unidos em 1800 foram quasi dous terços das da Grã Bretanha, ao passo que no fim do seculo são menos que um terço destas. Ao mesmo tempo as exportações dos Estados Unidos

tem augmentado tres vezes mais rapidamente que as da Grã Bretanha. Ainda que em 1899 as exportações dos Estados Unidos foram de \$80,000,000 menos que as da Grã Bretanha, em 1900 os Estados Unidos sobrepujaram a Grã Bretanha, com um total de \$1,394,483,082, dos quaes \$493,851,756 representam artigos manufacturados em que os dous paizes fazem concorrência.

No quadro seguinte vêm-se comparadas as importações e exportações da França e dos Estados Unidos em 1831 (o primeiro anno de que se pode obter estatísticas na França) e em 1899:

Paizes.	Importação.			Exportação.		
	1831.	1899.	Por cento do augmento.	1831.	1899.	Por cento do augmento.
França.....	\$72,182,000	\$872,032,000	1,108	\$88,088,000	\$801,452,000	810
Estados Unidos	82,008,110	685,411,899	721	59,218,683	1,203,931,222	1,933

Ver-se-ha destes quadros que ao passo que os Estados Unidos tem andado a passo com a Grã Bretanha, tem sobrepujado a França, mesmo na produção de artigos necessitados por seus proprios habitantes. É impressão geral que os francezes excedem todas as outras nacionalidades no supprimento de artigos de necessidade e de luxo, mas estes algarismos demonstram que sua dependencia de nações estrangeiras tem sido augmentando de anno a anno e que o balanço do commercio não está hoje em seu favor.

A comparação com o Imperio da Allemanha não pode estender atraz do seu estabelecimento em 1872, mas os algarismos correspondentes a este anno são muito interessantes, como se pode ver do quadro seguinte:

Paizes.	Importação.			Exportação.		
	1872.	1899.	Por cento do augmento.	1872.	1899.	Por cento do augmento.
Allemanha	\$793,726,000	\$1,304,977,000	61	\$564,165,000	\$801,452,000	42
Estados Unidos	560,119,034	685,411,892	21	425,487,131	1,203,931,222	81

No caso da Austria-Hungria a comparação começa com o anno de 1860; Belgica, com o anno de 1831; França, 1831; Allemanha, 1872; Italia, 1861; os Paizes Baixos, 1860; Russia, 1861; Hespanha, 1860; Noruega, 1860; Succia, 1860; Canadá, 1851; Mexico, 1873; a Republica Argentina, 1870; Chile, 1860; China, 1868; Japão, 1874; India, 1851; Australia, 1851; Egypto, 1874, e Cabo da Boa Esperança e Natal, 1851. Os capitulos subsequentes darão uma descripção detallada do commercio de cada um destes paizes. Um facto de interesse especial revelado do estudo destes quadros comparativos é que os Estados Unidos tem um balanço de commercio favoravel maior numero de vezes que qualquer outro paiz. Dos quarenta e sete paizes comprehendidos nesta comparação, dezoito mostram um excesso de exporta-

ções sobre importações e vinte e nove um excesso de importações sobre exportações. Os principaes paizes que mostram um excesso de exportações sobre importações são Canadá, Mexico, a Republica Argentina, Chile, Australasia, India, Egypto, Hespanha, Austria-Hungria e Russia. Nenhum dos dezoito paizes cujas exportações excedam as importações mostram um balanço de commercio igual ao de que gozam os Estados Unidos. O total do excesso das exportações nos dezoito paizes que tem tal excesso é de só \$414,845,000, ao passo que o excesso das exportações dos Estados Unidos em 1900 foi de \$544,542,131.

PÓ DE CARVÃO COMO COMBUSTIVEL.

O BOLETIM MENSAL, em seu numero correspondente a Novembro de 1900 (pagina 1051) contem um artigo sobre "Tijolos de Pó de Carvão" e uma descripção do processo seguido na sua fabricaçã em Chicago. Um periodico de Philadelphia noticiou ultimamente a invenção de um apparelho para queimar pó de carvão como pó e não na forma de tijolos. Devido á greve dos mineiros de carvão anthracite que realisou-se nos ultimos mezes de 1900 e a consequent falta deste carvão, os operadores de installações a vapor nos Estados Unidos tem feito muitas experiencias com outros combustiveis. É um facto bem conhecido que o carvão bituminoso produz tanto fumo que o seu uso tem sido prohibido por grande numero de municipalidades. Por consequente, os fabricantes que usam grandes quantidades de combustivel começaram a fazer experiencias e descobriram um apparelho em que se pode empregar como combustivel o pó de carvão.

Diz-se que a Estrada de Ferro Central de Illinois fez experiencias com esta machina durante uma semana e affirmou que o carvão pulverizado por este processo foi o mais barato e o melhor combustivel que se pode obter, e ao mesmo tempo, não produz fumo. O carvão é reduzido por este apparelho a um pó tão fino como a farinha de trigo, o qual é lançado em um queimador especial onde queima como gaz. Diz-se que a combustão é perfeita e quasi instantanea e que a quantidade de ar com que é necessario misturar o pó é facilmente determinada e registrada. A analyse volumetrica do gaz escapado indica que a maior eficiencia possivel no uso do carvão é obtida por este processo. Outro factor em favor do novo apparelho é que pode ser accommodado a muito pouco custo a qualquer typo de caldeira.

Na preparaçã do pó, o carvão no mesmo estado como vem da mina é lançado em uma enorme tremonha de onde passa por um tritador. Si o carvão é humido, é passado primeiro por uma machina de secar e depois por um pulverisador. Depois de triturado o pó é levado para um separador, onde ventiladores giratorios separam as particulas finas das mais grossas, sendo estas lançadas outra vez no pulverisador.

Si este processo tem as vantagens que os seus inventores pretendem, não só permittirá aos exploradores de minas dispor de muito carvão que hoje fica como desperdícios, mas dará em resultado um augmento consideravel nos salarios dos mineiros que hoje são pagos sómente para o carvão que se pode usar nos fornos.

CONSERVAÇÃO DE FRUCTAS TROPICAES.

O processo de conservação de fructas que se está introduzindo agora nas Antilhas e na America Central tem sido já por muitos annos experimentado com exito nos paizes da Australasia. O novo processo é o de evaporação, que é superior a todos os outros processos, recom-mendando-se especialmente pela rapidez com que effectua a conservação e pela absoluta limpeza do producto. Exigem-se sómente cinco ou seis horas para tornar a fructa fresca em producto que se pode con-servar por muitos annos e que tem todo o seu sabor primitivo.

O processo de evaporação tem sido applicado com grande exito ás bananas e outras fructas nos paizes da America Central, e hoje ha nos mercados grande variedade de productos preparados por este pro-cesso. Como as machinas empregadas são simples e o preço das fructas nestes paizes é baratissimo. é possivel preparar estes productos para o mercado a pouco custo. Entre outros productos tropicaes, tem-se feito experiencias com a mandioca e a okra (*Hibiscus esculentus*), com o resultado que o artigo evaporado retem todo seu valor nutritivo.

Diz-se que se está exportando de São Thomé, Guatemala, grande quantidade de fructa evaporada com destino ao exercito britannico e que o Governo de Jamaica toma grande interesse neste commercio. Crê-se que, com a perfeição deste processo, o commercio de fructas tropicaes soffrerá uma revolução.

O TABACO NA EXPOSIÇÃO PAN-AMERICANA DE BUFFALO.

O tabaco é reconhecido hoje officialmente como uma produção importante de trinta e tres dos Estados e Territorios dos Estados Unidos e de todos os paizes do Hemispherio Occidental, inclusas quasi todas as ilhas do Oceano Atlantico.

Tomarão disposições especiaes na Exposição Pan-Americana certos cultivadores ajudados pelo Governo Federal para demonstrar não só as diferentes classes e productos da folha tal como é cultivada em diferentes logares, senão tambem para fazer conhecer a maneira de propugar esta planta e os methodos tão diversos de colheitar, curar, preparar e manipular a folha conforme á classe de tabaco manufac-turado a que deseja-se destinal-a. Do mesmo modo os methodos de

ensaiar a fertilidade da semente assim em vasilhas porosas de argilla como entre folhas de papel secante; os muitos methodos que hão alcançado bom exito; as especies de sementes mais adaptaveis a diferentes terrenos e climas, assim como as combinações e os seus effectos resultantes sobre a fibra e aroma, serão demonstrados com o maior cuidado.

As experiencias feitas para produzir folhas assim escuras como claras servendo-se de diferentes classes de terreno hão dado resultados parcialmente bons. Cree-se que alcançará-se exito maior e mais importante n'este sentido tão prompto como se tenha maior conhecimento da causa d'esta influencia de Connecticut. O Professor J. H. JENKINS, da Estação de Agricultura do Estado, em New Haven, e MARCUS A. FLOYD, experto em materia de tabaco do Departamento de Agricultura dos Estados Unidos, hão feito recentemente o experimento interessante de semear tabaco de semente da Havana e de Sumatra em terrenos de Connecticut. As plantas crescem debaixo d'uma ligeira cobertura d'um tecido transparente, collocada a nove pés sobre o terreno e sostida por um bastidor ligeiro.

Esta cobertura tem a vantagem de reter a humidade do terreno e de conservar uma temperatura mais uniforme. Esta cobertura, impedindo a radiação da terra, eleva a temperatura de cinco a dez grãos e serve de protecção contra as fortes tormentas. Debaixo da cobertura as folhas crescem mais pequenas e mais delicadas, e tem um côr verde mais brilhante, e as plantas se produzem mais esbeltas que quando são cultivadas ao ar livre. Este exito obtido é quanto ao tabaco de Sumatra, porque os resultados alcançados com a planta de semente de Havana não hão chegado a ser completamente satisfactorios.

Tem-se a intenção de fazer uma exhibição comprehensiva porque tal é a importancia commercial do tabaco que tem que ser tomado em consideração d'uma maneira especial em uma exposição de tanta transcendencia internacional.

O tabaco está intimamente connexionado com a historia primitiva dos Estados Unidos. Houve um tempo em que o dinheiro foi muito escasso como medio circulante e fazia-se uso do tabaco geralmente, pois era artigo principal de exportação, para supprir a falta do signo de cambio.

Em Virginia, ha cento e cincoenta annos, fazia-se uso do tabaco em lugar de dinheiro. Em Maryland recebia-se tambem o tabaco como moeda corrente.

Tem-se noticia de que Maryland produziu em 1832 a quantidade de 30,000 barricas de tabaco, somma que não ha sido excedida até hoje.

Sem embargo da grande quantidade de tabaco que se colheita no Continente Americano e nas ilhas adjacentes importa-se em grande escala d'outras partes do mundo. Como a folha é indigena de America e o cultivo da planta tem exito tão geral, esta importação parece superflua. Tendo conhecimento perfeito dos methodos appropriados e sua appli-

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BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Entre os livros que se tem publicado ultimamente em La Paz sobre a produçáo mineral da Bolivia figuram as obras compiladas pelo Senhor MANUEL V. BALLIVIÁN, membro honorario correspondente da Sociedade Geographica Real da Grã Bretanha, em collaboraçáo com outros distinctos scientistas daquela nação, e intituladas "El Estaño en Bolivia y Apuntes sobre Bismuto," "El Oro en Bolivia," e "El Cobre en Bolivia." O primeiro destes livros trata dos maravilhosos depositos de estanho da Bolivia e da extensáo e abundancia dos depositos de bismutho. Os outros dous livros são exposições comprehensivas das minas de ouro e de cobre actualmente em exploraçáo. Contêm dados valiosos relativos aos depositos de onro e cobre na Republica, assim como uma descripçáo geologica dos principaes districtos em que se encontram estes minerios. A industria mineira da Bolivia é susceptivel de grande desenvolvimento, e augmenta constantemente em importancia, como se vê do interesse manifestado nas lavras antigas e da actividade exhibida na busca e denuncia de novas minas. O Senhor BALLIVIÁN e seus collaboradores, disseminando dados valiosos relativos ás minas da Bolivia, contribuem effectivamente ao desenvolvimento da riqueza mineral daquela Republica.

Senhor FEDERICO R. CIBILS, Director da Repartiçáo de Commercio e Industria do Departamento da Agricultura da Republica Argentina, tem publicado um pamphleto de umas 50 paginas intitulado "Intercambio y Producción." A obra consta de tres partes. A primeira parte trata de maneira clara e intelligente do assumpto da permuta de productos entre os dous paizes, considerando a questáo sob o ponto de vista do estado actual do commercio e do seu futuro desenvolvimento sob a protecçáo das duas Republicas irmãs. As questöes de privilegios reciprocos e navegaçáo directa são tratados, assim como as vantagens que resultaráo de relações commerciaes mais estreitas e de maior numero de facilidades de communicaçáo. A segunda parte desta importante publicaçáo tem por titulo "La República Argentina," e é um commentario da obra do Senhor PAUL LOUIS intitulada "La Guerra Económica." A terceira parte contem dados estatisticos valiosos sobre a industria de gado vaccum e lanigero da Republica Argentina.

O numero do "Geographical Magazine" correspondente ao mez de Dezembro de 1900 contem um artigo muito interessante intitulado

"Gold in the Philippines" (Ouro nas Philippinas), por Coronel F. F. HILDER, da Repartição de Ethnologia Americana. Este constitue a primeira contribuição sobre o assumpto para a literatura americana e contém dados exactos relativos á extensão e situação dos depositos auríferos nas Philippinas. Diz Mr. HILDER que o ouro é distribuido largamente por toda a parte da illa de Luzon, mas ainda não se sabe si é encontrado em quantidade sufficiente para justificar sua exploração systematica. Diz o auctor que os mineiros exploradores são esperançosos de obter bons resultados logo que fôr estabelecida a paz. Diz tambem que em outras partes do archipelago ha extensos e ricos depositos de ouro que nunca tem sido explorados por falta de braços.

"Commercial Map of South America" (Mappa Commercial da America do Sul) por J. G. BARTHOLOMEW, F. R. G. S. (Edimburgo); revisto por JOHN SAMSON do "South American Journal." Escala 1: 12,000,000, com mappas e planos inseridos; formato de 26 por 35 pollegadas. Este novo mappa contém os ultimos estudos feitos na America do Sul, e é lindamente gravado em cobre e impresso a côres. Nelle apparecem indicados a geographia physica e topographica do continente, assim como as estradas de ferro e os caminhos de navegação, maritima e fluvial.

"Vera Cruz Illustrado" é o titulo de um lindo volume, em quarto, publicado pelos Senhores S. PEARSON E FILHO, de Londres. Este é o quarto de uma serie de livros sobre os recursos dos Estados da Republica do Mexico. Este volume é caracterizado especialmente pelo grande numero de reproduções photographicas de objectos de interesse que contém. O livro é impresso em hespanhol e em inglez e contém dados interessantes relativos ao Estado de Vera Cruz, e especialmente com relação ás obras de portos e estradas de ferro.

"Quatro Seculos de Actividade Maritima, Portugal-Brazil," por A. JACEGUAY E VIDAL DE OLIVEIRA. Rio de Janeiro, Imprensa Nacional, 1900. Este livro consta de duas partes; a primeira trata das origens da marinha portugueza, de suas descobertas e conquistas, da organização da marinha brasileira e das luctas com as republicas platinas; a segunda parte occupa-se da guerra do Paraguay.

Senhor FRANCISCO DE VEYGA, de Buenos Aires, compilou e publicou ultimamente um importante trabalho scientifico intitulado "Estudios Medico-Legales sobre el Código Civil Argentino." O Senhor VEYGA é um distincto juriconsulto e hoje occupa a cadeira de jurisprudencia medica na Universidade de Buenos Aires.

Mr. CARLOS P. SALAS, Chefe da Repartição do Serviço de Estatisticas da Provincia de Buenos Aires, Republica Argentina, tem publicado uma obra sobre as enfermidades contagiosas que tem grassado na provincia durante os ultimos dez annos. O livro contém numerosos diagrammas e gravuras de côr.

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BUREAU DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES,

Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines.

VOL. X.

JANVIER 1901.

No. 1.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR.

D'après les données publiées par la presse Argentine, voici quel a été le commerce de ce pays pendant les neuf premiers mois de l'année 1900:

Importations, \$87,461,371, or; exportations, \$122,518,293, or. Les importations de la République, comparées avec celles de la même période de 1899, montrent une augmentation de plus de \$2,000,000, or. Il y a eu, cependant, une diminution considérable dans la valeur des exportations, le montant de ces dernières étant environ \$5,000,000, or, de moins que la valeur des exportations pendant la même période de l'année précédente. Le tableau suivant montre en détail le mouvement du commerce extérieur de la nation:

[Valeur en or.]

Pays.	Importations.	Exportations.	Pays.	Importations.	Exportations.
Afrique.....		\$2,518,388	France.....	\$8,721,739	\$14,550,856
Allemagne.....	\$12,556,877	16,511,128	Italie.....	11,699,364	3,213,665
Indes Occidentales.....	17,830	216,438	Hollande.....	136,317	3,515,111
Belgique.....	6,989,157	16,169,445	Paraguay.....	1,371,337	134,082
Bolivie.....	92,042	530,368	Grande Bretagne.....	30,111,521	16,432,653
Brsil.....	2,882,373	4,045,250	Uruguay.....	335,611	1,728,415
Chili.....	111,465	574,968	Autres pays.....		5,625,345
Espagne.....	2,851,622	1,722,674	Consignation à l'étran- ger.....		30,266,312
Etats-Unis.....	9,321,375	4,733,185			

Le montant de \$30,266,312 correspondant à l'item "consignation à l'étranger" est dû au fait que les chargements de grain furent expédiés des ports de l'Argentine sans que leur dernière destination fût spécifiée,

les capitaines des navires ayant été instruits plus tard de vendre et de délivrer ces cargaisons, suivant les conditions des marchés aux céréales.

La diminution considérable constatée dans les exportations est grandement attribuée aux maladies de pied et de bouche qui règnent parmi le bétail d'une partie de la République. Cette terrible épidémie a eu pour résultat de paralyser temporairement une des industries les plus importantes du pays et en conséquence de diminuer considérablement les exportations actuelles de la nation.

D'après ce tableau, on verra que les importations de la Grande-Bretagne dépassaient celles de n'importe quel autre pays, les autres nations étant, par ordre de leur importance: l'Allemagne, l'Italie, les Etats-Unis, la France et la Belgique. Les pays qui ont reçu la plus grande quantité de produits exportés, étaient l'Allemagne, la Grande-Bretagne, la Belgique, la France, les Etats-Unis et le Brésil. De grandes quantités de blé et de farine ont été exportées au Brésil, le commerce de ces produits entre les deux pays ayant rapidement augmenté pendant les quelques dernières années.

BOLIVIE.

LES VOIES DE COMMUNICATION.

Le chargé d'affaires de France à La Paz a transmis à son gouvernement les renseignements suivants sur les voies de communication (publiés dans le "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" du 13 décembre 1900), empruntés à une notice d'information générale sur la Bolivie, préparée par M. BALLIVIAN, directeur du bureau bolivien d'Immigration, de Statistiques et de Propagande géographique.

Les principales routes sont celles de:

	Kilomètres.		Kilomètres.
La Paz à Puerto Perez	75	Cochabamba à Sucre.....	325
La Paz à Oruro.....	245	Potosi à Sucre.....	145
La Paz à Corocoro.....	110	Challapata à Sucre.....	100
Oruro à Cochabamba.....	205	Tarija à Tupize.....	230
Oruro à Lagunillas	95		

Chemins de fer.— Le seul chemin de fer bolivien est celui d'Oruro à Antofagasta. Il est à voie étroite (75 centimètres de large), et mesure 925 kilomètres de long, soit 575 milles. D'Uyuni (379 milles de Antofagasta), la ligne bifurque et rejoint, à 35 kilomètres, les mines de Huanchaca. Il est question de prolonger le chemin de fer d'Antofagasta à Oruro jusqu'à La Paz en passant par Corocoro. La ligne totale aurait alors 1,230 kilomètres. Les autres chemins de fer projetés sont les suivants:

1°. De La Paz au Deragnadero. Cette ligne rejoindrait le chemin de fer qui viendrait d'Oruro.

- 2°. Un tronçon partant de Colquechaca rejoindrait le chemin de fer d'Oruro à Antofagasta.
- 3°. D'Oruro à Cochabamba et au Béni.
- 4°. Le prolongement de Jujuy, du chemin de fer argentin par Tupiza, Cotaguaita et Potosi.
- 5°. Un chemin de fer de Potosi à Uyuni.
- 6°. Du Béni à Santa Cruz, Oruro et La Paz.
- 7°. Du rio Béni aux rios Aguiri et Punis.
- 8°. De Puerto Perez à La Paz.

BRÉSIL.

LIGNE FRONTIÈRE ENTRE LE BRÉSIL ET LA GUYANE FRANÇAISE.

La sentence arbitrale du Conseil fédéral suisse dans l'affaire du contesté franco-brésilien au sujet de la frontière de la Guyane française, qui a pris naissance vers la fin du XVII^e siècle, a été remise à Berne, aux parties intéressées, le 1^{er} décembre 1900. L'une des lignes frontières établies par les arbitres est l'Oyapoc; l'autre, la ligne de partage des eaux du bassin de l'Amazone, depuis la source principale de l'Oyapoc jusqu'à la frontière hollandaise; soit en d'autres termes, la ligne faite des monts Tumacmac.

Par cette décision, le Brésil obtient la limite maritime que le Portugal a constamment réclamée depuis 1688. La France avait toujours réclamée la rivière Araguary, une ligne parallèle à l'Amazone et la rive gauche du Rio Branco.

La sentence arbitrale accorde au Brésil 147,000 milles carrés du territoire contesté et donne à la France environ 3,000 milles carrés au nord de la chaîne de montagnes du Tumac-Humac.

Le tribunal a décidé:

1°. Que la rivière Japoc ou Vincent-Pinçon, de l'article 8 du traité d'Utrecht, est l'Oyapoc qui débouche à l'ouest du cap d'Orange, ainsi qu'il est établi par les documents que le Brésil a soumis au tribunal, et que le thalweg de cette rivière, depuis son embouchure jusqu'à sa source, constituera définitivement la première des lignes frontières entre le Brésil et la Guyane française;

2°. Que l'autre ligne frontière, depuis la source de l'Oyapoc jusqu'au point de rencontre avec le territoire hollandais, sera celle que l'article 2 du traité d'arbitrage indique comme solution intermédiaire, c'est-à-dire, la ligne de partage des eaux sur les monts Tumac-Humac, formant la limite septentrionale du bassin de l'Amazone.

**RELÈVEMENT DES DROITS DE DOUANE SUR CERTAINS ARTICLES
DU TARIF DOUANIER.**

Le chargé d'affaires de France à Rio de Janeiro fait connaître que la commission des tarifs de la Chambre des Députés brésilienne s'est prononcée récemment en faveur de plusieurs amendements tendant à surélever, à partir du 1^{er} janvier 1901, les droits de douane actuellement perçus sur un certain nombre d'articles.

Les nouvelles taxes sont les suivantes:

A l'article 1038 du tarif des douanes, au lieu de: boîtes en bois de pin exclusivement propres au conditionnement des allumettes, démontées, 320 reis; montées et complètes, 400 reis, lire boîtes démontées, 800 reis; montées et complètes, 1,000 reis.

A l'article 1,066, au lieu de: petits bâtons de bois pour allumettes, 80 reis, lire 500 reis.

Les meubles de fabrication étrangère dont il est fait mention aux articles 354 et 356 du tarif en vigueur paieront une taxe additionnelle de 10 pour cent, calculée sur la valeur totale des droits.

Le fer fondu ou fonte en gueuses acquittera un droit de 10 reis ou 20 pour cent ad valorem par kilogramme et le fer puddlé un droit de 50 reis ou 30 pour cent ad valorem par kilogramme, au lieu des prix indiqués au tarif en vigueur.

La taxe de 600 reis par kilogramme acquittée par le coton en rames cardé simple ou en feuilles gommées est portée à 2,000 reis.

Les tuiles de nimporte quelle espèce, y compris les ventilateurs en grès simple, acquitteront un droit de 14,000 reis le cent, au lieu du droit de 8,000 reis inscrit au tarif actuel.

UNE NOUVELLE LIGNE DE NAVIGATION.

Le gouverneur de l'État de Pará a promulgué une loi établissant une ligne de navigation entre le Pará et l'Europe. D'après les stipulations de cette loi, le gouverneur est autorisé à ouvrir la concurrence pour l'établissement de la dite ligne de navigation à vapeur entre Pará et un port de la Russie, situé sur la mer Baltique, avec escales à différents endroits sur la route. Les vapeurs auront une vitesse de 14 milles à l'heure et leur capacité minimum sera de 2,000 tonnes de marchandises, y compris logement pour 300 passagers.

COSTA-RICA.

LE CAFÉ DANS LA RÉPUBLIQUE.

L'article suivant sur le "Café dans la République de Costa-Rica" (Coffee in Costa Rica) est basé sur des données prises dans une publication très intéressante compilée récemment par Señor Don JOAQUIN

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BERNARDO CALVO, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la République de Costa-Rica auprès du Gouvernement des Etats-Unis. Les tables statistiques préparées aussi par Mr. CALVO, et qui accompagnent le sujet, montrent que pendant l'année 1899 les pays producteurs de café du monde ont exporté en Europe 9,165,700 sacs de café, dont 8,867,400 sacs furent consommés, laissant à la fin de l'année un stock en magasin de 298,300 sacs de la récolte de 1899, qui, ajouté à celui des années précédentes (3,816,500 sacs), donne une réserve totale disponible de café en Europe de 4,114,800 sacs. Pendant la même période, il a été importé aux Etats-Unis 6,433,900 sacs, dont 6,271,900 furent consommés pendant l'année, laissant un stock disponible à la fin de 1899 de 162,000 sacs, lesquels, ajoutés aux stocks des années précédentes (918,000 sacs), monteront le stock de café disponible aux Etats-Unis, au commencement de 1900, à 1,080,000 sacs. Si on compare la consommation de 1899 avec celle des quatre années précédentes, on constatera que la consommation de ce produit pendant la période nommée a augmenté de près de un million de sacs par an.

Le café costaricain a presque la même apparence que le fameux café Java, les grains des deux variétés étant épais, oblongs et ayant quelquefois une couleur jaunâtre ou verdâtre. C'est un fait très commun en Europe, et qui jusqu'à un certain point est aussi constaté aux Etats-Unis, que le café costaricain est quelquefois vendu sous le nom de "Java" ou de "Moka," auxquels il ressemble considérablement, non seulement en apparence, mais aussi par la délicatesse de son goût qui est si agréable et si apprécié par le public consommateur.

Pour satisfaire au désir de la légation de Costa-Rica, le Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis a analysé un grand nombre d'échantillons pris indistinctement dans différentes sortes de café costaricain et a trouvé qu'ils contenaient de 1.16 à 1.27 pour cent de caféine. La qualité du café, cependant, ne dépend pas du plus grand ou du plus petit pourcentage de caféine qu'il contient, mais il est très désiré et populaire à cause de son arôme exquis.

La consommation du café costaricain aux Etats-Unis, aussi bien qu'en Europe, augmente constamment et les prix élevés auxquels il se vend, comparés à ceux que l'on obtient pour le café provenant des autres pays, est une preuve convaincante que sa popularité augmente continuellement et qu'il est de plus en plus demandé dans les pays consommateurs de café.

EQUATEUR.

SITUATION COMMERCIALE.

La "Revue Commerciale" (Revista Comercial) de Guayaquil contient, dans un numéro récent, un article sur la situation commerciale du pays pendant les mois de septembre et d'octobre 1900. Cette

publication fait allusion à l'activité avec laquelle ont été poussés les travaux du Chemin de fer du Midi et le contrat approuvé par le Congrès pour la construction d'un grand chemin de fer entre la Baie de Caraquez et Quito. On a aussi examiné avec soin le plan soumis au Congrès par Messieurs MARTIN REINBERG & C^{ie}. pour la construction d'un quai en fer le long du port de Guayaquil.

Au sujet de la récolte de cacao, ce journal estime qu'elle se montait, au 31 octobre 1900, à 315,094 quintaux contre 466,647 quintaux pendant la même période de l'année précédente. Pendant les premiers dix mois de 1900, les exportations de ce fruit sont estimées à 13,626,412 kilogrammes, dont 6,176,422 kilogrammes furent expédiés en France; 2,055,362 aux Etats-Unis; 2,035,909 en Angleterre; 1,742,168 en Allemagne et 1,370,029 kilogrammes en Espagne. Aucun des autres pays où ce fruit a été exporté n'en a pris plus de 57,000 kilogrammes.

L'exportation de café, pendant la même période, s'est montée à 1,406,367 kilogrammes, la première place en importance étant le Chili qui en a pris 601,471 kilogrammes, et la seconde place les Etats-Unis où on en a envoyé 295,249 kilogrammes, les autres pays étant respectivement, par rang d'importance, l'Allemagne, l'Angleterre et la France.

Dans la ville de Guayaquil, les compagnies de tramways ont fait de très bonnes affaires pendant la période en question, les recettes pour les mois de septembre et d'octobre s'étant montées à 203,628 soles.

La loi imposant une taxe de 23 pour cent sur la valeur des importations et de 50 pour cent sur le montant des exportations fut dûment sanctionnée par le Président. Le premier pourcentage nommé sera perçu sur tous les articles importés dans le pays à partir du 1^{er} janvier, et le second sur tous les produits exportés depuis le 15 décembre 1900, à l'exception toutefois du café, de la paille "toquilla" pour la fabrication des chapeaux, et de l'ivoire végétal.

ETATS-UNIS.

REVUE DE L'ANNÉE 1900.

Si les progrès faits par les Etats-Unis, pendant l'année 1899, furent phénoménaux, ils n'en ont pas moins été prodigieux pendant l'année 1900, la dernière du siècle. Dans toutes les branches de l'industrie l'avancement constaté a été surprenant, le commerce s'est chiffré par milliards et les ressources du pays ont augmenté comme jamais dans l'histoire de sa vie commerciale et sont sans égales dans les annales du monde. Le nouveau siècle ne pouvait pas commencer sous des auspices plus favorables comme le fait si bien remarquer le message du Président MCKINLEY au Congrès lors de l'ouverture de la dernière session lorsqu'il dit: "que de tous les côtés il y a des évidences d'une prospé-

rité nationale et individuelle et des preuves de la puissante influence des institutions républicaines."

Ou peut se faire une idée du progrès des Etats-Unis par le fait qu'en 1800 la population se montait seulement à un peu plus de 5,000,000 âmes, tandis qu'à la fin de 1900 le nombre d'habitants s'élevait à plus de 76,000,000. À cette époque là, les Etats-Unis ne comprenaient que 16 Etats mesurant une superficie de 909,050 milles carrés; ils ont aujourd'hui 45 Etats, 5 Territoires, le District de Colombie où est située la capitale de la République et les Iles Sandwich et mesurent une superficie de 3,846,595 milles carrés.

Pendant l'année fiscale 1900, finissant le 30 juin, les revenus de l'Etat ont excédé ceux de l'année antérieure de la somme de \$79,527,060, tandis que pendant les six années précédentes il y a eu des déficits de \$280,000,000. Pendant l'année fiscale 1900, les recettes se sont montées à plus de \$5,000,000, les dépenses à \$488,000,000, et les recettes douanières à plus de \$200,000,000. Les revenus intérieurs s'élevaient à plus de \$300,000,000, pendant que les recettes provenant de sources diverses se sont montées approximativement à \$40,000,000. Les dépenses du Gouvernement ont été considérablement réduites pendant l'année, celles du Ministère de la Guerre ayant diminué de \$95,000,000 et celles de la marine, d'environ \$66,000,000.

Par suite de cette situation financière excellente il a été possible au Ministre des Finances d'amortir les bons de la somme de \$56,500,000. Il existait en caisse, à la date du 30 novembre, en argent comptant, une balance disponible de \$139,303,794 sans compter la réserve actuelle d'or de \$150,000,000. Les fonds généraux, qui sont entièrement séparés de la réserve, et ceux mis en dépôt, comprenaient, le 30 novembre 1900, plus de \$70,000,000 en monnaie et lingôts d'or aux quels il faut ajouter près de \$23,000,000 de billets du Trésor remboursables en or, sujets à émission et pour lesquels il existe en réserve de la monnaie et des lingôts d'or montant à plus de \$93,000,000.

Cette condition florissante des finances a permis au Ministre des Finances d'amortir la dette consolidée de 1901, continuée à 2 pour cent pour la somme de \$25,364,500 du 30 juin 1899 au 30 novembre 1900.

Un autre effet de cette opération a été de réduire les dépenses du Trésor, en ce qui concerne le paiement des intérêts de la somme annuelle de plus de \$7,000,000. Les économies nettes que ses transactions ont produites au Gouvernement se sont montées à plus de \$10,000,000. Notre commerce extérieur est une preuve admirable du progrès industriel du pays. Pour la première fois dans ses annales, le total de nos importations et de nos exportations s'est monté à plus de deux billions de dollars. Les exportations en 1900 ont été plus grandes qu'elles ne l'ont jamais été, le total pour l'année fiscale 1900 étant de \$1,394,483,082, soit environ \$168,000,000 de plus qu'en 1899.

Les importations pour la même année se sont montées à \$849,941,184, soit environ \$153,000,000 de plus que l'année antérieure. Cette augmentation qui est due, en majeure partie, à l'introduction de matières brutes pour les manufactures du pays, indique plus que jamais le développement rapide de ces industries qui se fait aussi remarquer par le fait que les exportations des produits manufacturés dans le pays se sont montées à \$433,851,756, soit une augmentation de 28 pour cent sur celles de l'année fiscale antérieure.

L'augmentation constatée dans les exportations s'applique à tous les produits qu'ils soient manufacturés, agricoles ou miniers; en somme, à tous les articles qui constituent le commerce extérieur des Etats-Unis.

A la fin de l'année fiscale 1900 les recettes et les dépôts d'argent reçus dans les Hôtels des monnaies et par les préposés à l'essai des matières d'or et d'argent et à la vérification du titre des monnaies se sont montés ensemble à \$238,736.24 et la monnaie frappée pendant cette période s'est élevée à \$141,301,960.36. À la fin de l'année civile de 1900 le total général de la monnaie qui a été frappée aux Etats-Unis s'est élevée à \$137,699,401.

Les fonds gouvernementaux déposés dans les Banques Nationales se sont montés, dans 240 banques, à la date du 30 juin 1900, à \$98,736,806, pendant que le capital entier de toutes les banques nationales a augmenté de \$20,000,000 pendant la période en considération.

Le 1^{er} juillet 1900, la dette des Etats-Unis, y compris les intérêts, était de \$1,023,443,390. L'augmentation nette de la monnaie en circulation se montait au 1^{er} novembre à \$175,465,266, donnant un total de 2,139,181.42 dollars, lequel divisé entre la population du pays a donné \$27.82 per capita.

Pendant l'année 1900, 448,572 immigrants ont débarqué dans les ports des Etats-Unis, et ce flot d'étrangers est une des causes du développement phénoménal du pays et a augmenté, en même temps, sa population qui se monte actuellement à 76,295,220 habitants, soit une augmentation de 13,234,943 âmes sur le recensement de 1890.

Grande serait la tâche d'étudier les unes après les autres toutes les différentes branches de l'industrie et du commerce qui, pendant l'année qui vient de s'écouler, ont continuellement gravi une échelle ascendante et qui ont placé les Etats-Unis à la tête des nations commerciales du monde. Le BULLETIN mensuel a traité toutes ces questions; une répétition serait donc futile. L'excellence des produits américains est démontrée par l'extension de son commerce qui, cependant, malgré les progrès faits avec les Républiques Américaines, n'est pas encore aussi grand que les besoins de ces pays et la perfection des produits américains semblent le justifier. Ce sont l'agriculture, les mines, en un mot toutes les ressources naturelles de l'Amérique latine qui forment la base de la prospérité de ces pays, mais ce sont aussi les manufactures des Etats-Unis qui sont les mieux adaptées pour l'exploitation de ces industries.

Les États-Unis, suivant sa politique commerciale, ont conclu des traités spéciaux avec plusieurs pays de l'ancien et du nouveau continent et d'autres négociations sont en progrès. Cette politique est bien exprimée dans le dernier message du Président, qui dit "que la politique de réciprocité s'appuie si clairement sur les principes d'une équité internationale et a été maintes fois tellement approuvée par le peuple des États-Unis que le Congrès ne doit pas hésiter à la mettre en vigueur." Le Président dit aussi que ce gouvernement n'étant pas affecté par les rivalités industrielles nécessairement développées dans l'extension du commerce international, désire conserver avec les autres pays étrangers, les relations commerciales les plus amicales et les plus justes. On croit que les gouvernements étrangers, en général, ont les mêmes idées, quoique, dans certains cas, on leur demande à grands cris une législation spécifiquement hostile aux intérêts américains.

Toujours imbu des mêmes idées et aussi pour augmenter le trafic et faire mieux connaître les produits industriels de ce pays et ceux qui forment le commerce extérieur du reste de l'Amérique, une exposition Pan-Américaine aura lieu à Buffalo pendant l'année courante. Les travaux exécutés par le comité chargé de cette entreprise, pendant l'année passée, ont été couronnés de succès et presque tous les pays Latins-Américains, sinon tous, y prendront part, favorisant ainsi les intérêts commerciaux du continent.

Une autre preuve du désir d'étendre les relations cordiales qui existent entre les pays de l'Amérique est démontrée par l'organisation d'un autre Congrès Pan-Américain qui se réunira dans la ville du Mexique et dont la première session fut tenue dans la ville de Washington du 2 octobre 1889 au 19 avril 1890.

Il faut aussi remarquer que pour la première fois dans l'histoire des États-Unis, tous les pays Latins-Américains sont représentés dans le Corps Diplomatique à Washington, qui est une nouvelle preuve de leurs désirs de resserrer plus fortement les liens fraternels existant entre ces nations et les États-Unis.

Les États-Unis ont été représentés à l'Exposition Universelle de Paris et de nombreux prix ont été décernés aux exposants américains par le jury international, à savoir: 240 grands prix; 597 médailles d'or; 776 médailles d'argent; 541 médailles de bronze; 322 mentions honorables; soit 2,476 en tout, qui est le plus grand nombre de récompenses qui ait jamais été accordé dans une exposition universelle. "Cette constatation significative de mérite," dit le message, "dans cette concurrence avec les meilleures expositions de toutes les autres nations et de la part de presque tous les jurés composés des représentants de la France et des autres pays luttant en rivalité, est non seulement plus satisfaisante, mais encore d'une valeur particulière depuis qu'elle nous place à la tête des questions internationales de productions et de demandes; pendant qu'une grande quantité de récompenses aux arts

et aux manufactures artistiques nous ont donné la preuve inespérée de l'encouragement de la culture nationale dû à la prospérité provenant de nos richesses naturelles et de la supériorité de nos industries."

Pendant l'année fiscale finissant le 30 juin 1900, le commerce des Etats-Unis avec tous les pays de l'Amérique Latine s'est chiffré, d'après les données officielles, à \$170,461,647 pour les importations et à \$116,114,326 pour les exportations. Dans ces totaux sont compris les commerces de Cuba, Porto-Rico et ceux des Guyannes Française, Anglaise et Hollandaise. Le BULLETIN a publié mensuellement un résumé des statistiques relatives au commerce des Etats-Unis avec les autres pays du continent aussi bien que les articles principaux qui forment la plus grande partie de ce commerce. Parmi les produits importés par les Etats-Unis de l'Amérique Latine, le café a occupé le premier rang pendant l'année fiscale 1900, la quantité importée étant, d'après les statistiques officielles, de 748,546,777 livres, évaluées à \$47,329,851. Dans ce total le Mexique est compris pour 35,000,000 livres, évaluées à \$3,312,608; les Républiques de l'Amérique Centrale pour 53,500,000 livres, évaluées à \$4,356,407; l'Amérique du Sud est représentée pour 660,182,633 livres, évaluées à \$38,929,513, le Brésil étant compris dans cette dernière somme pour 601,520,169 livres, évaluées à \$34,333,72. La valeur des importations des Antilles s'est montée à \$731,323, représentés par 9,250,000 livres. Les autres importations principales étaient: caoutchouc, \$20,000,000; peaux et cuirs, plus de 13,500,000 dollars; sucre, plus de \$25,000,000; chanvre (henequen), plus de \$11,500,000; cacao, plus de \$2,500,000; fruits, plus de \$3,500,000; saumons de plomb, plomb en barres, etc., plus de \$2,500,000; tabac, environ \$8,000,000, et laine, plus de \$3,000,000.

Les produits principaux qui ont été exportés par les Etats-Unis aux pays de l'Amérique Latine, pendant l'année fiscale, étaient: farine de blé, plus de \$7,500,000; pétrole et autres huiles minérales, environ \$5,500,000; bois de construction, \$4,500,000; cotonnades, \$3,500,000; saindoux, \$3,500,000; provisions de toutes espèces, \$3,000,000; charbon de terre, \$2,800,000; instruments agricoles, \$2,775,000; ferblanterie, \$1,925,000; huiles végétales, \$1,600,000; wagons et voitures, \$1,900,000; meubles, \$1,300,000; instruments scientifiques et autres, \$1,100,000; rails, \$1,000,000; maïs et blé, \$1,200,000.

L'année qui vient de finir a vu un développement remarquable des moyens de communications intérieures pour les Etats-Unis et l'établissement de nouveaux moyens de communication avec l'étranger rapprochant de plus en plus, chaque jour, les marchés consommateurs du monde des produits de cette nation.

Le 20^{ème} siècle commence sous les meilleurs auspices et on espère que pendant son cours, on continuera à jouir des bénéfices que l'industrie sans parallèle de l'américain semble justifier et qui sera, avant longtemps, un facteur puissant dans le progrès des pays qui forment l'Union Internationale.

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FABRICATION DE LA MONNAIE À L'HÔTEL DES MONNAIES.

Le rapport présenté par le Directeur de l'Hôtel des Monnaies indique que pendant l'année civile de 1900 il a été frappé aux Etats-Unis 175,699,563 pièces de monnaie évaluées à \$137,699,401, à savoir: monnaie d'or, \$99,272,942.50; monnaie d'argent, \$36,295,321.45; monnaie divisionnaire de nickel et de bronze, \$68,337.64.

Pendant le mois de décembre de 1900, le total de la monnaie frappée s'est monté à \$7,758,580, dont \$4,576,697 de monnaies d'or; \$2,880,555 de monnaies de cuivre et \$301,382 de monnaies divisionnaires.

Pendant l'année mentionnée, l'Hôtel des Monnaies de Philadelphie a aussi frappé pour le Gouvernement de Costa Rica 370,000 pièces d'or évaluées à \$1,047,041.

EXPORTATIONS DE RAILS D'ACIER.

D'après les chiffres compilés par le Bureau de statistiques du Ministère des Finances des Etats-Unis, les exportations des rails d'acier se montaient, pendant l'année 1900, à \$12,000,000, soit une moyenne mensuelle de un million de dollars. Ceci est on ne peut plus remarquable, car jamais avant l'année 1897 les chiffres pour n'importe qu'elle année entière n'avaient atteint \$1,000,000. Pendant l'année fiscale 1890 la valeur totale des exportations de rails d'acier s'est montée à \$315,000; en 1896, elle n'était seulement que de \$540,000; en 1897, \$2,500,000; en 1898, \$4,500,000; pendant l'année fiscale 1899, \$2,500,000, et pendant l'année 1900, l'estimation est de \$12,000,000. Près de un million de dollars de ces exportations sont crédités, en 1900, à l'Europe; un autre million de dollars au Mexique; près de deux millions à l'Amérique du Sud, quatre millions au Dominion du Canada et deux millions de dollars à l'Asie et l'Océanie. Les locomotives des Etats-Unis, dans beaucoup de cas, accompagnent les rails d'acier et on estime que la valeur de ces articles d'exportation se montera pour l'année à \$5,000,000.

Les rails Américains et les locomotives sont à leur tour accompagnés par les wagons américains, dont l'exportation pour les chemins de fer monteront, pendant l'année, à \$3,000,000 et pour les autres voies ferrées à plus de un million de dollars. Si on ajoute à ces chiffres la part exacte des \$6,000,000 représentant la valeur des télégraphes, téléphones et autres appareils électriques et scientifiques exportés, on verra que pour l'exploitation et la construction des chemins de fer en dehors des Etats-Unis, les manufacturiers de ce pays auront fourni, pendant l'année ci-dessus mentionnée, pour \$25,000,000 de matériel.

LES MARCHÉS AU CAFÉ.

Un article sur le commerce de café, paru récemment dans le journal le "New-York Commercial," dit que quoique New-York ait été quelquefois menacé d'une concurrence plus ou moins sérieuse de la part

de la Nouvelle-Orléans et de Baltimore, il conserve encore sa suprématie aux États-Unis dans les transactions de ce produit. Les maisons de commerce des États-Unis importent annuellement 800,000,000 livres de café environ. Antérieurement à l'année passée, près de 90 pour cent des importations arrivaient au port de New-York, divisées approximativement comme suit: New-York, 6,000,000 sacs; Nouvelle-Orléans, 300,000 sacs; Baltimore, 200,000 sacs et San-Francisco, 150,000 sacs, avec des quantités différentes pour les autres villes. Cette distribution relative ne changea pas matériellement l'année dernière, quoique depuis l'annexion de Porto-Rico et l'extension de l'influence des États-Unis sur les affaires cubaines, la Nouvelle-Orléans fasse et ait fait des efforts prodigieux pour augmenter ses exportations de café. Comme Porto-Rico et Cuba sont tous deux producteurs de café et sont ainsi que les ports de l'Amérique Central et de la plupart de ceux de l'Amérique du Sud plus rapprochés de la Nouvelle-Orléans que de New-York, cette proximité semblerait être un facteur en faveur de la première ville et pourrait faire croire que ses efforts ne resteraient pas sans quelques résultats appréciables.

Le Brésil fournit plus de 600,000,000 livres de café ou environ les trois-quarts du total des importations annuelles de café aux États-Unis; les autres pays de l'Amérique du Sud en envoient 60,000,000 livres et le Mexique et l'Amérique Centrale en exportent ensemble près de 80,000,000 livres. En d'autres termes près des sept-huitièmes de ces importations viennent des ports qui sont plus rapprochés de la Nouvelle-Orléans qu'ils ne le sont de New-York. En outre, les importateurs de la Nouvelle-Orléans affirment que le prix du fret depuis le Brésil est seulement la moitié de celui que l'on demande depuis les ports de ce pays jusqu'à New-York. Ils soutiennent aussi que le café peut être délivré à la Nouvelle-Orléans plus facilement qu'à New-York et que comme certaines lignes principales de la partie occidentale des États-Unis ont fait de la première ville leur port terminus pour l'embarquement des grains et des marchandises aux pays étrangers, ils peuvent délivrer beaucoup plus facilement là le café aux parties occidentales et méridionales des États-Unis.

Tandis que les conditions ci-dessus se manifestent en faveur de la Nouvelle-Orléans, il faut, d'un autre côté, bien se mettre dans l'esprit que New-York, après avoir importé chaque année près de 6,000,000 sacs de café, en expédie une quantité considérable en Europe, ce trafic étranger, d'après le "Commercial" montant largement à \$3,000,000 par an. New-York a aussi des moyens de transport et des relations commerciales avec les ports européens bien meilleurs que ceux de n'importe qu'elle autre ville américaine et les plus grands États consommateurs de café des États-Unis sont situés le long des ports de l'Atlantique, dont New-York est le centre de distribution pour tous les produits étrangers et marchandises de toutes espèces. Ces avantages

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qui résultent de la longue durée des affaires commerciales, ainsi que des relations personnelles qu'elles ont créées, ne peuvent pas disparaître facilement. Le "Coffee Exchange" de la ville de New-York est aussi un facteur influent en conservant la ville de New-York comme un grand centre commercial de café.

Quand le canal à travers l'isthme sera achevé et que de nouvelles compagnies de bateaux à vapeur auront été établies, alors un peu de ce commerce se fera à la Nouvelle-Orléans, mais jusqu'à ce que ces projets soient accomplis, la plus grande partie du commerce de café sera à New-York.

L'APPROVISIONNEMENT DE LAINE.

Le Ministère de l'Agriculture a constaté que pendant l'année 1900, il y avait aux Etats-Unis 41,883,065 moutons, soit environ 1,700,000 de plus que l'année précédente. Le 1^{er} janvier 1885, il existait aux Etats-Unis plus de 50,000,000 moutons, le nombre ayant diminué jusqu'en 1898 quand il se montait à 37,657,000. Le 1^{er} janvier 1885, la valeur totale des troupeaux était, en chiffres ronds, de \$108,000,000. La valeur des troupeaux, le 1^{er} janvier 1900, se montait à \$122,666,000. D'après le tableau des valeurs moyennes, chaque mouton valait, en 1900, \$2.93 qui est le plus grand prix atteint en 20 ans.

D'après l'estimation officielle de l'Association Nationale des Manufacturiers de Laine, la tondaison a donné 288,636,621 livres de laine, soit une augmentation de plus de 15,000,000 livres sur la tondaison de 1899, le poids moyen des toisons étant de 6.46 livres. Depuis l'année 1896, le commerce de laine de 1900 a été le plus mauvais et ceci est dû à de nombreuses causes, telles que l'augmentation des troupeaux à l'étranger, la guerre dans l'Afrique du Sud et les troubles en Chine.

Boston est le plus grand marché aux laines des Etats-Unis et a reçu pendant l'année 381,440 balles de laine du pays et 146,818 balles de laines étrangères, contre 705,592 balles de laine du pays et 101,242 balles de laines étrangères pendant l'année 1899. Pendant l'année il s'est vendu dans cette ville 136,654,000 livres de laine du pays et 20,213,500 livres de laines étrangères, soit un total de 156,868,400 livres, ou une diminution sur les années précédentes de 200,000,000 livres. Le 1^{er} janvier 1900, il restait à vendre aux Etats-Unis 204,345,500 livres de laine du pays contre 123,348,500 livres le 1^{er} janvier 1900. L'approvisionnement de laines étrangères à la première date nommée était de 29,483,500 livres contre 25,265,000 livres au 1^{er} janvier de l'année précédente. Malgré le fait que l'année 1900 a été si désastreuse et en dépit des stocks énormes qui existent, on espère que le commerce des laines sera bien meilleur pendant l'année 1901 qu'il ne l'a été pendant les douze mois de 1900. Les statistiques montrent que presque tous les deux ans il s'est produit une réaction. Pendant

le mois de décembre 1900, les prix ont augmenté légèrement sur les marchés. Le Sous-secrétaire d'Etat du Ministère des Finances a adressé une lettre circulaire aux fonctionnaires des douanes des ports principaux au sujet de la classification de la laine.

La lettre explique que Mr. WILLIAM H. DYMOND, qui fut chargé, il y a quelques années, d'étudier la question, fit certains changements dans les cabinets où sont exposés les échantillons de laine et classés conformément à la loi de 1890. Des échantillons de laine d'agneau venant de Bagdad, Castel Branco, d'Égypte et de Chine, ont été, comme il a été stipulé dans la loi de 1897, transférés de la classe 3 à la classe 1 et numérotés de nouveau, et tous les poils de chèvres et de chevreaux ont été classés séparément conformément au paragraphe 571 de la loi de 1897. Les échantillons de la classe 2 ont été augmentés par l'addition de laines venant de Chine et de la Hollande. Vingt et un échantillons nouveaux sont venus augmenter la collection de la classe 3. Dans la classe 1, un nombre d'échantillons modèles ont été fournis aux estimateurs pour leur permettre d'évaluer et de classer la laine. Douze de ces échantillons viennent de la République Argentine, trois du Chili, trois du Pérou et trois de l'Uruguay.

Il a été aussi ajouté à cette classe des échantillons du Mexique, un de la tonte du printemps, l'autre de la tondaison faite pendant l'automne. Dans la classe 2, il y a trois échantillons du Pérou, une toison de l'Alpaca, une toison du lama et une toison de la vigogne. Dans la classe 3, il y a une toison non lavée venant de Cordova (République Argentine), une toison non lavée du Chili (Valparaiso criolla) et un échantillon de laine produite au Mexique. La liste des toisons de la classe 1 qui seront employées en cas de contestation comprend la toison non lavée d'un Lincoln de race croisée venant de Buenos-Ayres, une toison non lavée de Punta Arenas, une toison non lavée des Iles Falkland et une toison du printemps non lavée venant du Mexique. La liste de la classe 3 comprend un échantillon d'une toison non lavée de Cordova et une autre du Chili du type créole.

En transmettant ces nouvelles classifications, le Ministère des Finances a aussi envoyé une copie des classifications qui furent établies en 1890 pour comparaison.

Les experts des États-Unis ont classé les laines par race ou sang de la façon suivante:

Première classe: laine courte, c'est-à-dire, le mérinos, le métis ou laine métis, ou d'autres laines de mérinos de sang pur ou mêlé; laine à carder du "Down" et laines de même genre que les précédentes comprenant des laines semblables à celles jadis importées aux États-Unis, de Buenos-Ayres, de la Nouvelle-Zélande, d'Australie, du Cap de Bonne-Espérance, de la Russie, de la Grande-Bretagne, du Canada et d'ailleurs, et comprenant aussi toutes les laines qui ne sont pas décrites dans les classes deux et trois.

Deuxième classe: laines longues; c'est-à-dire les laines venant de Leicestershire, des pares à mouton de Cotswold, de Lincolnshire, de Down, du Canada ou d'autres laines longues semblables à celles de saug anglais et connues généralement sous le nom employé ici, ainsi que tous les poils d'alpaca, de chèvres ou d'autres animaux du même genre.

Troisième classe: laines pour tapis et autres du même genre, telles que celles provenant de Bouskoi, de l'Amérique du Sud, de Cordoba, de Valparaiso, de Smyrne et comprenant toutes celles de même genre jadis importées aux États-Unis de la Turquie, de la Grèce, de l'Égypte, de la Syrie et d'ailleurs.

L'Association Nationale des Manufacturiers de Laine des États-Unis estime que la tondaison des moutons du monde, pendant l'année 1900, a produit 2,685,105,013 livres de laine contre 2,681,819,545 livres en 1899. Dans la tondaison de 1900 les classes 1 et 2 sont comprises pour 2,092,389,013 livres, et la classe 3 pour 592,716,000 livres. Les États-Unis sont compris dans cette estimation pour 288,636,621 livres; les Provinces anglaises pour 12,000,000 livres et le Mexique pour 5,000,000 livres, soit un total de 305,636,621 livres pour l'Amérique du Nord. La République Argentine est créditée pour 370,000,000 livres; l'Uruguay pour 96,000,000 livres; le Vénézuéla pour 15,000,000 livres; le Chili pour 7,500,000 livres; le Brésil pour 1,500,000 livres et tous les autres pays de l'Amérique du Sud pour 20,000,000 livres, soit un total général de 510,000,000 livres. L'Amérique Centrale et les îles des Indes Occidentales sont créditées en avoir produit 5,000,000 livres. L'augmentation pour l'Amérique du Nord se montait à environ 16,500,000 livres; celle de l'Amérique du Sud à 6,000,000 livres, pendant que celle attribuée à l'Amérique Centrale et aux Indes Occidentales se montait au même nombre de livres qu'en 1900.

LA RÉCOLTE DES GRAINS DE 1900.

Le statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture estime la récolte du blé des États-Unis, pendant l'année 1900, à 522,229,505 boisseaux, l'aire actuellement moissonnée étant de 42,495,385 acres (17,197,643 hectares) et le rendement moyen par acre 12.29 (30.367 boisseaux par hectare). La production du blé d'hiver est estimée à 350,025,409 boisseaux et celle du blé du printemps à 172,204,096 boisseaux, l'aire actuellement moissonnée étant dans le premier cas de 26,235,897 acres (10,617,522 hectares) et dans le dernier, de 16,259,488 acres (6,570,121 hectares).

L'aire nouvellement semée de blé d'hiver est estimée à 30,282,564 acres (12,255,155 hectares). Quoiqu'elle soit légèrement plus grande que celle semée pendant l'automne de 1899, d'après l'estimation de cette époque, elle est cependant 600,654 acres (243,081 hectares) de moins que l'aire semée en 1899, la différence étant due au développement remarquablement rapide du blé d'hiver qui pousse dans l'État de

Nebraska et que les rapports du ministère ont oublié de comprendre. Si l'on compare l'aïre nouvellement semée avec celle de l'automne de 1899, on verra que la condition moyenne de l'aïre en culture était, le 1^{er} décembre, 97.1 pour cent de la normale.

La production du maïs en 1900 est estimée à 2,105,102,516 boisseaux, celle des avoines à 809,125,989 boisseaux; celle de l'orge à 58,925,833 boisseaux; celle du seigle à 23,995,927 boisseaux; celle du sarrasin à 9,566,966 boisseaux; celles des pommes de terre à 210,926,897 boisseaux et celle du foin à 50,110,906 tonnes. Quant aux aïres qui ont produit ces récoltes elles étaient comme suit: maïs, 83,320,872 acres (33,719,500 hectares); avoines, 27,364,795 acres (11,074,381 hectares); orge, 2,894,795 acres (1,171,300 hectares); seigle, 1,591,326 acres (644,000 hectares); sarrasin, 637,930 acres (258,167 hectares); pommes de terre, 2,611,054 acres (1,056,680 hectares); foin, 39,132,890 acres (15,836,823 hectares). La récolte du maïs a été une des quatre plus abondantes qui aient jamais été moissonnées, pendant que celle de l'avoine n'a été excédée qu'une seule fois. D'un autre côté, les récoltes de l'orge et du seigle sont les plus petites avec seulement une exception dans chaque cas, depuis 1887; la récolte du sarrasin est la moins abondante depuis 1883 et celle du foin la plus petite, avec une exception, cependant, depuis 1888.

LA RÉCOLTE DU COTON DE 1900-1901.

Le statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture estime que la récolte du coton aux États-Unis, pendant l'année 1900-1901 sera probablement de 10,100,000 balles. On a employé pour faire cette estimation les mêmes méthodes et les mêmes agents que l'année dernière. Plusieurs milliers d'égreneurs ont cependant, pour la première fois, fait des rapports. Voici quelle est, par acre, en livres de coton égrené, l'estimation de la récolte: Virginie, 180; Caroline du Nord, 199; Caroline du Sud, 151; Mississippi, 159; Louisiane, 234; Texas, 226; Arkansas, 223; Tennessee, 177; Missouri, 275; Oklahoma, 318; Territoire Indien, 289. La contenance, en dehors des terres qui ne produiront aucune récolte quelle qu'elle soit, est estimée à 25,034,734 acres.

COMMERCE DES PHILIPPINES.

La Division des Affaires Insulaires du Ministère de la Guerre vient de publier un compte rendu sommaire du commerce des Îles Philippines pendant les onze mois finissant le 31 mai 1900. Les marchandises importées dans ces îles pendant cette période sont évaluées à \$18,390,698. Si on ajoute à cette somme les 1,806,240 dollars d'or et d'argent qui ont été expédiés dans ces îles, le total des importations se montera à \$20,196,398, les États-Unis étant compris dans ce commerce d'importation pour la somme de \$1,450,807.

La valeur des exportations pendant la période citée s'est montée à \$19,459,003 (\$17,634,391 de marchandises et \$1,824,612 d'or et d'argent). La valeur des exportations aux Etats-Unis est estimée à \$3,594,577.

Pendant la période mentionnée, on a exporté 69,644 tonnes de chanvre de Manille (Manilla hemp) évaluées à \$10,582,173; la quantité exportée aux Etats-Unis étant évaluée à \$3,405,808.

DIVISION DES AFFAIRES INSULAIRES.

Conformément aux ordres du Ministère de la Guerre, la "Division des Douanes et des Affaires Insulaires," créée le 13 décembre 1898, sera désormais connue comme "Division des Affaires Insulaires." Le genre d'affaires dont sera chargée cette Division embrassera toutes celles ayant rapport aux affaires civiles se rattachant au gouvernement de Cuba et des Iles Philippines et qui sont séparées de celles ayant un caractère purement militaire.

GUATÉMALA.

IMPORTATION ÉTRANGÈRE.

Monsieur WOLTERS, consul-général et chargé d'affaires de Belgique à Guatémala, dit, dans un rapport à son gouvernement, que parmi les articles importés au Guatémala, viennent en première ligne les cotons, employés principalement par les Indiens et la partie moins aisée de la population. Suivent alors, en adoptant l'ordre de leur importance, le matériel pour chemins de fer, télégraphes et lumière électrique, les laines, la farine, les matériaux de construction pour édifices, le fer manufacturé, les conserves alimentaires, les vins et les liqueurs, les eaux-de-vie, les soies, les drogues et les médicaments, la bière, les machines, les papiers, les tôles ondulées pour toitures, les ouvrages en cuir et en peau, les cristaux, faïences et terres cuites, etc.

Les cotons viennent d'Angleterre principalement. Les autres fournisseurs importants sont l'Allemagne, les Etats-Unis et la France.

Le matériel pour chemins de fer, télégraphes et lumière électrique est surtout d'importation nord-américaine. L'Angleterre et l'Allemagne interviennent cependant aussi pour une bonne part.

Les laines viennent de France, d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre. La Suisse importe aussi une certaine quantité de ces produits.

La farine est importée presque exclusivement par les Etats-Unis.

Les matériaux de construction pour édifices sont de même provenance.

Le fer manufacturé est d'origine nord-américaine, allemande ou anglaise.

Les conserves alimentaires sont importées, pour la majeure partie, par les Etats-Unis, l'Allemagne et la France. L'Espagne, l'Italie et l'Angleterre coopèrent également à cette importation.

Les vins et liqueurs viennent surtout de France. Les vins d'Espagne, des Etats-Unis (Californie), d'Italie et d'Allemagne occupent cependant une place honorable dans cette importation.

Les eaux-de-vie sont fournies pour la moitié environ par la France. Les autres importateurs sont les Etats-Unis, l'Espagne, l'Allemagne, l'Angleterre et l'Italie.

Les soies viennent de plusieurs pays. Dans l'ordre des quantités fournies, figurent la France, les Etats-Unis, l'Angleterre, l'Allemagne, le Japon, la Chine et l'Italie.

Les drogues et médicaments sont importés par les Etats-Unis, la France, l'Allemagne et l'Angleterre.

La bière vient en grande partie d'Allemagne et des Etats-Unis. L'Angleterre en importe aussi une certaine quantité.

Les machines sont importées principalement par les fabriques nord-américaines, mais l'Allemagne, l'Angleterre et la France prennent également une part sérieuse à cette importation.

Les papiers sont envoyés en majeure partie par l'Allemagne et la France. Les Etats-Unis, l'Espagne, l'Angleterre et l'Italie figurent pour des quantités beaucoup moindres.

Les tôles ondulées pour toitures sont principalement de provenance anglaise et allemande. La France et les Etats-Unis restent de beaucoup en arrière dans cette importation.

Les ouvrages en cuir et en peau viennent presque exclusivement de fabriques allemandes, nord-américaines, anglaises et françaises.

Les cristaux, faïences et terres cuites constituent des articles d'importation allemande, belge, française ou nord-américaine.

HONDURAS.

ÉDIFICE GOUVERNEMENTAL À BUFFALO.

On vient de donner le premier coup de pioche dans la cour d'Etat et Bâtiments Etrangers à Buffalo pour la construction du bâtiment dans lequel la République de Honduras fera, comme membre de la "Pan-America," une exposition digne de ses progrès. Ce bâtiment aura la forme d'une rotonde octogonale entourée de porches spacieux sur trois côtés et de pavillons sur quatre autres, le huitième côté étant destiné à la cuisine et aux cabinets de toilette. La rotonde centrale et deux des pavillons sont destinés aux expositions des produits du pays. Il y aura, dans les deux autres pavillons, un café et des bureaux pour les commissaires. Des escaliers conduiront de la rotonde à la galerie qui

l'entouré, laquelle est éclairée au moyen de châssis vitrés et de lucarnes. Il y aura quatre grande entrées circulaires faisant communiquer les pavillons avec la rotonde, ce qui produira un nouvel effet charmant. Les porches seront bien protégés par de grandes corniches faisant saillie et seront un endroit ou ne peut plus agréable pour les visiteurs fatigués, désireux de venir s'y reposer et de jouir de l'hospitalité de l'Honduras. L'extérieur du bâtiment sera une adaption du style espagnol-américain avec des détails classiques. La toiture sera en tuiles espagnoles et l'extérieur de rudentures. Le plan de cet édifice fut dessiné par l'Architecte CHARLES INSCO WILLIAMS de Dayton, Ohio et Honduras.

MEXIQUE.

LE RECENSEMENT DE LA POPULATION DU DISTRICT FÉDÉRAL.

D'après le recensement, la population du District Fédéral a augmenté, durant les cinq dernières années, de la manière suivante:

La population du District Fédéral en 1895 était de 468,705 habitants; elle est aujourd'hui, d'après le dernier recensement, de 530,723 habitants, soit une augmentation de 62,018.

La population de Mexico était, il y a cinq ans, de 325,707 habitants; elle est aujourd'hui de 356,738 habitants, soit une augmentation de 31,031.

La préfecture de Tacubaya a augmenté de 4,000 habitants, bien que Tacuba ait été eulvé à cette préfecture pour être attaché à celle d'Alcapotzaleo.

Tlalpam perd 23,000 habitants parce que les municipalités de San Angel, Coyoacan et Ixtacaleo ont été détachées de cette préfecture.

En résumé, le recensement pour le District Fédéral a prouvé que la population avait augmenté de 8 pour cent, ce qui est une belle proportion, les villes européennes n'augmentant en général que de cinq pour cent pour une période de cinq ans.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR.

D'après le résumé publié par le Bureau des Statistiques de la République du Mexique, voici quel a été le commerce extérieur de la nation pendant le 1^{er} trimestre de l'année fiscale 1900-1901, correspondant aux mois de juillet, août et septembre:

Importations, \$13,965,793.38, or, contre \$12,797,434, or, pour la même période de l'année 1899. Les importations sont données en or dans la valeur déclarée dans la lettre d'envoi. Pendant les mois mentionnés, le Mexique a importé des États-Unis pour \$6,562,113.93 (argent mexicain) de marchandises contre \$6,266,409 pendant la même période de l'année 1899 et exporté aux États-Unis durant les mois de juillet,

août et septembre 1900 pour \$29,537,986.24 (argent mexicain) de produits contre \$25,187,680 pendant le trimestre correspondant de l'année précédente.

La plus grande partie des importations passèrent par les douanes maritimes du Golfe du Mexique, la valeur des produits ainsi importés se montant à plus de neuf millions de dollars en argent mexicain pendant que les importations par les douanes de la frontière septentrionale ont excédées quatre millions de dollars en argent mexicain. Les mêmes remarques peuvent s'appliquer aux exportations, celles passant par les ports du golfe s'étant élevées, pendant la période en question, à plus de vingt deux millions de dollars, pendant que les exportations par les douanes de la frontière se montaient environ à quatre millions de dollars.

PROJET D'EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE À MEXICO EN 1910.

La Légation de Belgique à Mexico écrit qu'il est question d'organiser dans cette ville, en 1910, une Exposition universelle à l'occasion du centième anniversaire de l'indépendance du Mexique.

Les organisateurs sont, paraît-il, des capitalistes étrangers, qui ont constitué un syndicat financier au capital de 10,000,000 de piastres. Les représentants de ce syndicat sont en ce moment en instance auprès des autorités mexicaines, afin d'obtenir l'autorisation de mettre leur projet à exécution.

Il est assez probable que les propositions présentées seront acceptées dans leur ensemble, et on assure, même, que le capital que le syndicat se propose d'engager dans cette entreprise est garanti, et que l'on n'attend plus que l'acquiescement du gouvernement mexicain pour commencer la propagande.

PÉROU.

COMMERCE PENDANT L'ANNÉE 1899.

Les récentes statistiques publiées par le Gouvernement Péruvien montre que, pendant l'année 1899, le commerce de cette nation s'est monté à 54,854,494.59 soles. Les importations pendant la période mentionnée s'élevaient à 21,230,183.10 soles pendant que les exportations pour le même espace de temps atteignaient la somme de 33,615,311.49 soles. Pendant l'année, le trafic le long de la côte (à l'exception de Iquitos dont on a pas encore les données) était de 25,916,919.28 soles, élevant le total du commerce de la République pour 1899 à 80,762,413.87 soles.

Si on compare les importations de 1899 avec celles de 1898, on trouvera que les importations de 1898 ont excédées celles de 1899 de

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562,323.42 soles, comme on la verra dans le tableau suivant qui indique les articles principaux importés, ainsi que leurs valeurs en soles:

Articles.	1898.	1899.
Colonnades.....	4,067,668.82	3,770,317.57
Lainages.....	1,376,643.32	1,451,361.95
Tolles.....	259,128.23	233,073.42
Séries.....	293,569.55	292,533.66
Meubles, etc.....	1,273,214.28	1,324,489.95
Quincaillerie, etc.....	8,456,067.90	7,988,644.72
Vivres, etc.....	2,261,453.65	2,380,950.24
Vins et liqueurs.....	509,758.69	365,856.57
Produits pharmaceutiques et chimiques.....	799,797.69	927,720.62
Importations par Iquitos.....		2,495,234.39
Total.....	19,297,272.13	21,230,183.10

Voici quels ont été, pendant cette période, les principaux pays qui ont exporté des marchandises au Pérou, ainsi que la valeur de leurs exportations représentées en soles:

1898.		1899.		1898.		1899.	
Allemagne.....	3,401,887.91	3,451,516.01	Espagne.....	155,941.28	116,621.68		
République Argentine.....	115.20	370.20	Etats-Unis.....	2,078,376.12	2,183,109.90		
Autriche.....	805.62	425.25	France.....	1,551,004.61	1,733,951.87		
Belgique.....	600,393.90	591,919.11	Angleterre.....	8,682,771.19	7,571,151.30		
Bouvie.....	82,513.19	52,133.19	Italie.....	661,694.55	766,532.01		
Bresil.....	146.16		Japon.....		3,094.50		
Amérique Centrale.....	73,166.01	49,186.25	Mexique.....	19,876.36			
Colombie.....	9,265.89	29,704.39	Portugal.....	150.00	385.80		
Cuba.....		3,358.71	Suisse.....	577.50			
Chili.....	1,368,530.44	1,525,656.80	Uruguay.....	28,447.71	10,139.51		
Chine.....	526,649.35	634,415.65	Total.....	19,297,272.13	18,734,948.71		
Equateur.....	101,978.84	81,276.55					

Pendant l'année fiscale 1899 les exportations de la République, sans comprendre celles du port d'Iquitos, se sont montées à 30,725,910.99 soles. Si l'on déduit la valeur des exportations de 1898 (30,274,775.89 soles) les exportations de 1899 donnent un gain net de 451,135 soles. Ci-dessous est un résumé des exportations de 1899 comparées avec celles de 1898:

Pays.	1899.	1898.	Pays.	1899.	1898.
Angleterre.....	14,854,540.12	17,153,939.97	Mexique.....	7,583.00	31,579.28
Etats-Unis.....	5,146,531.62	2,873,526.01	Cuba.....	4,757.50	
Chili.....	4,940,373.97	4,588,479.28	Amérique Centrale.....	2,596.00	19,978.20
Allemagne.....	3,357,231.28	2,703,772.79	Japon.....	259.17	
France.....	799,626.00	820,952.25	République Argentine.....	225.00	8,500.00
Bouvie.....	626,066.84	628,926.57	Chine.....	150.80	30,202.10
Colombie.....	390,139.78	441,944.34	Uruguay.....	19.00	1,041.13
Equateur.....	335,416.00	892,066.07	Total.....	30,725,910.99	30,274,775.89
Belgique.....	197,379.98	12,065.21			
Italie.....	33,162.76	27,819.99			
Espagne.....	29,908.07	40,042.36			

D'après ces chiffres, on constatera que pendant que les exportations de la Grande Bretagne étaient, en 1899, 2,299,399.85 soles de moins que celles de 1898, les exportations des Etats-Unis, en 1899, se montaient

à 2,273,005.61 soles de plus que celles de 1898. Pendant l'année 1899 les exportations d'Allemagne, du Chili et de la Belgique ont aussi augmenté considérablement si on les compare avec celles de 1898.

D'après la classification Péruvienne, voici quels étaient les principaux articles exportés par le Pérou pendant l'année 1899: minerais, 10,677,013 soles; sucre, 10,103,519 soles; laine, 3,118,076 soles; coton, 1,737,478 soles; si on compare ces chiffres avec ceux respectifs de l'année 1898, on constatera que les exportations de minerais ont augmenté de plus de un million de soles sur celles de 1898, que les exportations de sucre ont augmenté de plus de 882,000 soles et que celles de coton ont diminué de plus de 682,000 soles. Les droits de douane perçus dans la République, à l'exception de ceux reçus dans la douane d'Iquitos, se sont montés à 6,210,898 soles.

SALVADOR.

CONSEIL D'AGRICULTURE.

Le Bulletin d'Agriculture de la République de Salvador du mois de décembre 1900, publié à San Salvador, contient un décret autorisant, dans la capitale, la création d'un Conseil central d'agriculture qui aura pour devoir de mettre en pratique les articles du Code Agricole en ce qui concerne l'encouragement, le développement et la protection de cette branche importante de la richesse nationale.

COMMERCE DU MONDE.

Le Ministère des Finances des Etats-Unis est en train de préparer un résumé statistique qui montrera les importations et les exportations de tous les pays du monde qui publient des rapports commerciaux. Le but du Bureau des Statistiques est de présenter un tableau comparatif du commerce du monde, non seulement d'aujourd'hui, mais depuis de longues années, en employant les mesures de valeur et de quantité dont on se sert aux Etats-Unis.

C'est la première fois qu'une pareille chose a été tentée et ce sera une contribution importante à l'histoire commerciale du pays. Le premier chapitre montrera les importations et exportations annuelles de quarante sept nations différentes, remontant, depuis la date présente, aussi loin que les archives le permettront. Le chapitre suivant donnera, en détail, les articles différents de marchandises qui ont été exportés et importés et les pays différents parmi lesquels le commerce de chaque nation a été distribué.

La haute situation des Etats-Unis parmi les nations commerciales et le développement énorme de son trafic à l'étranger satisfera, non seulement tous les citoyens inspirés par l'amour du pays, mais encore les surprendra et la comparaison avec les autres nations étonnera le monde. Les comparaisons du commerce des Etats-Unis avec les chiffres officiels publiés par les gouvernements de la Grande-Bretagne, de la France et de l'Allemagne exciteront vraiment la surprise. Par exemple, l'exposé suivant montrera l'extension du commerce extérieur de la Grande-Bretagne et des Etats-Unis pendant le siècle :

	Importations.			Exportations.		
	1800.	1899.	Pour cent d'augmentation.	1800.	1899.	Pour cent d'augmentation.
Grande-Bretagne	\$81,310,000	\$2,043,896,450	2,400	\$111,107,000	\$1,287,151,345	1,059
Etats-Unis	52,121,891	685,441,892	1,215	31,840,903	1,203,931,222	3,681

La première comparaison montre que le peuple des Etats Unis est beaucoup plus capable de subvenir à ses propres besoins que celui de la Grande-Bretagne. Les importations de cette République, en 1800, se montaient à près de deux tiers autant que celles de la Grande-Bretagne, tandis qu'à la fin du siècle elles sont moins d'un tiers. En même temps, les exportations des Etats-Unis ont augmenté trois fois aussi rapidement que celles de la Grande-Bretagne. Quoique en 1899, les exportations des Etats-Unis fussent \$80,000,000 moindre que celles de la Grande-Bretagne, les Etats-Unis ont surpassé, en 1900, la Grande-Bretagne par un total de \$1,394,483,082, dont \$433,851,756 étaient des articles manufacturés pour lesquels les deux pays étaient en concurrence indirecte.

Les chiffres de la France ne remontent pas plus loin qu'au commencement du siècle; par conséquent, les comparaisons doivent commencer avec l'année 1831 et sont comme suit :

	Importations.			Exportations.		
	1831.	1899.	Pour cent d'augmentation.	1831.	1899.	Pour cent d'augmentation.
France.....	\$72,182,000	\$872,032,000	1,108	\$88,088,000	\$801,452,000	810
Etats-Unis	82,008,110	685,441,899	724	59,218,683	1,203,931,222	1,933

On verra ainsi que pendant que les Etats-Unis marchaient de pair avec la Grande-Bretagne; ils surpassaient la France dans la production des articles nécessaires au monde du dehors, aussi bien que ceux requis par son propre peuple. L'impression générale était que les Français pouvaient subvenir à leurs propres besoins et se fournir des articles

de luxe nécessaires, mais ces chiffres montrent que leur dépendance des nations étrangères a augménté avec les années et que la balance du commerce est aujourd'hui grandement contre eux.

Une comparaison avec le gouvernement allemand ne peut pas remonter plus loin qu'à son origine en 1872, mais les chiffres à partir de cette date sont on ne peut plus intéressants et significatifs, comme on peut le voir par le tableau suivant:

	Importations.			Exportations.		
	1872.	1899.	Pour cent de l'aug- menta- tion.	1872.	1899.	Pour cent de l'aug- menta- tion.
Empire allemand.....	\$793,726,000	\$1,304,977,000	61	\$564,165,000	\$801,452,000	42
Etats-Unis.....	560,419,034	685,441,892	21	425,487,131	1,203,331,242	81

En ce qui concerne l'Autriche-Hongrie, les archives commencent avec l'année 1860; la Belgique, 1831; la France, 1831; l'Allemagne, 1872; l'Italie, 1861; les Pays-Bas, 1860; la Russie, 1861; l'Espagne, 1860; la Norvège, 1860; la Suède, 1860; le Canada, 1851; le Mexique, 1873; la République Argentine, 1870; le Chili, 1860; la Chine, 1868; le Japon, 1874; l'Inde, 1851; l'Australie, 1851; l'Égypte, 1874, et le cap de Bonne-Espérance et Natal, 1851, dans chaque cas les chiffres couvrant la période entière depuis la date nommée la plus éloignée jusqu'au temps présent. Les chapitres qui suivent donneront les détails du commerce de chacun de ces pays.

Un fait spécialement intéressant développé par l'étude des chiffres donnés plus haut, aussi bien que par les comparaisons avec ceux des autres nations, est que dans le cas des États-Unis ils montrent avec une fréquence beaucoup plus grande que dans n'importe quel autre pays "une balance commerciale" favorable (balance of trade) ou un excédent de la valeur des exportations sur les importations. Parmi les quarante sept pays inclus dans cette comparaison, dix-huit montrent un excédent d'exportations sur les importations et vingt-neuf un excédent d'importations sur les exportations. Les pays principaux montrant un excédent d'exportations sur les importations sont le Canada, le Mexique, la République Argentine, le Chili, l'Australasie, l'Inde, l'Égypte, l'Espagne, l'Autriche-Hongrie et la Russie. Aucun des dix-huit pays dont les exportations excèdent les importations ne montre une balance commerciale approchant celle dont jouissent les États-Unis, et une compilation des excédents d'exportations dans le groupe entier des dix-huit pays ayant de tels excédents, ne donne seulement un total général que de \$414,845,000 pour l'année la plus rapprochée qui peut être obtenue contre un excédent de \$544,542,131 en faveur seulement des États-Unis pendant l'année fiscale 1900.

LA PRODUCTION DE L'OR ET DE L'ARGENT DU MONDE.

Le Directeur de la Monnaie des Etats-Unis a complété son estimation finale de la production de l'or et de l'argent pendant l'année 1899. D'après cette estimation, la production de l'or se montait à \$306,584,900, et celle de l'argent à \$100,321,100, la part d'or des Etats-Unis étant de \$71,053,400 et celle de l'argent de \$32,858,700, ou presque un tiers de la quantité produite. Dans l'opinion du compilateur, la production de l'or aurait été \$25,000,000 de plus, sans la guerre du Transvaal. Le Mexique est à la tête des nations productrices de l'argent et ce pays produit avec les Etats-Unis, les deux tiers de l'argent du monde. La consommation industrielle de l'or du monde est estimée à \$72,658,500 et celle de l'argent à \$24,595,600. Voici quels sont les pays principaux qui produisent ces deux métaux :

Pays.	Or.	Argent.	Pays.	Or.	Argent.
Etats-Unis.....	\$71,053,400	\$32,858,700	Russie	\$22,167,100	\$80,900
Mexique	8,500,000	33,367,300	Allemagne.....	74,200	3,745,200
Canada et Terre Neuve.....	21,324,300	2,047,000	Bolivie.....	68,500	6,506,400
Afrique.....	73,227,100	.....	Chine.....	5,574,400	.....
Australasie.....	79,321,600	7,612,000	Inde	8,517,500	.....

LA CONSERVATION DES FRUITS TROPICAUX.

Le système que l'on est en train d'adopter maintenant dans les Indes Occidentales et l'Amérique Centrale pour conserver les fruits, a été expérimenté avec succès dans les pays de l'Australie. C'est un nouveau procédé d'évaporation dont la rapidité et la propreté absolue le rendent supérieur aux autres. Cinq ou six heures seulement suffisent pour changer le fruit frais en un article que l'on pourra garder des mois, même des années, et qui en même temps conservera sa saveur primitive. La sanction australienne porte avec elle le sceau approbatif du Gouvernement car, dans ce pays, les substances qui servent à l'alimentation sont sujettes aux examens les plus sérieux avant d'être considérées comme denrées principales. Le procédé d'évaporation a été appliqué avec grand succès dans quelques pays de l'Amérique Centrale, spécialement aux bananes et pour la conservation d'autres fruits. Comme la machine n'est pas très perfectionnée et que le prix primitif du fruit est presque insignifiant, il est possible de vendre au marché les produits à peu de frais. On a fait des expériences sur d'autres produits tropicaux, parmi eux la cassave et la ketmie comes-

tible, et on a trouvé, dans presque tous les cas, que l'article évaporé retenait toutes ses qualités nutritives.

On rapporte que de grandes quantités d'aliments évaporés ont été envoyés de Santo Tomas, Guatemala, à l'armée Anglaise et que le Gouvernement de la Jamaïque est très intéressé dans la question qui semble vouloir donner des résultats favorables. Le perfectionnement du procédé révolutionnera pratiquement, on pense, le commerce des fruits tropicaux.

LE TABAC À L'EXPOSITION PAN-AMÉRICAINNE.

Le tabac est reconnu comme un des produits les plus importantes de trente trois Etats et Territoires des Etats-Unis, étant aussi cultivé dans l'Hémisphère Occidental et les Antilles.

Certains cultivateurs, aidés par le Gouvernement Fédéral, prendront les mesures nécessaires pour démontrer non seulement les différentes espèces de produits de la feuille de tabac, telle qu'elle est cultivée dans les différents endroits, mais aussi pour faire connaître la manière de propager cette plante, les nombreuses méthodes employées pour la récolter, la traiter, préparer et manipuler la feuille selon la classe de tabac manufacturé à laquelle elle est destinée. Ils se proposent aussi de démontrer soigneusement les méthodes employées pour faire fertiliser les semences aussi bien dans des pots en argile poreux que dans des feuilles de papier buvard; les nombreuses méthodes de culture qui ont obtenu du succès; les espèces qui peuvent s'adapter aux différents terrains et climats; le mélange du tabac des Etats-Unis avec celui de l'étranger ainsi que les effets produits par cette combinaison dans la fibre et le goût.

Les expériences qui ont été faites pour produire des feuilles claires ou foncées dans différentes espèces de terrain ont donné des résultats assez satisfaisants.

Le Professeur J. H. JENKENS de la Station d'Agriculture de l'Etat de New-York et Mr. MARCUS A. FLOYD, expert en matière de tabac au Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis, ont fait récemment des expériences intéressantes en semant du tabac de la Havane et de Sumatra dans des terrains de Connecticut. Les plantes croissent sous une légère étoffe transparente placée à neuf pieds au dessus du niveau du sol et soutenue par une charpente. Cette enveloppe a l'avantage de conserver l'humidité du terrain tout en obtenant une température plus uniforme. Cette couverture, en empêchant la radiation de la terre, élève la température depuis 5 jusqu'à 10 degrés et sert de protection contre les grands orages. Dessous cet abri, les feuilles croissent plus petites mais plus fines et ont une couleur verte plus brillante; les plantes poussent plus sveltes que celles qui sont cultivées à l'air libre. Ce

succès atteint est relatif au tabac de Sumatra, car les résultats que l'on a obtenus avec la semence de la Havane n'ont pas été très satisfaisants.

On a l'intention de faire une très grande exposition, car la question du tabac a une importance si grande qu'elle demande à être prise sérieusement en considération, et spécialement dans une exposition internationale.

Le tabac est depuis très longtemps connu aux Etats-Unis et servait autrefois à remplacer l'argent qui était extrêmement rare. Il y a 150 ans les habitants de la Virginie payaient en tabac au lieu d'argent et on acceptait dans l'Etat de Maryland du tabac comme monnaie courante. On assure que l'Etat de Maryland a produit, en 1832, 30,000 boucauts de tabac, quantité qui, jusqu'à présent, n'a jamais été excédée. Malgré la grande quantité de tabac qui se récolte dans le nouveau continent et les îles voisines, on en importe de grandes quantités des autres parties du monde, ce qui paraît superflu, cette plante se cultivant avec succès en Amérique, qui devrait fournir au monde entier tout le tabac nécessaire à sa consommation.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyés au Bureau des Républiques Américaines et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

Le "Magasin Géographique" du mois de décembre 1900 contient un article important et intéressant par le Colonel F. F. HILDER, du Bureau d'Ethnologie Américain, sur "l'Or dans les Philippines" (Gold in the Philippines). C'est le premier article qui ait jamais été écrit sur ce sujet dans la littérature Américaine et qui donne des renseignements complets sur l'étendue et l'emplacement des gisements d'or dans ces îles. L'or, dit le Colonel HILDER, est distribué en grande quantité d'un bout à l'autre de l'île de Luzon, mais y aurait-il une quantité de gisements assez riches pour payer le travail systématique et l'introduction de machines, c'est un problème que le futur peut seul résoudre. L'écrivain ajoute que les chercheurs d'or sont pleins d'espérance d'obtenir de bons résultats lorsque le pays sera redevenu tranquille. Il fait remarquer qu'il existe dans les autres parties de l'Archipel, des gisements d'or d'une très grande étendue, qui, dit-on, sont très riches, mais qui n'ont jamais été exploités faute de main-d'œuvre.

"Carte commerciale de l'Amérique du Sud" (Commercial Map of South America), par J. G. BARTHOLOMEW, F. R. G. S. (Edinburgh), revue et corrigée par JOHN SAMSON du Journal "l'Amérique du Sud"

(South American Journal.) Echelle 1:12,000,000, avec des cartes et des plans insérés; dimension, 26x35 pouces. Cette carte nouvelle est considérée comme une réduction exacte des cartes topographiques les plus récentes de l'Amérique du Sud, elle est admirablement gravée sur cuivre et imprimée en couleurs. Elle donne des détails aussi minutieux que l'échelle le permet sur la configuration topographique et physique du continent et montre, d'une manière proéminente, tous les chemins de fer ainsi que les routes que suivent les bateaux à vapeur sur l'océan et les fleuves.

“Vera-Cruz illustrée” (VERACRUZ ILUSTRADO), tel est le titre d'un magnifique ouvrage, in quarto, publié par Messieurs S. PEARSON ET FILS, Londres. Ce volume est le quatrième des séries sur les ressources des États de la République du Mexique et se fait spécialement remarquer par la quantité de reproductions photographiques qu'il contient. Le sujet est imprimé en langues espagnoles et anglaises et est on ne peut plus intéressant en ce qui concerne l'État de Vera-Cruz, particulièrement quand il parle des travaux du port et des chemins de fer.

Señor Dr. FRANCISCO DE VEYGA de Buenos-Ayres a compilé et publié récemment un ouvrage scientifique important intitulé: “Études médico-légales d'après le Code Civil Argentin” (Estudios médico-legales sobre el Código Civil Argentino). Mr. VEYGA est un juriste distingué et occupe maintenant la chaire de jurisprudence médicale à l'Université de Buenos-Ayres.

Mr. CARLOS P. SALAS, chef du Bureau des Statistiques de la province de Buenos-Ayres, République Argentinne, vient de publier un ouvrage traitant des maladies contagieuses dans la province pendant les dix dernières années. Ce livre contient une quantité de gravures coloriées et de nombreux diagrammes.

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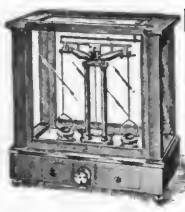
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Manual de Venezuela.

La segunda edición del Manual de Venezuela (Boletín No. 93), corregida en 1899, está ya pronta para ser distribuida. Dicha publicación, dividida en dos partes, la primera en inglés y la segunda en castellano, contiene además de datos oficiales referentes á la agricultura, el comercio, minas, cría, maderas, industrias, vías de comunicación, etc., de la República, un bosquejo geográfico é histórico del país, su Gobierno y régimen constitucional, división política, leyes, bibliografía y otros informes de no escasa importancia.

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following table gives the chief weights and measures in commercial use in Mexico and the Republics of Central and South America, and their equivalents in the United States.

Denomination.	Where used.	United States equivalents.
Are	Metric	0.02471 acre.
Arrobe	Paraguay	25 pounds.
Arroba (dry)	Argentine Republic	25.3171 pounds.
Do	Brazil	32.38 pounds.
Do	Cuba	25.3664 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	25.4024 pounds.
Arroba (liquid)	Cuba and Venezuela	4.263 gallons.
Barril	Argentine Republic and Mexico	20.0787 gallons.
Carga	Mexico and Salvador	300 pounds.
Centaro	Central America	4.2631 gallons.
Cuadra	Argentine Republic	4.2 acres.
Do	Paraguay	78.9 yards.
Do	Paraguay (square)	8.077 square feet.
Do	Uruguay	2 acres (nearly).
Cubic meter	Metric	35.3 cubic feet.
Fanega (dry)	Central America	1.5745 bushels.
Do	Chile	2.575 bushels.
Do	Cuba	1.599 bushels.
Do	Mexico	1.54728 bushels.
Do	Uruguay (double)	7.776 bushels.
Do	Uruguay (single)	3.888 bushels.
Do	Venezuela	1.599 bushels.
Frasco	Argentine Republic	2.5096 quarts.
Do	Mexico	2.5 quarts.
Gram	Metric	15.432 grains.
Hectare	do	2.471 acres.
Hectoliter (dry)	do	2.838 bushels.
Hectoliter (liquid)	do	26.417 gallons.
Kilogram (kilo)	do	2.2046 pounds.
Kilometer	do	0.621376 mile.
League (land)	Paraguay	4.633 acres.
Libra	Argentine Republic	1.0127 pounds.
Do	Central America	1.043 pounds.
Do	Chile	1.014 pounds.
Do	Cuba	1.0161 pounds.
Do	Mexico	1.01465 pounds.
Do	Peru	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Uruguay	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	1.0161 pounds.
Liter	Metric	1.0567 quarts.
Livre	Guiana	1.0791 pounds.
Manzana	Costa Rica	1.5-6 acres.
Marc	Bolivia	0.507 pound.
Meter	Metric	39.37 inches.
Pie	Argentine Republic	0.9478 foot.
Quintal	do	101.42 pounds.
Do	Brazil	130.06 pounds.
Do	Chile, Mexico, and Peru	101.61 pounds.
Do	Paraguay	100 pounds.
Do. (metric)	Metric	220.46 pounds.
Suerte	Uruguay	2,700 cuadras (<i>see</i> Cuadra).
Vara	Argentine Republic	34.1208 inches.
Do	Central America	33.874 inches.
Do	Chile and Peru	33.367 inches.
Do	Cuba	33.384 inches.
Do	Mexico	33 inches.
Do	Paraguay	34 inches.
Do	Venezuela	33.384 inches.

METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

METRIC WEIGHTS.

Milligram (1/1000 gram)	equals 0.0154 grain.
Centigram (1/100 gram)	equals 0.1543 grain.
Decigram (1/10 gram)	equals 1.5432 grains.
Gram	equals 15.432 grains.
Decagram (10 grams)	equals 0.3527 ounce.
Hectogram (100 grams)	equals 3.5274 ounces.
Kilogram (1,000 grams)	equals 2.2046 pounds.
Myriagram (10,000 grams)	equals 22.046 pounds.
Quintal (100,000 grams)	equals 220.46 pounds.
Millier or tonneau—ton (1,000,000 grams)	equals 2,204.6 pounds.

METRIC DRY MEASURE.

Milliliter (1/1000 liter)	equals 0.061 cubic inch.
Centiliter (1/100 liter)	equals 0.6102 cubic inch.
Deciliter (1/10 liter)	equals 6.1022 cubic inches.
Liter	equals 0.908 quart.
Decaliter (10 liters)	equals 9.08 quarts.
Hectoliter (100 liters)	equals 2.838 bushels.
Kiloliter (1,000 liters)	equals 1.308 cubic yards.

METRIC LIQUID MEASURE.

Milliliter (1/1000 liter)	equals 0.0388 fluid ounce.
Centiliter (1/100 liter)	equals 0.388 fluid ounce.
Deciliter (1/10 liter)	equals 0.845 gill.
Liter	equals 1.0567 quarts.
Decaliter (10 liters)	equals 2.6418 gallons.
Hectoliter (100 liters)	equals 26.418 gallons.
Kiloliter (1,000 liters)	equals 264.18 gallons.

METRIC MEASURES OF LENGTH.

Millimeter (1/1000 meter)	equals 0.0394 inch.
Centimeter (1/100 meter)	equals 0.3937 inch.
Decimeter (1/10 meter)	equals 3.937 inches.
Meter	equals 39.37 inches.
Decameter (10 meters)	equals 393.7 inches.
Hectometer (100 meters)	equals 328 feet 1 inch.
Kilometer (1,000 meters)	equals 0.62137 mile (3,280 feet 10 inches).
Myriameter (10,000 meters)	equals 6.2137 miles.

METRIC SURFACE MEASURE.

Centare (1 square meter)	equals 1,550 square inches.
Are (100 square meters)	equals 119.6 square yards.
Hectare (10,000 square meters)	equals 2.471 acres.

The metric system has been adopted by the following-named countries: Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, United States of America, and Venezuela

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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 JANUARY 1, 1901.

Countries.	Standard.	Unit.	Value in U. S. gold or silver.	Coins.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC	Gold and silver.	Peso	\$.0965	{ Gold—Argentine (\$4.824) and ½ Argentine. Silver—Peso and divisions.
BOLIVIA	Silver	Boliviano	.468	Silver—Boliviano and divisions.
BRAZIL	Gold	Milreis	.546	{ Gold—5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver—½, 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.
British Honduras	Gold	Dollar	1.000	
Guatemala	Silver	Peso	.468	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	Silver	Peso	.468	{ Gold—Condor (\$9.647) and double condor. Silver—Peso and divisions.
CUBA	Gold and silver.	Peso	.926	{ Gold—Centen (\$5.017). Silver—Peso.
ECUADOR	Silver	Sucre	.468	{ Gold—Condor (\$9.647) and divisions. Silver—Sucre and divisions.
HAITI	Gold and silver.	Gourde	.965	Silver—Gourde.
MEXICO	Silver	Dollar	.509	{ Gold—Dollar (\$0.983), 2¼, 5, 10, and 20 dollars. Silver—Dollar (or peso) and divisions.
PERU	Gold	Sol	.487	{ Gold—Libra (\$4.8665). Silver—Sol and divisions.
URUGUAY	Gold	Peso	1.034	{ Gold—Peso. Silver—Peso and divisions.
VENEZUELA	Gold and silver.	Bolivar	.193	{ Gold—5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 bolivars. Silver—5 bolivars.

Paraguay has no gold or silver coins of its own stamping. The silver peso of other South American Republics circulates there, and has the same value as in the countries that issue it.

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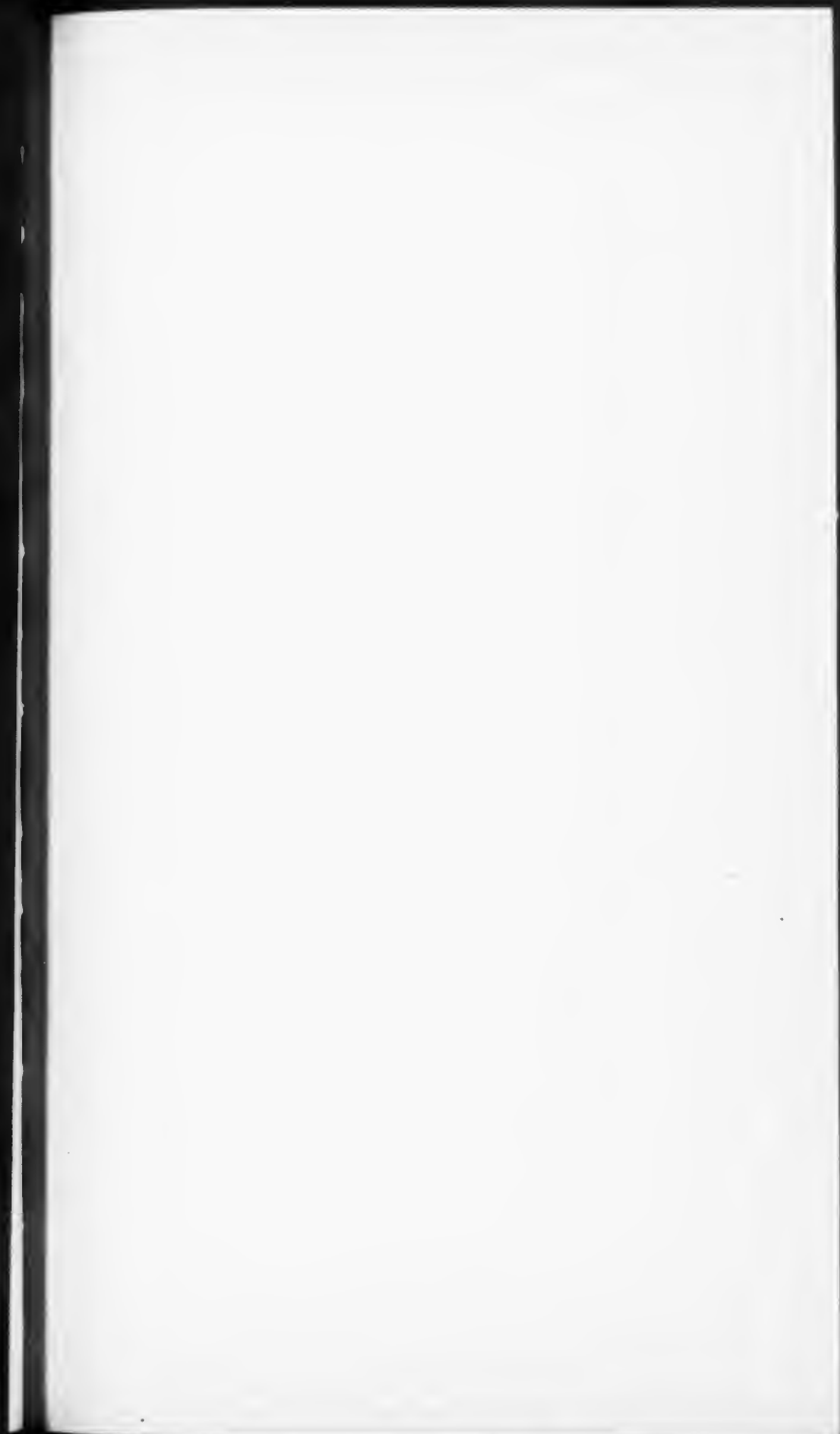
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