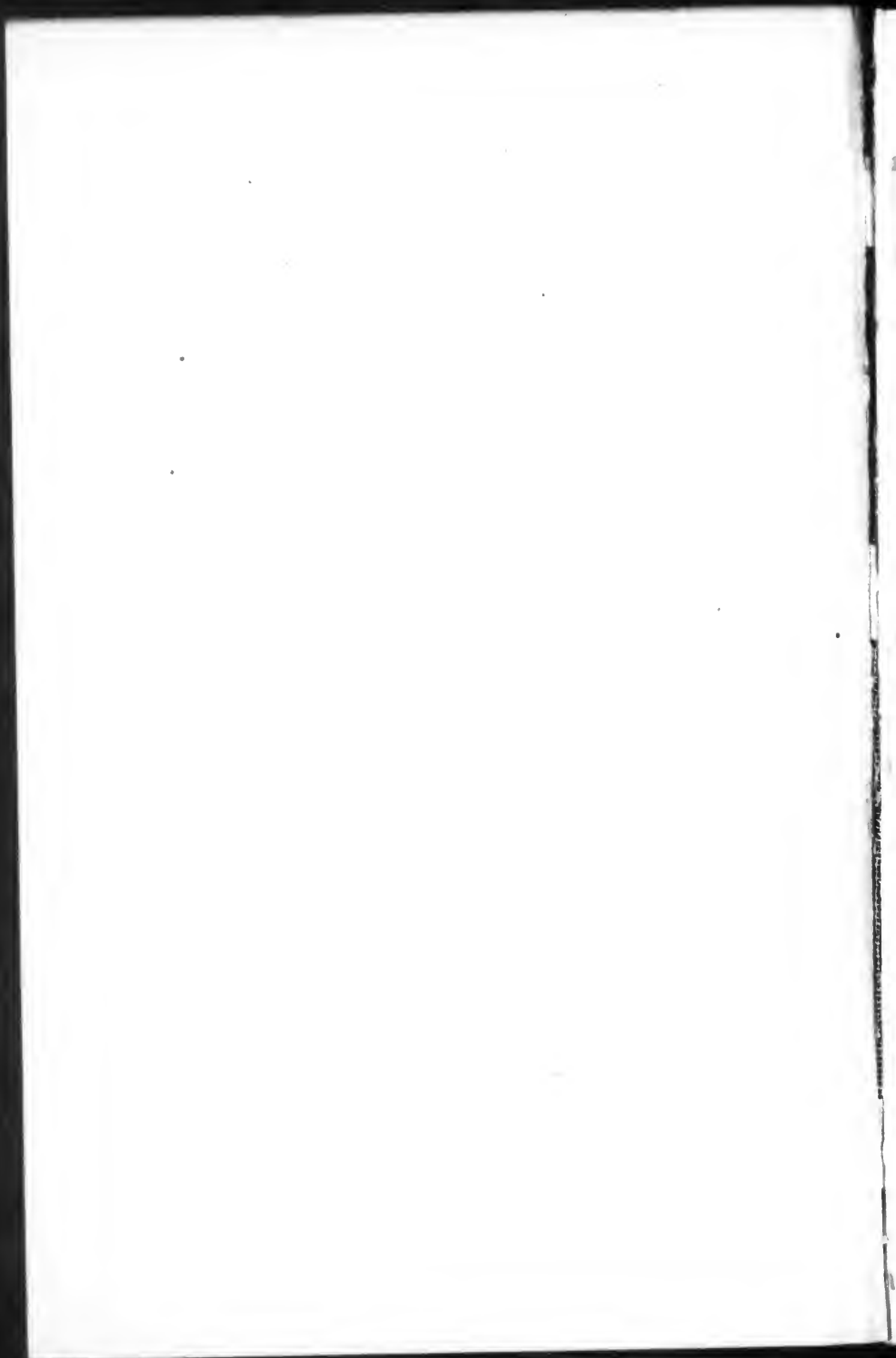


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AMERICAN REPUBLICS BUREAU

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APRIL-JUNE
1908



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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS

BULLETIN
OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE
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APRIL

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International Bureau
— of the —
American Republics

JOHN BARRETT - Director

FRANCISCO J. YANES - Secretary

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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GENERAL PORFIRIO DIAZ, PRESIDENT OF MEXICO.

Copy of autograph photograph recently presented to the Bureau.

EL GENERAL PORFIRIO DÍAZ, PRESIDENTE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS.

Reproducción de la fotografía autógrafa recientemente presentada á la Oficina.

BULLETIN
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,
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Vol. XXVI.

APRIL, 1908.

No. 4.

On April 1 the contract was signed between the Director of the International Bureau and the NORCROSS BROTHERS COMPANY, of Worcester, Massachusetts, for the construction of the new building of the International Bureau of the American Republics. It is to be completed within fifteen months from the date of signing the contract, or July 1, 1909. The revised plans and specifications call for a structure whose exterior shall be built of marble entirely, instead of stucco, as originally intended. This important change in the finish has been made possible largely as a result of the present condition of the building trade. There is so little construction going on now and contractors are so anxious to obtain work that the figures submitted were probably 20 per cent less than they would have been six or eight months ago, and this saving has been applied to requiring marble instead of stucco for the outside walls. The NORCROSS BROTHERS COMPANY is one of the oldest building firms in the United States. They carried out the changes that were made a few years ago in the White House and were the chief contractors for the great New York Public Library building now nearing completion. The general opinion expressed of the plans as they were delivered to the contractors by the architects, Messrs. KELSEY & CRET, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is not only that they provide for one of the most beautiful buildings ever erected in Washington, but that it will be one of which all the American Republics can be sincerely proud. The contractors, at this writing, are already well started on their preliminary work, and it is now the intention of the Governing Board of the International Bureau to lay the corner stone with appropriate ceremonies on May 11, with President Roosevelt, Andrew Carnegie, the Ambassador from Brazil, and the Secretary of State participating.

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

PAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The new Pan-American committee, to which reference was made in the last issue of the BULLETIN, has started upon its work, with the purpose of accomplishing results. The organization of the committee was perfected at a meeting held in the State Department of the United States on March 17, 1908, when the Secretary of State, ELIHU ROOT, was unanimously elected Honorary President. The permanent officers chosen are: Chairman, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN; Vice-Chairman, ANDREW CARNEGIE; Secretary, JOHN BARRETT. The Executive Committee is composed of Dr. L. S. ROWE, Congressman CHARLES B. LANDIS, Gen. A. E. BATES, and WILLIAM E. CURTIS. The Chairman and Secretary of the General Committee are, *ex-officio*, members of the Executive Committee. The first regular meeting of the latter was held April 7, and arrangements were made for special reports to be prepared on many different subjects.

HARVARD COURSE ON SOUTH AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY.

In deference to the widespread interest in topics relating to Latin America, the University of Harvard has inaugurated a course on the geography of South America in its curriculum for 1907-8. Tentative announcement of such intention was made ten years ago, but until the present year no active steps had been taken to carry out the plan. This course, as outlined by Prof. ROBERT DE C. WARD, of Harvard, presents a general view of the physiography, commercial geography, and climatology of South America (including Central America and the West Indies) as a whole, and of the different political divisions, separately. No text-book is used, but reference is made to the standard books on South America, as well as to articles and reports. Special attention is paid to climatology, and to the control of the climates over habitability, occupations, travel, transportation, etc.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY AND LATIN AMERICA.

The Director of the Bureau paid an interesting visit to Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., on March 13 and 14, 1908, in response to invitations from President JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN, of the University, and the Argentine students, who are members of the Cosmopolitan Club. On Friday night he delivered an address before the student body at a gathering over which President SCHURMAN presided, and on the following night he was the guest at a reception given in his honor by the Argentine students, in which he described that country to a large audience. There are now 46 young men at Cornell from different Latin-American countries, as follows: Argentine Republic 13, Porto Rico 10, Mexico 7, Peru 5,

Brazil 4, Ecuador 2, Nicaragua 2, Chile 1, Uruguay 1, Costa Rica 1. As 143 students comprise the foreign contingent at Cornell, these figures show that almost one-third are from Latin America. In response to several requests which the Director has received, extracts from his two addresses delivered at Cornell are reproduced elsewhere in this Bulletin.

THE NEW TRANS-CONTINENTAL RAILWAY.

In this issue is published a description of the ceremonies attendant on the opening of the Trans-Continental Railway of Guatemala in January, 1908, together with extracts from the interesting report of Maj. Gen. GEORGE W. DAVIS, who proceeded to Guatemala as the special representative of the United States for this occasion. The linking of Puerto Barrios, on the Caribbean, and San José, on the Pacific, by a line 270 miles in length, provides a third Trans-Continental Railway, the first being that of Panama and the second that of Tehuantepec. There is no doubt that this new road will prove of immense benefit to the development of the commerce and prosperity of Guatemala, and that country, as well as its President, MANUEL ESTRADA CARRERA, is to be congratulated on the conclusion of the undertaking. Much credit is also due to MINOR C. KEITH, Sir WILLIAM VAN HORNE, and Gen. T. H. HUBBARD, who have cooperated with the Guatemalan Government for the construction of the road.

PAN-AMERICAN GATHERING IN PHILADELPHIA.

Whitherspoon Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was the scene of an important session of the American Academy of Political and Social Science on March 20. The Ministers in the United States of Bolivia, the Argentine Republic, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay, and Chile were present and made appropriate speeches. The principal feature of the gathering was the address by Dr. L. S. ROWE, of the University of Pennsylvania, and the presentation to him of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the National La Plata University of the Argentine Republic, and also of the insignia of the honorary Professorship of Law by the University of San Marcos in Lima, Peru. The Director of the Bureau, Mr. JOHN BARRETT, presided. The audience was made up of many prominent people from Philadelphia and New York.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON TUBERCULOSIS.

The first American assembling of the International Congress on Tuberculosis will take place in Washington, District of Columbia, during September, 1908, with official delegates present from nearly all civilized countries. Among the countries of Latin America signifying their intention of

taking part in the conferences are the Argentine Republic, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Honduras, Salvador, Venezuela, and Cuba. In connection with the Congress, the Smithsonian Institution at Washington has offered a prize of \$1,500 for the best treatise that may be submitted on the "Relation of atmospheric air to tuberculosis," to be written in English, French, German, Spanish, or Italian. Other awards of money and medals are also to be made for demonstrations of practical work done for the relief or prevention of tuberculosis, concerning which information may be had on application to Dr. CHARLES J. HATFIELD, 2008 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

TWO NOTABLE DIPLOMATIC FUNCTIONS.

While the BULLETIN does not ordinarily concern itself with social functions, two dinners, given by the Ambassador of Brazil and the Minister of the Argentine Republic in the United States, respectively, are worthy of notice, and hence detailed reference to them is made elsewhere in this issue. It is remarkable that the two largest and most notable official and semidiplomatic dinners given in Washington during the winter just passed have been those of the representatives of Latin-American nations. The first of these was the dinner given on Tuesday, March 10, by Ambassador NABUCO, in honor of the Supreme Court of the United States; and the second, that of Minister PORTELA, given on Tuesday, March 17, in recognition of the selection recently made of Buenos Aires as the meeting place of the next Pan-American Conference.

RETURN OF MR. CHARLES M. PEPPER.

In a short time Mr. CHARLES M. PEPPER, Special Representative of the Department of Commerce and Labor, who has been traveling extensively through Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, will return to the United States. The reports prepared by him on Colombia and Ecuador are valuable contributions to the knowledge of conditions and progress on the west coast of the South American continent, and those to follow in regard to Peru and Bolivia are eagerly awaited. There are few men more familiar with Latin America than Mr. PEPPER, and he is doing a work which will be of great help in developing commerce and trade between the United States and her sister nations.

TRAVEL GUIDE TO LATIN AMERICA.

The public would be astonished if the files of the correspondence of the International Bureau of the American Republics were opened to exam-

ination to note the hundreds of letters annually received requesting information as to travel routes to, from, and through Latin American countries. Some of the letters are from tourists purposing to visit these sections; others are animated by commercial interests and a desire to extend sales into markets long ago discovered by alert manufacturers of Europe; while others still have already begun to reap advantage from the expanding character of American trade, and while their goods have begun to sell in some parts of Latin America, the merchants are in ignorance as to the exact location of their customers and the routes by which freight may most easily be transported.

To meet this need the May BULLETIN will publish an itinerary compiled from the files of the Columbus Memorial Library by a traveler of experience and practical knowledge. The information will be comprised in two tables; the first mentioning by name every seaport and country in Latin America, the steamship lines by which they are reached, the distance from port of departure, the cost of a passenger ticket, and the approximate time required for through travel; the second giving the official name of each steamship company, the main office address in the United States, the ports of departure and of direct call in Latin America, the flag under which sailings are made, the intervals between sailings and the character (whether passenger or freight, or both) of cargo carried.

MESSAGES OF AMERICAN PRESIDENTS.

In this issue of the MONTHLY BULLETIN are reproduced extracts from the messages of various Presidents of the Republics of Latin America, delivered since the opening of the year to the national assemblies of their respective governments. A striking characteristic of the words of the Executives of Salvador and Guatemala is the hearty indorsement given to the united efforts of the Central American governments and those of Mexico and the United States to maintain an established peace throughout the countries participating in the Conference of Washington. The same spirit of fraternity pervades the message of President WILLIMAN, who in February completed his first year as the head of the Uruguayan Republic. President DÍAZ, in opening the session of the Mexican Congress on April 1, made his usual résumé of conditions prevailing throughout the Republic during the preceding half year.

BOLIVIAN TIN IN 1907.

The depression in the financial world in the latter part of 1907 had its effect upon the price of Bolivian tin in the foreign markets, with a consequent limiting of its production. In accordance with the sliding scale adopted with reference to the value of Straits tin, which is taken as a

standard, the output for 1907 had a total valuation of \$15,000,000, or \$3,000,000 less than in the preceding year, while the production was 1,865 tons less.

BRAZIL'S ADVANCING TRADE VALUES.

The indicated gain of Brazil's foreign trade in 1907 over 1906 was \$54,000,000, the totals for the two years being \$494,000,000 and \$440,000,000, respectively. Both imports and exports figure in this increase, though by far the greater proportion is credited to the former. Noteworthy gains are cited for shipments of coffee and cacao, but the other great staple on the export list—rubber—showed a decline.

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION IN CHILE.

The progressive spirit animating the Chilean Government under President Montt's initiative is showing itself not only in extensive railway contracts and local improvements, but a subsidized steamship service between Valparaiso and Panama has been authorized, for which the Government guaranty is \$100,000 annually. It is especially stipulated in the terms of the bill that the trip shall be made within eight days, thus establishing, via the Panama Isthmus, speedy traffic between the east and west coasts of the continent. The census returns of the country show an increased population in twelve years of over 500,000, and industrial establishments in increasing numbers call for an outlet for native products.

A trade increase for 1907 over the preceding year is reported of \$2,516,709, bringing the total up to \$182,802,896.

COSTA RICAN REVENUES.

From customs, the receipts of the Costa Rican Government during the year 1907 show a steadily advancing ratio. In the nine months from April to December total receipts were \$300,000 in excess of those reported for the same period of 1906, a monthly average of \$210,000 being maintained, while in January, 1908, the month's receipts were nearly \$240,000.

CUBAN TRADE VALUES.

Trade statistics issued through the Department of Finance of Cuba show a satisfactory condition as regards the commercial status of the Republic, the total values for the calendar year 1907 being estimated at \$208,529,972, as against \$201,933,135 in 1906. In both branches of

trade gains were made over the preceding year. The customs revenues of the year advanced \$1,000,000 over 1906. The share of the United States as detailed by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States shows a percentage of increase, as compared with 1903, of 123.55 for imports and 61.52 for exports.

DOMINICAN TRADE IN 1907.

The report made by the Receiver-General of Dominican customs, Mr. W. E. PULLIAM, for the year 1907, shows that the total foreign commerce of the Republic attained the highest proportions ever recorded. An excess of \$12,500,000 is noted for both exports and imports, the former figuring for \$7,628,356 and the latter for \$4,948,961. As compared with 1906, the gain in exports was \$1,191,968 and in imports \$883,524. The import trade of the country was limited to urgent and actual needs, thus accounting for the small proportionate gain in this branch of commerce, but increased customs collections enabled a deposit of \$1,543,421.20 to be made with the National City Bank of New York for the purpose of liquidating the national indebtedness. A net balance to this account of \$1,135,974 results for the transactions of the year in reference. The new constitution as promulgated in February and going into effect on April 2, 1908, fixes the term of office of the President at six years and abolishes the office of Vice-President.

PROGRESS OF THE GUAYAQUIL AND QUITO RAILWAY.

In connection with a new railroad contract authorized by the Government of Ecuador, it is gratifying to record the information forwarded to this Bureau by Mr. WILLIAMS C. FOX, United States Minister to that Republic, to the effect that by the 1st of June, the Guayaquil and Quito line will have reached the capital. The town of Tambillo was entered by the first passenger train on March 1, and the contractors have guaranteed a speedy completion of the road to Quito, as the most difficult sections have been finished.

PRESIDENT DÁVILA'S ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE.

On March 1, 1908, Señor Don MIGUEL R. DÁVILA, who had exercised the functions of Provisional President of Honduras since the preceding April, formally assumed the office of Constitutional President of the Republic, and in this capacity delivered an official address to the National Assembly outlining his policies and purposes. Private advices from the country indicate a generally prosperous economic condition, though the trade values for the last fiscal year are somewhat below those reported for 1905-6, being \$4,343,926.65 as compared with \$5,389,353.

MEXICAN RAILWAY MERGER AND FOREIGN TRADE.

With the signing of the acts of incorporation on March 28, 1908, the Mexican Railway Merger Company came into full legal existence with a capital of \$230,000,000 gold and securities representing \$615,000,000. The railway consolidation act of the Mexican Government of July 6, 1907, in which are stated the rights of shareholders in the corporation and the Government interest therein, is published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for August, 1907. The Government ownership of the shares of the corporation to the number of 1,150,023 out of a total of 2,300,000 insures practically a Government control of the operations of the company. The properties affected include the trunk lines, branches, and holdings of the Mexican Central Railway and the National Railroad of Mexico. The prosperity of the Republic is emphasized by the figures lately issued covering foreign trade from July to December, 1907, where it is shown that imports had increased over the corresponding period of 1906 by \$7,615,7495 and exports by \$4,951,468, making a total trade advance of \$12,500,000 for the half year. On the basis of previously issued statistics, the commercial movement of the Republic for the calendar year 1907 is represented by \$213,440,000, of which \$93,950,000 is for imports and \$119,490,000 for exports.

NICARAGUAN CONCESSIONS.

With the purpose of developing the natural resources of the Republic, the Government of Nicaragua has recently granted a number of valuable concessions to foreign capitalists, a list of which is printed in this issue of the BULLETIN.

URUGUAY'S TRADE BALANCE.

In a general estimate of the foreign trade of Uruguay, made by President WILLIMAN in his address to the National Congress, the figures for 1907 are placed at \$69,576,143, representing an increase over the preceding year of \$1,719,204. It is noteworthy that this increase is credited entirely to the export list, the import values remaining practically stationary. On the basis of fiscal receipts for 1907 a treasury surplus of \$1,800,000 is anticipated by June 30, 1908.

VENEZUELAN CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The customs tariff of Venezuela as promulgated in January of the present year is published in this number of the BULLETIN, the English text having been made from the "*Gaceta Oficial*" of the Republic, with such changes as have been communicated to the Bureau since the date of issuance.

EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESSES OF THE DIRECTOR AT CORNELL.

The Director has received so many requests for the exact wording of certain portions of his addresses delivered at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, on Friday, March 13, before the student body, and Saturday, March 14, before the Cosmopolitan Club, that they are reproduced herewith.

The selections from the first address are as follows:

* * * * *

Without exaggeration or unwarranted enthusiasm, let me point out to you my confident belief that the next ten years is going to be a South American decade, that all the world will then be studying and admiring South America as it does possibly now Japan and the Orient, and that a material, economic, intellectual, and political advancement will be witnessed in South America which will rival what has been accomplished by the United States. Were it not for the lamentable ignorance which prevails all over the United States in regard to the peoples, institutions, resources, and nations of the Southern Hemisphere, this statement would not seem in the least surprising. Those of us who have traveled from Panama to Patagonia and from Brazil to Bolivia are keenly aware that this great onward movement has already begun and that South America has entered upon a new era of splendid activity and world-wide influence.

* * * * *

I want to see the time soon come in the United States when not only every university and college, but every preparatory school, academy, high school, and even every grammar school shall take up the study of South American history and geography with the same care that they do that of Europe. I also look for the early coming of the day when Spanish and Portuguese shall be studied in our principal institutions of learning by as many students as take up French and German. May the time, moreover, not be far distant when the average American traveler who now seeks diversion and rest in a trip to Europe or the Orient may find it worth his while to journey to South America. If these hopes are realized, all talk of distrust between the United States and her sister Latin American Republics will disappear and the magnificent work inaugurated by the great Secretary of State of the United States, ELIHU ROOT, will have received its due reward. Pan-America will then be no idle descriptive term; it will rather represent a living truth that all America is united not only for its own good, but for that of the civilized world.

The selections from the second address are as follows:

It is indeed a great honor as well as pleasure to be the guest to-night of the Argentine students of Cornell University, which ranks among the foremost educational institutions of the Western Hemisphere. There is an additional and particular gratification that I bring to you a special and sincere message from that true friend of South America, the great Secretary of State of the United States, ELIHU ROOT. When I bade him good-bye on Thursday and told him I was to be with you to-night, he said:

"Give my hearty best wishes to the young men of Argentina at Cornell. Tell them that I shall never forget the unique reception which was accorded me in Buenos Aires Harbor by the Argentine graduates and students of colleges in the United States, who came out in a special steamer to greet me. The enthusiasm and warmth of their college cheers, including that of my own alma mater, Hamilton College, and the display of banners, are still fresh in my memory. That remarkable greeting made me feel that there was only geographical difference between the rising citizens of Argentina and the United States and that both will always work together for the lasting fraternity of North and South America."

This expression of Secretary Root moves me to impress upon you that the International Bureau of the American Republics, for whose reorganization and enlargement of scope he is largely responsible, is doing all in its power, under my administration as Director, to educate the North American people to a true appreciation of the vast material, economic, and political possibilities of South America, with the result that there is a most gratifying awakening of interest not only in your progressive nation and people, but in your sister Latin American Republics and peoples among all classes of the United States, including statesmen, college presidents, bankers, editors, manufacturers, travelers, students, and even everyday laborers. The correspondence of the Bureau regarding Latin America now averages 3,000 letters received and answered and nearly 15,000 pieces of printed matter sent out per month. During the past year over 2,000 inquiries from all parts of the world concerning Buenos Aires and Argentina have been carefully answered, while the Director himself, in over 100 addresses before chambers of commerce and colleges in all parts of the United States has endeavored to supplement the good work begun by Secretary Root.

* * * * *

PAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEES.

Pursuant to the call of the Secretary of State of the United States, ELIHU ROOT, the first meeting of the Pan-American Committee of the United States of America was held in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the State Department at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon of March 17. A majority of the committee were present, the full list of which includes:

ANDREW CARNEGIE, Esq., Delegate of the United States to First Pan-American Conference.

HON. STEPHEN B. ELKINS, United States Senator from West Virginia.

HON. JAMES B. MCCREARY, United States Senator from Kentucky.

HON. CHARLES B. LANDIS, Member of Congress from Indiana.

HON. JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Member of Congress from Texas.

HON. ROBERT BACON, the Assistant Secretary of State.

Maj. Gen. ALFRED E. BATES, United States Army (retired).

HON. WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, Chairman of the United States Delegation to the Third Pan-American Conference.

DR. BENJAMIN IDE WHEELER, President of the University of California.

DR. EDMUND J. JAMES, President of the University of Illinois.

DR. L. S. ROWE, University of Pennsylvania.

DR. PAUL S. REINSCH, University of Wisconsin.

WILLIAM E. CURTIS, esq., Executive Officer of the First Pan-American Conference.

MR. JOHN BARRETT, the Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

Secretary ROOT called the meeting to order and explained the reason for the creation of the committee and the scope of the work that will come before it. He read the resolution of the Third Pan-American Conference "Recommending the creation of special divisions in the departments of foreign affairs and determining their functions," as follows:

To recommend to the Governments represented the appointment of a committee responsible to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and composed, if possible, of persons that have heretofore served as Delegates to International American Conferences, to the end that:

I. The resolutions adopted by the International American Conferences shall be approved.

II. The International Bureau of American Republics shall be furnished with all information necessary for the preparation of its work; and that

III. The committee shall exercise such further functions as the respective Governments shall deem proper.

At the conclusion of Mr. ROOT's remarks the organization of the committee was perfected, as follows:

Honorary President, ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State of the United States.

Chairman, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, Chairman of the United States Delegation to the Third Pan-American Conference.

Vice Chairman, ANDREW CARNEGIE, Delegate of United States to the First Pan-American Conference.

Secretary, JOHN BARRETT, the Director of the International Bureau of American Republics.

It was decided that an Executive Committee should be appointed by the Chair, consisting of four members, with the Chairman and Secretary of the General Committee as ex-officio members. The gentlemen appointed later by the Chairman were: Dr. L. S. ROWE, Chairman, Hon. CHARLES B. LANDIS, Maj. Gen. ALFRED E. BATES, WILLIAM E. CURTIS, Esq.

The Chairman of the Committee has already addressed a letter to the Secretary of State informing him of the organization of the committee and requesting to be put in touch with similar committees in the other American Republics, through communications addressed to the United States Ministers in the different Latin-American capitals, and it is hoped that in a short time each one of the 21 republics will have created similar committees to work in cooperation with that of the United States.

COMMITTEE OF PERU.

The Minister of Peru in Washington has informed the International Bureau of the American Republics of the appointment by the Peruvian Government of the following personnel to serve on the Pan-American Committee in application of the Fourth Resolution of the Third Pan-American Conference of Rio de Janeiro: Mr. ALBERTO ELMORE, Delegate to the Second Pan-American Conference; Mr. EUGENIO LARRABURE, Delegate to the Third Pan-American Conference; Mr. VICTOR EGUIGUREN, ex-Minister of Peru in the United States; Mr. MANUEL ALVAREZ CALDERÓN, ex-Minister of Peru in the United States; Mr. ALEJANDRO GARLAND, Delegate to the St. Louis Exposition.

A PAN-AMERICAN SESSION OF THE AMERICAN
ACADEMY OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE.

The session of the American Academy of Political and Social Science held in Witherspoon Hall, Philadelphia, on March 20, 1908, may be characterized as practically a Pan-American session by reason of the presence of a representative body of the South American diplomatic corps and the special nature of the proceedings with the Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics as presiding officer. It was made the occasion of the formal presentation to Dr. L. S. ROWE, of the University of Pennsylvania, of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the National La Plata University of the Argentine Republic, and also of the insignia of the Honorary Professorship of Law by the University of San Marcos in Lima, the oldest institution of the kind on the American continent.

Addresses were made by the Minister from the Argentine Republic, Señor Don EPIFANIO PORTELA; the Minister from Peru in the United States, Señor Don FELIPE PARDO; the Minister from Chile, Señor Don ANIBAL CRUZ; the Minister from Colombia, Señor Don ENRIQUE CORTES; the Minister from Bolivia, Señor Don IGNACIO CALDERÓN; the Minister from Uruguay, Señor Don MELIAN LAFINUR, and by Dr. LEO S. ROWE, who made the main address of the evening, each being introduced in turn by Mr. JOHN BARRETT, Director of the International Bureau.

In introducing Doctor ROWE, Mr. BARRETT stated that in his opinion the next ten years would witness a wonderful progress toward a complete understanding and intimate acquaintance between the various countries of the New World. The era inaugurated by the visits of Secretary ROOR to South America and Mexico will result in the breaking down of the barriers of language and the differences in customs and traditions which, combined with poor transportation

facilities, limited intercourse, and a certain measure of distrust, have heretofore prevented the fullest development of mutual sympathy and accord.

Doctor Rowe, in forecasting the future greatness of Latin American countries characterized them as "real political powers with which the nations of the earth must reckon." Their moral and intellectual movements have kept pace with their commercial and industrial energies, and the speaker urged upon the United States the necessity of fomenting a greater community of educational interests if real fellowship be the object sought. He quoted the far-reaching and statesmanlike view that Germany has taken of the situation, being always ready to furnish South America with scientists for her universities, with teachers for her schools, and with specialists in administrative, technical, and sanitary problems, with consequent beneficial results upon public opinion.

The Argentine Minister, in outlining the relations between the United States and the Republics to the south, referred to the vital necessity of a full mutual appreciation of existent conditions, and deplored the popular misrepresentation or misunderstanding of ordinary customs and usages prevailing in widely separated communities, which, though inevitably different, were not therefore inevitably to be condemned.

The same note was struck in the remarks of the Minister from Peru, who assigned to men of learning the task of establishing a better understanding of existing elements in order to distinguish those which should be promoted from those which should be checked.

The ultimate identity of American interests was the theme of the Minister from Chile, who attributed to diversity of races, differences in climatic conditions, and a legitimate though hasty desire for the attainment of full national development, such obstacles as have previously been encountered in the progress toward complete international unity.

The Minister from Colombia bespoke the cooperation of the United States from a moral and spiritual rather than from a material standpoint in the linking together of the countries of America for their common welfare, and the Ministers from Uruguay and Bolivia joined with their colleagues in placing the foundations of continental progress upon a continental unity of social interests.

NOTABLE FUNCTION AT THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY.

On March 9, the Brazilian Ambassador gave a dinner to the Supreme Court of the United States, which was so unique and notable in its character that the BULLETIN reproduces in part a descrip-

sion of the event which appeared in the Washington Post of Tuesday, March 10.

One of the most interesting dinners of the season was given at the Brazilian Embassy last evening, when the Ambassador and Mme. NABUCCO entertained in honor of the Justices of the Supreme Court. Not only were the Justices now serving on the Supreme Bench honored, but each of the eminent jurists who has in turn presided over its proceedings since the institution of the court was remembered.

In gold letters on a green background the colors of Brazil, above the decorations of each of the eight tables at which the dinner was served, appeared the name of a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, beginning with the scholarly JOHN JAY and including in turn each of his successors RUTLEDGE, ELLSWORTH, MARSHALL, TANEY, CHASE, WAITE, and FULLER.

The ball room was converted into a veritable forest. The conventional boundaries of the apartment, ceiling and walls, were obliterated by branches of giant palms, among them several of the Brazilian variety, which arched the entire length of the room, forming, with pinebrush and wild smilax, a vista of great beauty. A rustic lattice covered with wild smilax outlined the doorway and framed the sylvan picture beyond. Here and there amid the palm grove were placed the circular tables, each with a centerpiece of flowers making attractive spots of color. * * *

The guests of the evening were seated in groups of 10, the entire company numbering 80. At one table the host presided, and at another, Mme. NABUCCO. The Secretary of State, the Chief Justice, the Ambassador of Italy, the Ambassador of France, the Ambassador of England, and the Ambassador of Japan occupied the places of honor at the other table.

There were no speeches, but the Secretary of State, at the suggestion of Ambassador NABUCCO, offered a thought appropriate to the occasion, as follows:

"The guardianship of the constitutionality of the laws by the national judiciary was the greatest contribution of America to the science of politics. The maintenance of the prestige of the Supreme Court shows the growth of the judicial spirit over that of arbitrary force."

ARGENTINA HOST OF PAN-AMERICA.

On March 17 the Argentine Minister gave a Pan-American function of such size and importance that the BULLETIN reproduces below in part the description of it which appeared in the Washington Post of Wednesday, March 18, together with portions of the addresses that were made on this occasion. * * *

One of the notable dinners of the season was given last evening by the Argentine Minister and Madame PORTELA, who entertained 120 guests in the ballroom at RAUSCHER'S. The dinner was given by direction of the Argentine Government in recognition of the selection recently made of that country as the meeting place of the next Pan-American Congress in 1910. The guests included the Secretary of State, the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House, the Pan-American Committee recently appointed by Secretary ROOT to foster trade relations among the American countries, the Ministers from all the Latin-American countries, and Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE. The floral decorations were of unusual beauty. Gleaming among the flowers were the colors of the United States and of all the Latin-American countries in electric lights. At the head of the room, facing the guests as they entered, were large representations in electric lights of the flags of America and Argentina, and between them the coats of arms of the two countries.

During the course of the dinner the Argentine Minister made the following address:

Mr. Secretary of State, my distinguished colleagues: I have the honor of having been commissioned by my Government to offer you this banquet in order to thank you in its name and in that of the Argentine people for the great honor done my country in selecting the city of Buenos Aires and the year 1910, the centennial of Argentine independence, for the meeting of the Fourth Pan-American Conference. The Argentine Republic regards as especially fortunate the opportunity that by your friendly act you give her to present to all America congregated in her capital the evidences of her progress after a century of independent life and at the same time to prove that if, from causes belonging to the domain of history and sociology, her early days were turbulent and difficult, there was not in her march forward more retrogression than was necessitated by the curves of the road.

In the name of my Government, then, I offer you the hospitality of the Nation, who will do all in her power to enable the next International Congress to attain its worthy end—that of shaping, under the calm inspiration of right and justice, new stones for the already advanced structure of continental solidarity.

Mr. Secretary of State, we wish to have you preside in person over that Congress, but if this is impossible, we shall pray that your great spirit may guide its labors, which, according to your profound words, “tend more to the future than to the present;” so that “the right impulse” may continue, and that the finished work, like that of the preceding congresses, may “go on among” the millions of people in the American Continent long after the final adjournment, long after our lives, with incalculable benefit to all our beloved countries, and that at the end of its session we may all feel, in the significant words of Ambassador NABUCCO, the illustrious President of the Third Conference, that “in their hearts the American Republics form already a great political unit in the world.”

Ladies and gentlemen: To the Honorable Secretary of State, to the chiefs of the nations so worthily represented on this occasion.

Let our first toast be to the Chief of the Nation in homage to the majesty of the office and at the same time a most heartfelt tribute on my part to the eminent citizen who fills it.

The nations of America have always admired the United States. When the ties that bound them to the court of Spain were severed, they looked to this country for political institutions with which to replace the old régime. The Argentine Republic modeled her Government after the incomparable pattern of that of her great sister and has ever since followed in her steps. The Federalist is the constitutional gospel of our universities. In the political debates of our Congress, American authorities in constitutional science are frequently cited. The names of your parliamentarians are familiar to ours. The decisions of your Supreme Federal Court often contribute to strengthen the jurisprudence of our highest court. Our President SARMIENTO transplanted to Argentina your methods of primary education, and in our schools the names of WASHINGTON, HAMILTON, FRANKLIN, JEFFERSON, LINCOLN, in short the names of all the illustrious men of this Republic, are revered as the highest representatives of civic virtue in modern democracy. Growing towns bear the names of some of them. So, we have always admired the United States; the extraordinary energies of its people and its many moral victories in uplifting humanity, and I believe that I can affirm that this sentiment is common to all America; but admiration does not necessarily imply affection. Strong nations command respect, but they do not always inspire love. To-day the American nations both admire and love the United States, and this transformation of admiration into love has been wrought by THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

To the President of the United States.

The Brazilian Ambassador in the United States, on being called on for a speech, referred to the fact that he and Señor Portela had begun their diplomatic career in Washington together, thirty years previously, and stated that among the many developments that had taken place in the meantime, there had been none that had caused Brazil greater satisfaction than the remarkable impetus given to Argentine affairs whereby that Republic had become one of the most prosperous and progressive among the world's nations. He expressed the conviction that in 1910 the Conference Hall at Buenos Aires will resound with the same expressions of confidence in the future of Pan America as was so notable in the Monroe Palace at Rio de Janeiro in 1906. For the Argentine Minister and his Government he wished all success in obtaining for the Buenos Aires Conference the highest record among Pan-American conventions.

OPENING OF THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAY OF GUATEMALA.

An event of profound consequences to Guatemala and to the commercial interests that are concerned in the trade and development of that rich and progressive Republic is the completion, in January, 1908, of the railway which traverses that beautiful country and unites the ports of the Pacific with others on the Atlantic, the first to effect all-rail communication between the two oceans within the territory of Central America.

This event followed closely the signing of the treaties negotiated in Washington but a few months since, and is itself followed almost immediately by the announcement of the ratification of those treaties by the legislative powers of all the Central American States—happy omens to all Latin America of a long future of peace, harmony, and for an industrial revival and development, rivaling, as they will, past records, either in North or South America.

The line of railway from Puerto Barrios through San José, which throughout its whole extent has just been placed in commission is about 270 miles in length, of which something more than 200 miles in two sections has been operated for many years. The closing of the gap separating the Atlantic and Pacific sections, a work of very great magnitude, was taken up in 1904 by a syndicate in which Mr. MINOR C. KEITH, Sir WILLIAM VAN HORX, and Gen. T. H. HUBBARD were the principals, and at a cost of approximately \$4,500,000 the transcontinental route was completed.

An event so important in the life of the Republic as the completion of this railway line wholly within its territorial limits was not allowed to pass without appropriate inaugural ceremonies, to which end the enlightened Government of President MANUEL ESTRADA

CABRERA took necessary steps in due time for commemorating the occurrence by dignified and appropriate ceremonies. Delegations from every province in the Republic and all classes of the population took part with enthusiastic ardor.

As is well known, the initiation of the recent Peace Conference in Washington was due in large degree to the measures which were taken toward the close of last year, at the instance of President ROOSEVELT, by Mr. ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State of the United States. His visit to the principal capitals of South America and Mexico had convinced this far-sighted statesman that through a better acquaintance and freer intercourse of representative men of the Central American States at the Central American Peace Conference would be the bases created and the foundations laid for a neighborly understanding and enduring harmony between the contracting Republics—sovereignties which in the past have too often attempted to enforce their demands upon each other through the intervention of armed forces and desolating war.

It is evident that the Government of Guatemala recognized the prime importance of these measures and the disinterestedness of the Government of the United States in the premises, whose only object was to create and establish a real sympathy and bond of union between these powers which were once united in a Central American Federation, and which it was the aim of these efforts to renew. What could be more fitting than that the oldest Republic in the three Americas, which had cooperated with Mexico to effect the assembling of the Peace Conference, should be invited to send a special representative to attend the ceremonies arranged to mark the accomplishment of the great peaceful conquest of human effort, the establishment of a first-class railway traversing the jungle, the plains, and the mountains of the ancient Kingdom of Guatemala, the modern Republic of that name?

A cordial invitation, through the usual channels of diplomatic communication, having been extended by the President of the Republic to the President of the United States, it was accepted in the same spirit, and a Special Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in the person of Maj. Gen. GEORGE W. DAVIS, U. S. Army, retired, was dispatched to Guatemala.

He reached Puerto Barrios, the northern terminus of the new railway, on January 15, was met by a delegation comprising personal representatives of the President, of the Minister of Foreign Relations, of Fomento, and of War, and escorted to a special train in waiting.

Upon arrival at the capital on January 16 he was met by a large delegation, comprising the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, of Fomento, of War, and the Alcalde of the city, a detachment of troops, music, etc. One of the handsomest residences in the city, with requisite servants, supplies, and carriages, was placed at the service of the

Special Envoy, whither he was escorted by the Minister of Foreign Relations, who extended the welcome in the name of the President of the Republic. Five aides-de-camp, detailed from the Army, reported to the Minister for personal service.

On the 17th the Envoy presented his credentials and was officially received. The reception, of the most formal and dignified character, was held in the principal salon of the National Palace, the highest Government officials, civil and military, in attendance.

The inaugural ceremonies extended from the 19th to the 29th of January, summarized as follows:

Official opening of the railway, the driving of the last spike, and dedication of a monument erected to commemorate the opening of the railway, the formal inauguration ceremonies taking place in the presence of a vast concourse of the inhabitants and comprising a review of a force of some 7,000 troops paraded under arms through the principal streets and avenues, a distance of 8 miles, the United States envoy riding with the President in the inspection of the troops; a parade of 3,000 Indians, who had been collected from the near-by provinces to take part in these festivities, and a torchlight procession of the same; a garden party, given by agricultural societies, at a near-by suburb; a review and exhibition drill of 2,000 troops and the cadets in the Military Academy; the laying of the corner stone of a monument to commemorate the services of the Army in the opening of the railway; a parade of 7,000 school children, a collation for them, and a presentation of a toy to each; horse races and exhibition drills; an excursion to Antigua, the ancient capital of Guatemala, 25 miles away, which in 1773 was destroyed by an earthquake; a banquet given by the President to the diplomatic representatives in Guatemala, 150 covers; an entertainment at dinner by the United States representative for the President and his Cabinet and prominent military officials and civilians.

There was an excursion under Government auspices to enable the Special Envoy to visit some of the principal cities, official escort and special trains and diligencies for side trips being provided by the Government. It covered the period from February 1 to 9. At Quezaltenango a beautiful banquet was provided by a prominent native resident.

On February 9 he took official leave of the President and in the evening attended a banquet provided by the municipality of the capital. On February 10 he took his departure.

The evidences of gratification manifested by the President of the Republic, the officials of his Government, and the people generally in receiving and entertaining a Special Representative from the United States bearing a message from President ROOSEVELT of congratulations and felicitations were in such good taste, so numerous,

and earnest that special mention has been made of a few of the principal incidents of the visit. The United States representative was given official precedence at all the functions and ceremonies. At every town, village, or hamlet visited in his stay or on excursions manifestations of special respect and honor were evident, the rich and the poor and the most humble joining in these manifestations. The principal civil and military officials in each Department, city, town, or village, with delegations of prominent residents, waited upon him on arrival, escorted and attended him on his departure. Every mark of attention that thoughtful courtesy and kindness could suggest was manifested.

The following are extracts supplied by the Department of State from the report of General DAVIS, the United States representative who visited Guatemala, as related above, in which he discusses some phases of the development of the country, its resources, means of transportation, etc.:

The railroad which has just been opened, known as the "Northern Railroad of Guatemala," extends from Puerto Barrios to the capital, a distance of 194 miles. It is of 36-inch gauge, 60-pound rails, and is well constructed with steel bridges and trestles throughout and has sufficient equipment of modern rolling stock for the business that at present exists.

The first work of construction on the road was begun in the year 1871, and during the next fifteen years the line was completed, after a fashion, to El Rancho, a distance of 134 miles. The maximum grade in this portion of the road, which applies only to a crossing of a small summit, is 4½ per cent, but this is to be reduced to 2 per cent.

About three years ago the work of completion of the railroad was taken up by an American company of which Mr. MINOR C. KEITH is president. Associated with him, and a large investor, is Sir WILLIAM VAN HORNE, who is well known in Cuba, the United States, and Canada as a prominent railroad man. Mr. KEITH is president of the railroad company and vice-president of the United Fruit Company, an American corporation which last year exported to the United States and Europe from Central and South America and Jamaica 40,000,000 bunches of bananas.

The portion of the road referred to above extending from Puerto Barrios to El Rancho was three years ago impassable by even the lightest trains. The track had never been ballasted; the railroad ties had almost entirely rotted away, and only the lightest kind of an engine and cars could pass over the track and this with the greatest difficulty. A large bridge across the Motagua River had been carried away. In fact the road was useless for any industrial purpose. The American company had transferred to it by concession by the Government the absolute ownership of the right of way, including switches, tracks, and all material. It undertook to build the road and to equip it with modern appliances so that the purposes of the Government in its construction could be realized. Besides the lands composing the right of way and terminals 165,000 acres near the northern terminus, adapted to the cultivation of bananas, was given as a subsidy. The Government has also guaranteed net earnings of 5 per cent on the investment in the road, to apply for a period of fifteen years from the date of its opening. The concession grants to the company the right to charge rates which are far above any that the management, in its own interest, will put into effect. It has very valuable terminal facilities, not only on the east coast but in the capital and at the way stations.

From Puerto Barrios inland for about 60 miles the country is but slightly elevated above the sea and is admirably adapted to banana culture as well as for cattle raising

and lumbering, the forests containing vast quantities of valuable woods which some time will be marketed. For the remaining distance, say 135 miles, the country is dry and sterile. The towns and villages situated along the line of the road are few and of very small populations. The principal of these towns is Zacapa, which has a population of about 5,000 souls. It is situated in the valley of the Motagua, a stream of very considerable proportions, the waters of which may at some time be distributed over the arid plains adjacent, the soil of which, as shown by limited irrigation, is extremely fertile. There are many thousands of acres of this land that can very readily be irrigated, all well adapted for the cultivation of bananas and sugar cane.

At Zacapa a tributary stream comes in from the eastward, the sources of which are quite near the Salvadoran frontier. A preliminary survey for a branch railroad projected to reach a large and fertile coffee-growing district in Salvador has been completed and a concession from the Governments of Guatemala and Salvador has, it is understood, been secured by the American Company of which Mr. KERN is president. This gentleman was present in Guatemala during most of the time of my visit and told me that it was the intention of himself and associates to take up the construction of this branch to Santa Ana, in Salvador, at an early date and carry it to completion. The physical conditions to be surmounted on the line are represented to be of much smaller proportions than those overcome on the main line to the capital.

As respects the business which this railroad system will serve, it is important to observe the following: Guatemala produces annually an average of 600,000 or 700,000 bags of coffee of 100 pounds each. This is grown principally on the Pacific slope of the Sierra Madre Mountains. Previously it has been exported from the Pacific ports of the Republic—San José, Champerico, and Ocós. The railroad company is confident that a considerable proportion of this coffee, the principal export of the Republic, will be sent to market via Puerto Barrios, for the distance from that point to the coffee markets in the United States and Europe is but about one-fourth the distance over which the coffee has previously been conveyed via the Straits of Magellan, and the time that will hereafter be consumed in its delivery at ports of destination will not be more than one-fourth of that required to forward those cargoes around the southern extremity of South America.

The coffee district of the west coast, previously referred to, is now traversed by the Central and Occidental railways, the former connecting Guatemala with the seaport of San José, with a branch of the same road extending west some 60 miles in the coffee district throughout. The seaport of the Occidental Railway is Champerico, and these two lines of transportation connect at Mazatenango, and they constitute a link in what will ultimately become the Intercontinental or Pan-American Railway, extending from Mexico to the Isthmus of Panama and beyond. The present year's crop in Guatemala is much less than an average one, and a considerable portion of this has already been shipped to a foreign market; but notwithstanding this the Northern Railway has secured 50,000 sacks of this crop and is forwarding it via Puerto Barrios. When the branch railway from Zacapa to Santa Ana in Salvador shall have been completed, it is the expectation of the owners of the Northern system that a large part of the entire crop of this Republic will be forwarded over the railway lines to market via Puerto Barrios. The capital invested in the railways of the south coast of the Republic named above and the management of those railways are also American, and so far as I could judge there seems to be a community of interests in the three roads which, it is believed by some, must finally be welded into one system and allied in a business sense with the connecting roads in Mexico.

The railway connecting with the trunk lines in Mexico is already almost completed to the Guatemalan frontier and within six months will be finished to that point, which is separated from the nearest point on the Occidental Railway by a distance of about 35 miles. The president of the Occidental Railway, Mr. ANOLFO MAYER, told me he was ready at any time the Government should approve to con-

struct this connecting link, the completion of which would put the city of Guatemala in rail communication with the railway systems of Mexico and the United States. It would seem well nigh certain that within a limited period the Salvadoran capital and the Republic of that name may be reached by rail from the United States.

On the lower 60 miles of the Northern Railway, in the region adapted for the cultivation of bananas, some 8,000 acres are now planted—an area which will be extended as rapidly as the demands may require—and the traffic which will be built up by this cultivation and the transportation of valuable woods in the adjacent forests will be a source of large revenue for the railway company.

The growth of the banana business of the world, and especially the consumption of this fruit in the United States, has been phenomenal. The United Fruit Company, an American corporation, is now operating over 100 steamers in the business. As above stated, the bananas marketed last year by this company reached an aggregate of 40,000,000 bunches and by other interests some 12,000,000 or 15,000,000 bunches more, and the growth of this trade during the last ten years has been a very rapidly advancing one. Within the last two or three years a large banana business has been created between the Caribbean ports and Europe, and the success that has attended these initiatory efforts at the development of a European trade has been so encouraging as to justify the expectation of those engaged in the tropical fruit business that a development of the banana business for Europe equal to or greater than that which has been effected in the United States seems to be warranted. If this confident expectation should be fulfilled, instead of 100 steamers engaged in the Caribbean banana business, in ten years there should be 300 or 400 steamers, and all the lands adapted to the cultivation of this fruit on the shores of the Caribbean Sea east to the Orinoco will be brought into use.

Beyond a few rather unimportant mineral developments in Guatemala there are none in this Republic as going concerns; but it is well known that extensive deposits of gold, silver, copper, and lead ores, at present without transportation facilities, exist in the mountains stretching along the Honduran and Salvadoran frontiers. The railroad projectors are confident that many large mineral developments will be brought about by the existence of the facilities which are almost at hand.

WORLD'S COCOA CROP.

“Gordian,” the German cocoa trade journal, states that the cocoa crop of 1906 amounted to 149,020,695 kilograms (kilogram = 2½ pounds), though the world's consumption that year amounted to 155,680,604 kilograms. The stocks on hand in the world at the beginning of 1907, amounting to 49,879,326 kilograms, were less than for a number of previous years. The details follow:

The following table shows the cocoa crops during the year 1906 and the two preceding years in the various producing countries of the world:

Country.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	<i>Kilograms.</i>	<i>Kilograms.</i>	<i>Kilograms.</i>
Brazil.....	23,160,028	21,090,088	25,135,307
San Thome.....	20,526,000	25,379,320	24,619,560
Ecuador.....	28,564,123	21,127,833	24,237,630
Santo Domingo.....	15,557,739	12,784,000	14,517,025
Trinidad.....	18,574,454	20,018,560	13,162,860
Venezuela.....	13,048,838	12,700,555	12,864,609
British Africa.....	5,772,507	5,620,240	9,738,964
Grenada.....	6,226,700	5,455,600	5,057,030
Ceylon.....	3,254,800	3,542,613	2,507,152
Jamaica.....	1,650,000	1,484,509	2,803,142
Cuba.....	2,735,592	1,792,944	2,475,692

Country.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	<i>Kilograms.</i>	<i>Kilograms.</i>	<i>Kilograms.</i>
Haiti.....	2,331,363	2,343,260	2,107,905
Java.....	1,140,109	1,401,795	1,622,247
Fernando Po.....	2,010,766	1,862,945	1,557,864
Surinam.....	854,034	1,611,851	1,480,568
German colonies.....	1,109,153	1,454,153	1,367,977
French colonies.....	1,215,000	1,179,401	1,262,060
St. Lucia.....	800,000	700,000	800,000
Dominica.....	485,366	586,700	660,000
Kongo Free State.....	231,382	194,638	402,424
Other countries.....	800,000	800,000	1,000,000
Total.....	148,248,024	143,231,605	149,020,695

The world's cocoa crop of 1904 was greater than that of any previous year, exceeding the crop of 1903 by about 15,000,000 kilos, this increase in 1904 having been due to the exceptionally large crops in Ecuador, Brazil, Trinidad, Santo Domingo, Venezuela, and the Gold Coast. There was a decrease of about 5,000,000 kilos in 1905, but the yield in 1906 was the largest on record. Ecuador and St. Thome have given way in first rank to Brazil. Inasmuch as Brazil is easily able to increase its present cocoa cultivation to a far greater extent, it is quite possible that it will now continue to hold the foremost place as a cocoa-producing country. The Dominican Republic is increasing its plantations, and is likely to become an important producing country. It and the Gold Coast of Africa are attracting the greatest attention among cocoa-yielding regions. Plant diseases caused the decrease in Ceylon, but it is expected that the 1907 statistics will show a recovery.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF BUENOS AIRES IN 1907.

Seventy-one new companies were floated during the year 1907 in the city of Buenos Aires, with an authorized capital of \$4,550,000 gold and \$47,770,000 paper. The subscribed capital at the time of registration of statutes was \$2,445,050 gold and \$13,575,245 paper.

The tramway companies of the city report receipts for the year of over \$22,500,000 (national currency). Of the electric system, there are 526 kilometers in operation and of animal traction, 18, making a total of over 338 miles.

RATIFICATION OF THE RAILWAY CONVENTION WITH BOLIVIA.

On January 17, 1908, the Government of the Argentine Republic, represented by its Minister of Foreign Relations, and the Government of Bolivia by its Minister in Buenos Aires, exchanged ratifications of the railway convention celebrated with Bolivia on May 18, 1907, under the terms of which the Northern Central Railway is to be extended into Bolivian territory, and a railway is to be constructed from Potosi to Tupiza. The work of construction will now be pushed forward in conformity with the terms of this convention.

BUDGETS FROM 1899 TO 1908.

According to statistics recently published by the Argentine Treasury Department, the budgets from 1899 to 1908, inclusive, were, in

national *pesos*, as follows: 1899, 161,315,064; 1900, 147,581,062; 1901, 153,335,201; 1902, 180,161,188; 1903, 168,373,594; 1904, 162,708,375; 1905, 205,458,816; 1906, 234,649,143; 1907, 228,914,885; and the proposed budget for 1908, 225,017,977.

LIVE STOCK MARKET IN 1907.

Shipments of live stock from the Argentine Republic in 1907 were represented by 7,315 steers, 44,887 wethers, 3,759 horses, 1,145 mules, 227 donkeys, 19 pigs, and 4 goats. Imports of pedigree cattle numbered 1,303; sheep, 4,260; horses, 730; pigs, 942.

BOLIVIA.

TIN OUTPUT IN 1907.

The Minister of Bolivia in the United States, Señor Don IGNACIO CALDERON has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with the report of the Inspector-General of Bolivian customs dealing with the production and exploitation of tin in the Republic during the year 1907.

The total output for the year is given as 27,677,780.94 kilograms of barrilla with a standard of 60 per cent, which represents in pure tin 16,606,668.56 kilograms (about 36,534,664.23 pounds), with a total commercial value of 29,892,003.41 *bolivianos* (\$15,000,000).

The 1906 production was represented by 29,373,538.31 kilograms of tin in barrilla, with a commercial value of 35,248,245.68 *bolivianos* (\$18,000,000).

The customs receipts on the exports of this article amounted to 1,403,571.23 *bolivianos* (\$750,000) collected at the following ports of shipment:

	<i>Bolivianos.</i>
Oruro.....	671,032.51
Uyuni.....	320,261.82
Tupiza.....	9,719.00
La Paz.....	70,479.39
Potosí.....	307,275.98
Colquehaca.....	24,802.53

The Department of Potosí increased its production by 4.08 per cent, and that of La Paz by 3½ per cent, while Cochabamba more than doubled its output as compared with the preceding year. On the other hand, the Department of Oruro diminished its production by 20.44 per cent, as an economic measure induced by the decline in the price of tin in the world's markets, in the latter half of the year.

In summing up the returns for the two years 1906 and 1907 it is found that in the latter period the production decreased by 1,695,757.37 kilograms (3,729,666 pounds); the commercial value by 5,356,242.27 *bolivianos* (nearly \$3,000,000), and the export duties by 160,237.69 *bolivianos* (\$80,000).

OPENING OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

On February 1, 1908, the Stock Exchange, a company with a subscribed capital of 70,000 *bolivianos* (\$35,000) was inaugurated in La Paz, the authorized capital being 100,000 *bolivianos* (\$50,000). This institution is the first one of its character to be established in the Republic, and will engage not only in the usual stock transactions, but will also promote the formation of industrial companies, float such loans as the Republic or the municipalities may need, constitute arbitral tribunals to settle commercial questions, and perform such functions as may promote the development of commerce and industry in the country.

BOLIVIAN REVENUES AT ARICA, CHILE, 1907.

The customs agency of the Republic of Bolivia at Arica, Chile, collected during the year 1907 a total revenue of 154,570.15 *bolivianos* (\$77,285.07), which, compared with the revenues of 1906, amounting to 60,058.49 *bolivianos* (\$30,029.24), show an increase of 94,511.66 *bolivianos* (\$47,255.83) for 1907.

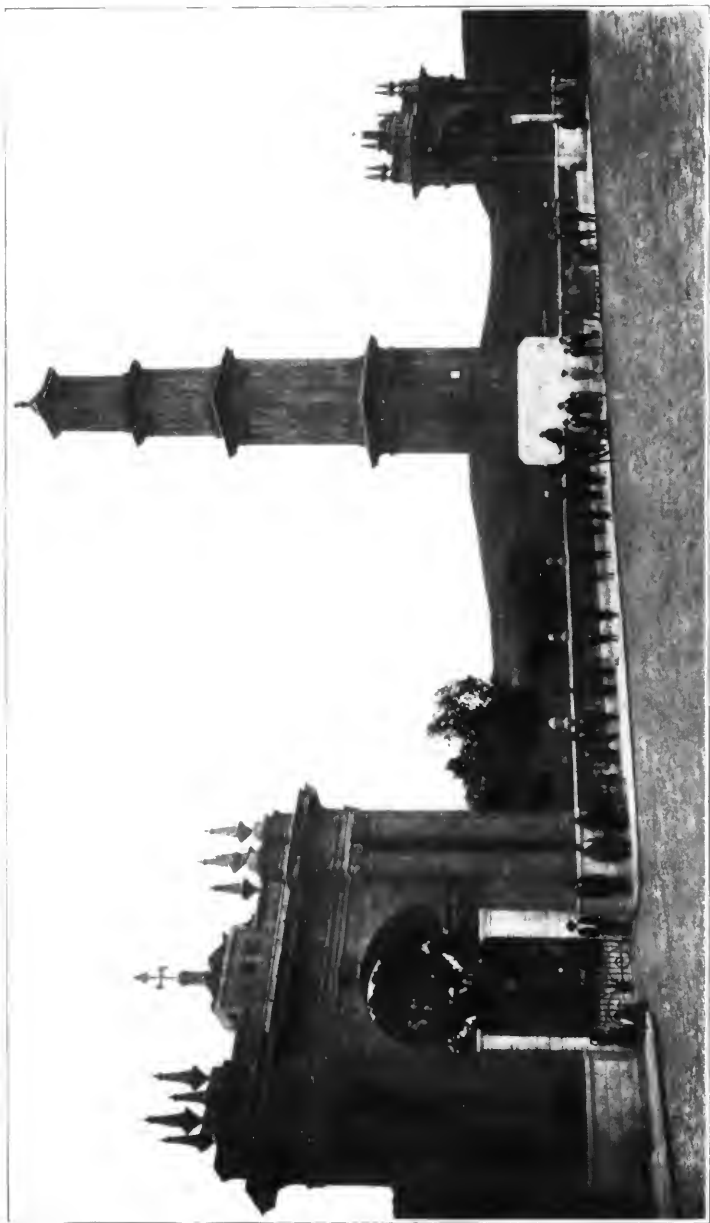
RAILWAY PROGRESS IN THE REPUBLIC.

The work of the South American Construction Company, operating for the Bolivian Railway Company, and charged with building the Bolivian railroad lines covered by the government contract with Messrs. SPEYER & Co. and the National City Bank of New York, is reported by its President, Mr. PHILLIP W. HENRY, to be advancing with gratifying rapidity.

He states that out of 127 miles between Viacha and Oruro 75 miles had been laid by the end of February, 1908; that train service between Viacha and Ayoayo, a distance of 36 miles, was inaugurated in October, 1907, and in December, 50 miles more between Viacho and Patacamayo. It is anticipated that by the first of July the entire line from Viacha to Oruro will be completed.

Delay has been experienced in the receipts of construction material, it having been found necessary, by reason of the congested condition of the Antofagasta line, to land the goods at Mollendo, whence transport was effected via the Southern Railway of Peru, Lake Titicaca and the Guaqui and La Paz Railway.

The total cost of the Oruro-Viacha section is estimated at \$4,000,000, or \$32,000 per mile, including rolling stock, shop equipments, terminal facilities, engineering and office expenses, and for the entire system \$27,000,000, originally agreed upon. It is anticipated, however, that this amount will prove insufficient for the extensive operations contemplated. As the Potosi section will, if laid in conformity with the original plans, partly parallel the Antofagasta-Oruro Railway, there is a probability that some traffic arrangement may be made for the operation of the Oruro-Myuni section of the Antofagasta line and thus obviate the construction of a parallel road.



ENTRANCE TO THE PARK IN SUCRE, THE OFFICIAL CAPITAL OF BOLIVIA AND SEAT OF THE FEDERAL COURTS; SITUATED 8,900 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.
ENTRADA AL PARQUE DE SUCRE, LA CAPITAL OFICIAL DE BOLIVIA Y SEDE DE LOS TRIBUNALES FEDERALES; SITUADA A UNA ELEVACIÓN DE 8,900 PIES
SOBRE EL NIVEL DEL MAR.



ONE OF THE SEVEN CATARACTS FORMING THE GREAT FALLS OF GUIAIRA IN THE ALTO PARANA RIVER, LOCATED IN BRAZIL
NEAR THE PARAGUAY BORDER.

UNA DE LAS SIETE CASCADAS QUE FORMAN PARTE DE LA CATARATA DEL GUIAIRÁ EN EL ALTO PARANÁ, SITUADAS EN EL
BRASIL CERCA DE LA FRONTERA PARAGUAY.

The Antofagasta line runs from the coast to Oruro, with a total extent of 575 miles, and so profitable has been its operation that the payment of the Government guaranty (5 per cent on \$3,750,000) has never been necessitated.

Mr. CHARLES M. PEPPER reports from La Paz that there is something more than a prospect of the building of the Arica-La Paz line in accordance with the treaty between Chile and Bolivia made in October, 1904, the contract having been taken over in November, 1907, by the Deutsches Bank of Berlin.

The 55-mile extension in southern Bolivia by the Argentine Government, from Quiaca to Tupiza, has been provided for and material shipped via Rosario for the purpose.

He also states that the methods of United States railroad building have been of the most satisfactory nature by reason of their substantial and adequate roadbeds, and that the Viacha-Oruro line will serve as the model for the whole system.

BRAZIL.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1907.

Figures of the foreign trade of Brazil during the year 1907, as furnished by the "Brazilian Review" for February 18, 1908, show total values aggregating 1,575,643,953\$, equal to about \$494,000,000, including specie imports. For 1906 trade values were reported as \$410,000,000, including specie, so that the indicated gain for the twelve months of 1907, as compared with the preceding year, was \$54,000,000.

In this total, imports figure for \$202,000,000, against over \$165,000,000 in 1906, and exports, for \$270,000,000, as compared with \$235,000,000 in the preceding twelve months. Specie and bank notes figure on the import list for \$22,000,000 in 1907 and \$14,000,000 in 1906.

The six leading articles of export were: Coffee, \$142,000,000; rubber, \$64,000,000; cacao, \$10,000,000; cotton, \$8,000,000; herva maté, \$8,000,000, and tobacco, \$6,000,000.

As compared with 1906, coffee exports show a gain of \$7,000,000; rubber, a decrease of \$6,000,000; cacao, a gain of \$3,500,000; cotton remained stationary; and herva maté declined by \$1,000,000.

PROPAGANDA FOR SÃO PAULO COFFEE.

The President of the State of São Paulo has supplemented the action of the Federal Government of Brazil by creating an administrative board attached to the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works of São Paulo charged with a study of the coffee-consuming centers of the world and the consideration of such measures as may tend to either develop new markets or conquer existing ones.

Grants in aid of coffee propaganda will be made to private individuals or companies who will advertise and promote the use and

sale of coffee from the State, but it is stipulated that the rights of a similar propagauda on the part of the Federal Government shall be fully recognized and respected.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS' TAX IN PARA.

Advices received from the United States Consul at Para, under date of February 11, 1908, report that the tax levied upon commercial travelers by the municipal council of the city has been reduced, to be effective up to and including December 31, 1908. The new tax, together with the percentage charged for hospitals, stamps, and other fees, amounts to \$117.74, and any evasion thereof is subject to a heavy fine as well as confiscation of samples.

EXPORTS OF CACAO IN 1907.

The exports of cacao from the ports of Para, Itacoatiara, and Manaus during the year 1907 were as follows:

	To Europe.	To New York.
	<i>Kilos.</i>	<i>Kilos.</i>
Para.....	1,768,283	857,689
Itacoatiara.....	777,243	3,075
Manaos.....	93,402	2,400

The total amount exported was 3,501,682 kilograms.

PORT WORKS OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL.

The President of Brazil approved on February 11, 1908, the plans and estimates for the port works of Rio Grande do Sul. These works are estimated to cost 25,500 *contos* (\$8,415,000).

PORT MOVEMENT OF BAHIA, 1907.

The number of vessels which entered the port of Bahia during the year 1907 was 1,064, while the departures are registered at 1,054.

The principal exports from Bahia during the year were as follows:

	Quantity.
Coffee.....bags..	204,205
Cacao.....do....	350,887
Cocoonut shells.....do....	8,373
Monazitic sands.....do....	28,471
Rubber.....kilograms..	1,471,736
Piassava.....do....	1,858,420
Tobacco.....bundles..	4,816
.....barrels..	1,128
Leaf tobacco.....bales..	371,459
Lumber.....pieces..	8,832
Hides:	
Dry.....number..	132,944
Fresh.....do....	61,607
Caruaba wax.....kilograms..	88,912
Manganese.....tons..	16,192
Skins.....packages..	3,496
Sugar.....bags..	1,052

IRRIGATION WORKS.

The Brazilian commission of engineers in charge of irrigation works is investigating different river beds in the regions affected by drought in the States of Ceara and Rio Grande do Norte, with a view to constructing reservoirs. The work of clearing the bed of the Maxaranguape has already been begun, and it is proposed also to construct dams at Carnbas and Angicos.

The commission has recently submitted a plan to the Minister of Industry and Public Works for the construction of a dam at Santa Anna do Pão dos Ferros, State of Rio Grande do Norte, which is about 540 kilometers from Natal. The importance of the work is urged in view of the district being one which suffers most from drought. It would also serve the municipal districts of Pão dos Ferros, São Miguel, Luiz Gomes, and Martins. It is proposed to build the dam 10 meters high so that the reservoir would be able to withstand three successive years of drought. The river in which it is proposed to build the dam is 72 kilometers long and flows through a country well adapted to irrigation.

RAILWAY NOTES.

It is reported that work on the Cacequy and Uruguayana Railway is progressing rapidly, and that the construction of the bridge over the Santa Maria River has already been begun. This bridge is 17.80 meters long and the first of its kind in South America. When this line is completed, it will be possible to make the trip from Rio Grande or Porto Alegre to Buenos Aires in less than four days, and to Montevideo in about five days.

Work on the Sayean and Sant'Anna do Livramento Railway is reported to be progressing satisfactorily.

An agreement has been reached between the São Paulo and Sorocabana Railway companies, whereby the Sorocabana will build a line connecting Itaipu and Campinas. This will connect all the lines of 1 meter gauge in the State of São Paulo. The agreement has settled all disputes between the two companies in the regions served by the rival lines. The Sorocabana expects to finish the new line within two years.

The second section of the Brazilian Northwestern Railway extending from Lauro Muller to Legru, a distance of 85 kilometers, has been opened to traffic. The Northwestern extends from Bauru to Cuyaba, and runs through a very rich section of country.

The Minister of Public Works has called for bids for the construction of a railway between São Luiz and Caxias, and a branch line from São Luiz to Itaqui, in the State of Maranhao.

A decree of January 30, 1908, authorizes the transfer to the Madeira Mamore Railway Company of the contract for the construction of the Madeira-Mamore Railway.

The Minister of Communications and Public Works has directed the Commission of Engineers to proceed with the survey for a line connecting Quixeramobim, a station on the Baturite Railway, and Cratheus, on the Sobral Railway.

It is reported that the '*Compagnie Auxiliaire des Chemins de Fers du Bresil*' intends to renew the rolling stock of its line between Rio Grande and Bage.

A governmental decree has been published approving the definite plans and estimates for the line connecting the Sul Espirito Santo and Santo Eduardo do Cachoeiro de Itapemirim railways. This section is 30 kilometers long.

Survey work has been begun on the line connecting Bello Horizonte with the Goyaz Railway.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Department of Industry has approved the project for the establishment of a colony on public lands situated on the Alto Braço do Norte, an affluent of the Tubarão River, in the State of Santa Catharina. These lands comprise about 60,000 hectares, and are admirably adapted for the cultivation of cereals.

The Department of Industry and Public Works has appointed a commission of Brazilian engineers to study and report the works necessary for the improvement of the port of Ceara.

The '*Jornal do Comercio*' of Juiz de Fora, contains a notice of the discovery of a large gold mine at Pitanguy, State of Minas Geraes. This mine is near the gold mines of Batatal.

A valuable bed of rock crystal has recently been discovered in the municipal district of Ipanerri, State of Goyaz.

CHILE.

BUDGET FOR 1908.

On February 11, 1908, the Executive of the Chilean Republic promulgated the law for the fiscal expenditures during the year 1908. The totals amount to 157,715,666.41 *pesos* paper, and 65,230,892.10 *pesos* gold, distributed as follows among the various departments of the Government:

Departments.	<i>Pesos</i> paper.	<i>Pesos</i> gold.
Interior.....	33,221,082.80	5,794,969.99
Foreign Relations.....	184,892.50	974,798.33
Worship.....	2,300,725.00	.....
Colonization.....	3,285,720.00	80,333.33
Justice.....	8,019,060.18	6,665.00
Public Instruction.....	21,487,715.64	140,333.32
Finance.....	14,332,236.97	18,656,145.96
War.....	20,952,477.03	1,682,020.00
Navy.....	11,620,795.70	9,324,269.03
Industry and Public Works.....	42,310,959.59	28,571,327.14
Total.....	157,715,666.41	65,230,892.10

The fiscal revenues for the year 1908 have been estimated at a total of 224,000,000 *pesos* paper.

STEAMSHIP SERVICE BETWEEN VALPARAISO AND PANAMA.

On January 13, 1908, President MONTT, of the Chilean Republic, submitted to the National Congress a bill in regard to the steamship communication between Valparaiso and Panama, the sole section of which is as follows:

SOLE SECTION. The President of the Republic is hereby authorized for one year to enter into a contract with a navigation company for the establishment of a steamship line between Valparaiso and Panama. The trip from one port to the other shall not exceed eight days. The duration of the contract shall be five years, and the Government shall pay the company an annual subsidy of £20,000.

The navigation service between Valparaiso and Panama is made at present within twenty days, more or less.

BANK STATEMENT, DECEMBER 31, 1907.

"*La Revista Comercial*," of Valparaiso, Chile, publishes in its issue for February 22, 1908, the balance sheet of the banks of the Republic on December 31, 1907, covering the operations of the following institutions: Bank of Chile, Bank of Santiago, Bank of A. Edwards & Co., Bank of the Republic, Spanish Bank of Chile, German Transatlantic Bank, Bank of Chile and Germany, Bank of Talca, Bank of Concepcion, Bank of Curico, Bank of Melipilla, Bank of Ñuble, Credit Bank, Popular Bank, Bank of Arauco, Bank of Tacna, Italian Bank, Bank of the Commercial Union, National Bank, Mercantile Bank of Tacna, Bank of Constitucion, English-South American Bank, Commercial Bank of Curico, Bank of London and the River Plate. The most important of these banks is the Bank of Chile, the subscribed capital of which is 30,000,000 *pesos* (about \$10,000,000), with a cash on hand amounting to 39,664,405.68 *pesos* (about \$13,220,000).

Following is the résumé taken from the balance sheet in reference:

LIABILITIES.	Pesos.
Paid-up capital.....	124,040,525.63
Reserve and guaranty funds.....	25,765,952.50
Funds for savings, withdrawals, and dividends.....	3,491,322.19
Funds for incidentals.....	1,236,468.85
Dividends unpaid.....	278,362.76
Deposits.....	415,205,924.06
Bonds and documents deposited.....	194,795,990.55
Pending transactions.....	5,191,211.94
Other accounts.....	34,826,836.06
Profit and loss.....	6,530,668.63
Total.....	811,363,263.17

ASSETS.		Pesos.
Cash on hand.....		88,745,808.07
Bonds and securities.....		14,823,250.82
Real estate and other property.....		10,773,369.84
Agencies.....		17,661,641.06
Bonds and documents in custody and in security.....		194,795,990.55
Advances.....		478,548,846.71
Other accounts.....		6,014,356.12
Total.....		811,363,263.17

BOUNTY FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF FLAX.

The bill authorizing the President of the Republic to pay bounties for the production and exportation of flax, the text of which was published in the BULLETIN for the month of January, 1908, has been approved by the National Congress of Chile, and promulgated by the Executive on the 10th of February, 1908.

CENSUS RETURNS OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Chilean Department of the Interior has received the report of the Census Commission, in which it is shown that as a result of the enumeration of the inhabitants of the Republic the population at the close of the year 1907 had increased by 526,864 over the preceding census of 1895, the figures for the two years being 3,239,009 and 2,712,145, respectively.

The two centers of population are the Departments of Santiago and Valparaiso, the former comprising 408,126 and the latter 188,455 inhabitants at the close of the year. For Santiago a gain of nearly 100,000 is reported, while Valparaiso shows an increase of over 50,000 in the twelve years' period.

ANGLO-AMERICAN NITRATE INTERESTS.

The acquisition of a large nitrate field in Chile by Anglo-American interests has been reported from that country, the syndicate governing the matter being composed of J. P. MORGAN & COMPANY, BARING BROTHERS, and the Anglo-South American Bank.

The amount paid for the property was \$12,500,000, and includes, besides the fields, the nitrate railway running from the port of Coloso to Aguas Blancas, the port itself, which is private property, and several nitrate factories.

While there are already large British investments in the nitrate fields of the country, the one just announced is the first important step on the part of United States capitalists to participate in the industry.

The total nitrate production of Chile in 1907 was 42,000,000 quintals of 100 pounds, and United States imports amounted to 373,988

tons, valued at \$13,118,214. The Granja property, which is the one covered by the purchase, produced in 1907 3,500,000 quintals, valued at about \$2.50 per quintal.

MINTAGE OF SUBSIDIARY COIN.

By law of the Chilean National Congress, promulgated on December 9, 1908, the President of the Republic has been authorized to order the coinage, to an amount not exceeding 10,000,000 *pesos*, of silver pieces of 40, 20, 10, and 5 *centavos*, all of which shall be four-tenths fine. Provision is also made for the coinage of nickel pieces, to an amount not exceeding 1,000,000 *pesos*, of 10 and 5 *centavos*.

The law in reference prohibits the exportation of subsidiary silver coins under penalty of seizure.

CUSTOMS REVENUES IN JANUARY, 1908.

The custom-houses of the Chilean Republic collected during the month of January, 1908, a total revenue of 9,269,159.11 *pesos* (\$3,089,719.70), which, compared with the revenue of the same month of 1907, amounting to 11,808,981.60 *pesos* (\$3,936,327.20), shows a decrease of 2,539,822.49 *pesos* (\$849,940.83).

COMMERCE WITH BRAZIL IN 1907.

According to the report of the Chilean Consul-General in Rio de Janeiro, the commerce between Chile and Brazil during the year 1907 was as follows: Exports from Chile to Brazil, 1,575,148 kilograms of merchandise, consisting of kidney beans, carob beans, lentils, potatoes, chick-peas, walnuts, small coconuts, and wines; as compared with 1906, there was a decrease of 280,477 kilograms. The imports into Chile, from Brazil, consisted of 1,016,040 kilograms of coffee, valued at £37,746.18.6, showing an increase over 1906 of £12,243.11.5.

COLOMBIA.

REDUCTION OF FISCAL EXPENDITURES FOR 1908.

At a session of the Council of Ministers, held on the 5th of March, 1908, the Government of the Republic of Colombia resolved to introduce important economies in the Government expenditures for 1908, as a result of which the amount originally appropriated has been reduced from \$16,244,384.20 to \$14,237,997.08, thus effecting a total saving of \$2,006,315.12.

DUTIES ON MERCHANDISE IMPORTED BY PARCELS POST.

On November 21, 1907, the Treasury Department of the Colombian Government made the following ruling concerning the payment of duties on articles imported by parcels post:

1. Precious stones, set in jewelry shall pay 10 per cent of their invoice value as import duties, plus a surcharge of 10 per cent in lieu of consular fees.
2. Articles of gold, or gilded silver, shall pay the duties specified in the tariff for class 16, plus a surcharge of 70 per cent, and 10 per cent of their invoice value in lieu of consular fees.
3. Other merchandise imported by post shall pay 6 per cent of their invoice value, and the specified tariff duties (including the 70 per cent surcharge), plus 25 per cent of their value in lieu of consular fees.

CARTAGENA OIL REFINING COMPANY.

Under the concession granted by the Federal Government to DIEGO MARTINEZ & COMPANY, the Cartagena Oil Company has been organized in the capital of Colombia with a nominal capital of \$150,000 gold, to refine petroleum on the Atlantic coast. During the next four months the new company will install in Cartagena a completely equipped refining plant for the exploitation of this industry.

INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF SALT.

An Executive Decree of January 20, 1908, increases the price of salt coming from the Chita and Muneque mines and limits the output in such a manner as to supply only the neighboring towns and the northern part of the Colombian Republic. This measure will prevent the shipment of salt from the aforesaid mines to Tundama and Boyaca and will eliminate competition with the product of the Government salt mines at Zipaquirá.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AT BURDEOS.

A Bureau of Information for Colombian affairs, similar to the ones in operation in London, Paris, Barcelona, Hamburg, and New York, has been established at Burdeos, France.

DECREASE OF THE DUTIES ON CORN.

An Executive Decree of March 2, 1908, reduces the duties on corn imported through the Atlantic custom-houses of the Republic for use of the Departments of the Atlantic 10 per cent per month until the entire duty is removed. This reduction is made necessary on account of the ravages of locusts and the failure of the corn crop in that part of the country. The Government will give two months' notice before suspending the operation of this decree.

THE PORT OF CARTAGENA IN 1907.

United States Consul MANNING has informed the International Bureau of the American Republics that total shipments from the port of Cartagena, Colombia, during the year 1907 aggregated \$2,816,935.18 in value as compared with \$1,593,454.06 in the preceding year.

The leading items shipped were: Coffee, \$1,140,936.36; gold, \$1,060,572.88; hats, \$125,999; rubber, \$121,797; platinum, \$93,539.16; cedar and mahogany, \$72,750.93, and ipecac, \$53,420.35.

A marked increase is indicated in regard to coffee and gold exports, practically double the value being reported for 1907 as compared with 1906 in both items. In hats also the advance is made from \$16,300 in the previous year, while the other articles cited show noteworthy increases.

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS AND THE CAUCA RAILWAY.

An interesting report of the Inspector-General of the national highways of the Republic shows that in 1907 the Government of Colombia expended \$398,373.55 gold, in the construction, repair, and improvement of the public roads of the nation. In many instances the extension of wagon roads into new and practically undeveloped territory necessitated the bridging of important streams and the crossing of difficult and dangerous mountain passes.

In addition to the numerous wagon roads that have recently been improved and constructed in Colombia, the Cauca Railway, which has been many years under construction and in which several millions of dollars of Government funds have been invested, is nearing completion. The construction company now has at its disposal \$1,400,000 gold, plus 50 per cent of the gross receipts of the customs revenues of the Pacific coast of the Republic, with which to complete the building of the line, and it is expected that the Cauca Railway will be terminated as far as Papagayeros before the close of 1908, and that the entire railroad will be completed to Cali by July, 1910.

CONTRACT FOR TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs of Colombia, with the consent and approval of the Executive Power, has extended, for a period of five years from January 1, 1908, the contract made on June 12, 1906, with FRANCISCO J. FERNANDEZ, for the construction, repair, and operation of the federal telegraph and telephone lines. Mr. FERNANDEZ agrees to keep the telegraph and telephone lines of the Republic now in use, and those that may hereafter be constructed, in good repair, and to furnish material and apparatus in accordance with the terms stipulated in the former contract. He further covenants to introduce into the principal offices of the Republic the

latest improved German types of the Hughes telegraph instruments, and to establish in Bogota a theoretical and practical school of instruction in the setting up and operation of the Hughes instruments, and of wireless telegraph installations and stations. The contractor promises to construct, in accordance with the agreement, such telegraph and telephone lines as the Government may desire, and to deliver, on the expiration of the contract, all telegraph and telephone lines in good condition, with the proper apparatus duly installed for three months' service, together with all the tools, utensils and materials necessary for their conservation. The contractor is exempt from the payment of federal taxes, and is given the franking privilege in the use of the mails. As a guaranty of the faithful compliance of the agreement, the contractor is required to give bond for \$20,000 gold.

COSTA RICA.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS, NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

The customs revenues of the Republic from April to December, 1907, inclusive, amounted to 3,815,223.71 *colones* (\$1,900,000), as compared with 3,214,234.24 *colones* (\$1,600,000) during the same period in 1906. The receipts by custom-houses for the nine months of 1907 referred to were as follows: Principal custom-house, 2,294,453.14 *colones*; custom-house at Limon, 1,128,263.95 *colones*, and the custom-house at Puntarenas, 392,506.62 *colones*. The revenues from the custom-houses of the Republic in January, 1908, aggregated 478,053.74 *colones*.

NEW MINING COMPANY.

The Colburn Mines and Development Company, of Oakland, Cal., with an authorized capital of \$100,000, has established an office in San José, Costa Rica, for the purpose of engaging in the mining, smelting, and refining of ores and metals, and the purchase, development, and operation of mining properties in the Republic. The company is represented by Mr. ENRIQUE CLARE LOPEZ, of San Jose.

CULTIVATION OF CACAO.

In a recent report to his Government Mr. JULIO ACOSTA, Consul of Costa Rica in Salvador, states that the most promising industry in Costa Rica at the present time, and whose only rival is the cultivation of bananas, is the raising of cacao. The demand for this valuable product is constantly increasing in the markets of the world, and the Atlantic coast of Costa Rica, especially the great extent of fertile lowlands in Sarapaquí and San Carlos, is particularly suited for the growing of cacao.

CUBA.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1907.

The Department of Finance of the Republic of Cuba issued on February 10, 1908, through its division of general statistics, tables showing, by countries of origin and of destination, the foreign commerce of the nation during the fiscal year 1906-7 and of the calendar year 1907, as compared with previous periods of twelve months.

The exact value of merchandise imported and exported during the fiscal years 1905-6 and 1906-7 was as follows, exclusive of imports and exports of gold and silver:

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Fiscal year 1905-6.	Fiscal year 1906-7.	Fiscal year 1905-6.	Fiscal year 1906-7.
United States.....	\$48,830,629	\$48,192,672	\$88,981,407	\$98,141,012
Germany.....	6,593,215	6,433,959	4,399,794	3,130,757
Spain.....	10,947,830	8,289,973	768,083	433,305
France.....	5,564,301	5,781,042	1,580,047	1,002,329
United Kingdom.....	14,987,900	13,630,139	5,869,376	4,446,223
Other America.....	12,831,135	9,500,962	2,208,315	2,211,504
Other Europe.....	3,970,012	3,434,585	806,529	821,672
All other countries.....	968,540	1,398,996	675,061	598,135
Total.....	104,395,592	96,668,889	195,199,315	110,764,937

The imports and exports of gold and silver during the years indicated were as follows:

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Fiscal year 1905-6.	Fiscal year 1906-7.	Fiscal year 1905-6.	Fiscal year 1906-7.
United States.....	\$553,698	\$7,470	\$1,215,472	\$3,773,000
Spain.....	279,360	18,614	842,083	238,255
France.....	1,276,434	639,222	.....	36,654
Other countries.....	260	.....	9,343	.....
Total.....	2,109,752	665,306	2,066,898	4,047,909

In the following table are given the approximate values of merchandise imported and exported during the calendar year 1907, as compared with those of the previous year. The figures relating to the imports and exports of gold and silver are given in a separate table:

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Calendar year—		Calendar year—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
United States.....	\$47,602,345	\$51,309,288	\$88,175,451	\$90,774,645
Spain.....	9,017,099	9,478,615	676,623	484,876
Germany.....	6,403,793	7,592,326	3,671,198	3,218,794
France.....	5,572,799	6,044,765	1,513,129	1,361,674
United Kingdom.....	14,081,023	15,322,081	5,899,734	4,506,458
Other America.....	10,985,927	9,277,695	2,467,074	2,493,284
Other Europe.....	3,376,016	3,604,052	768,655	739,015
All other countries.....	979,597	1,831,363	742,672	487,991
Total.....	98,018,599	104,460,935	103,914,536	104,069,037

During the years under comparison, the imports and exports of gold and silver were as follows:

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Calendar year—		Calendar year—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
United States.....	\$6,800	\$137,765	\$4,464,112	\$9,779,240
Spain.....	250,030	20,387	485,779	157,882
France.....	1,264,232	599,121	36,654	2,480,644
American countries.....			8,586	1,915
Total.....	1,521,062	757,273	4,965,131	12,419,681

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES, 1903-1907.

Exports from the United States to Cuba have increased 123½ per cent since 1903, and imports from that island increased 61½ per cent during the same period. The total value of merchandise exported from the United States to Cuba in the calendar year 1907 was \$52,500,000, against \$23,000,000 in 1903, an annual average of \$25,000,000 in the five years ending with 1903. The imports from Cuba in 1907 were \$92,500,000, against \$57,225,000 in 1903 and an average of \$43,000,000 per annum in the five years ending with 1903.

This increase in imports occurs chiefly in sugar, tobacco, cigars, bananas, and copper. In the exports the increase occurs in a large variety of articles, but especially in manufactures of iron and steel, cars and carriages, cotton manufactures, boots and shoes, lumber, coal, coffee, meats, eggs, and breadstuffs of all sorts.

The following tables show the principal articles forming the trade of the United States with Cuba in the calendar years 1903 and 1907, respectively:

Values of principal articles imported into and exported from the United States in the trade with Cuba for the calendar years 1903 and 1907, arranged in the order of magnitude in 1907.

IMPORTS FROM CUBA.

Articles.	1903.	1907.
	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Sugar, not above No. 16 D. S. in color.....	37,333,266	67,197,688
Tobacco leaf, other than wrapper.....	10,157,975	12,137,620
Cigars, cigarettes, and cheroots.....	2,977,924	4,017,229
Iron ore.....	1,501,480	2,522,710
Cabinet woods.....	(a)	1,123,504
Bananas.....	1,085,563	1,094,888
Molasses.....	1,108,289	609,433
Copper ore, matte, and regulins.....	(a)	421,083
All other articles.....	803,794	3,903,131
Total imports.....	57,228,291	92,429,267
Percent of increase.....		61.52

a Not separately stated in 1903.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WHICH IS THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF CUBA.

Standing (from left to right), Dr. Erasmo Reguileros, Maj. Blanton Whiship, Dr. Miguel F. Viondi, Dr. Rafael Montoya, Dr. Felipe Gonzalez Surralde, Dr. Mario Garcia Kollly. Seated (from left to right), Dr. Manuel M. Coronado, Judge Otto Schoenrich, Prof. F. Carrera y Justiz, Col. E. H. Crowder, Señor Juan Guiberto Gomez, Dr. Alfredo Zayas.



THE LATE ARTHUR W. FERGUSSON, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS;
INTERPRETER FOR THE FIRST PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE AND FORMERLY CHIEF
TRANSLATOR OF THE BUREAU.

EL DIFUNTO MR. ARTHUR W. FERGUSSON, SECRETARIO EJECUTIVO DE LAS ISLAS FILI-
PINAS; INTÉRPRETE DE LA PRIMERA CONFERENCIA PANAMERICANA, Y JEFE TRADUC-
TOR QUE FUÉ DE LA OFICINA.

Values of principal articles imported into and exported from the United States in the trade with Cuba for the calendar years 1903 and 1907, etc.—Continued.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CUBA.

Articles.	1903.	1907.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Wheat flour.....	2,068,083	3,526,549
Lard.....	1,408,673	3,051,646
Machinery, except locomotives.....	(a)	2,619,237
Boots and shoes.....	744,119	2,412,335
Iron and steel manufactures, other than specified.....	(a)	2,374,216
Boards, deals, planks, joists, etc.....	980,468	2,340,800
Coal, bituminous.....	1,277,471	2,212,211
Lard compounds.....	1,515,757	1,989,873
Coffee, green or raw.....	214,521	1,028,019
Corn.....	624,783	1,547,526
Vegetables.....	481,595	1,467,401
Pipes and fittings.....	(a)	1,111,963
Eggs.....	141,244	1,072,964
Cotton cloths.....	271,582	1,063,914
Milk.....	277,745	929,209
Chemicals, drugs, and dyes, except medicines.....	(a)	907,919
Cars, passenger and freight, and parts of.....	(a)	845,229
Rails for railways, of steel.....	(a)	814,151
Pork, salted or pickled.....	273,938	800,887
Fertilizers, other than crude phosphates.....	(a)	767,650
Furniture, of wood.....	334,848	737,928
Steam engines, locomotives.....	127,845	710,666
Paper and manufactures of.....	250,343	673,808
Wood, manufactures of, except boards and furniture.....	(a)	668,695
Hams.....	576,763	636,968
Wire.....	(a)	622,230
Mineral oil, refined.....	230,541	613,069
Cotton manufactures, except cloth.....	236,403	611,949
Builders' hardware, saws, and tools.....	366,325	611,350
Bacon.....	322,383	572,758
Instruments and apparatus for scientific purposes.....	216,258	563,717
Cars and carriages, except passenger and freight.....	(a)	550,073
Medicines, patent and proprietary.....	(a)	463,559
All other articles.....	9,432,004	10,320,172
Total domestic exports.....	22,373,692	51,851,121
Foreign exports.....	1,130,725	692,728
Total exports.....	23,504,417	52,543,849
Percent of increase.....		123.55

a Not separately stated in 1903.

The share of Cuba's imports drawn from the United States and of her exports sent to the United States has slightly increased since 1903, the last year prior to the beginning of the present reciprocity treaty with that island. In 1903 the share of her imports drawn from the United States was 41.2 per cent, and in 1906, the last year for which Cuban figures are available, was 46.8 per cent. The share of her exports sent to the United States was 80.1 per cent in 1903, and in 1906, 84.6 per cent.

CUSTOMS REVENUES.

The customs revenues of the Republic in 1905, 1906, and 1907 amounted, respectively, to \$25,258,005.44, \$25,090,084.05, and \$26,311,596.85, or a total of \$76,659,686.34 during the periods referred to.

RATIFICATION OF THE PECUNIARY CLAIMS CONVENTION.

The Cuban Legation at Washington notified the International Bureau of the American Republics, under date of March 24, 1908, that

the Provisional Governor of Cuba in a decree of March 17, 1908, approved and ratified the Convention relative to the pecuniary claims signed by the Delegates of Cuba and other countries at Rio de Janeiro, on August 13, 1906.

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND PUBLIC WORKS.

On February 14, 1908, the Provisional Governor of Cuba, upon the recommendation of the Acting Secretary of Public Works, issued a decree appropriating \$1,007,750, to be expended in the construction extension, completion, and repair of the highways, roads, and bridges of the Republic. The fund is at the disposal of the Department of Public Works and is payable out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

LIVE STOCK CENSUS.

According to figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Cuba, there were in the island on June 30, 1907, 2,584,877 head of cattle, 413,937 horses, 50,637 mules, and 2,810 donkeys.

THE ADVISORY LAW COMMISSION AND ITS WORK.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is in receipt of an interesting statement forwarded by Dr. FRANCISCO CARRERA JUSTIZ, Ph. D., LL. D, member of the Advisory Committee of Cuba to the Provisional Government, in which the functions and personnel of the committee are set forth.

In his report presented to the Secretary of War of the United States the Provisional Governor pays the following tribute to the committee:

The Advisory Committee has given great care and attention to its work, and has shown its ability, zeal, foresight, and mastery of the subject. The time spent by the committee has been productive of good results. There are abundant reasons for believing that the laws that have been enacted by it will form an important and powerful factor in the permanent statutes of the Republic.

Upon the establishment of the American Provisional Government a commission empowered to draft such laws as were considered most urgent in the administration of Cuban affairs was appointed by Provisional Governor MAGOON on December 24, 1906, under the name of the "Advisory Law Commission," and consists of 9 Cubans (representing all political parties) and 3 Americans. The commission is constituted as follows:

Col. E. H. CROWDER, U. S. Army, President. Colonel CROWDER has for many years been one of the most prominent members of the Judge-Advocate-General's Department of the United States Army, and in addition to exceptional legal ability and training has had valuable experience as legal adviser of the Military Governor of the Philippine Islands, in which capacity he drafted numerous laws that have become part of the permanent legislation of those islands.

Mr. MANUEL M. CORONADO, a member of the Conservative Party, editor and owner of the principal Conservative newspaper, "La Discusion."

Prof. FRANCISCO CARRERA Y JUSTIZ, Independent, who practices law in Habana, is Professor of Municipal Law in the National University of Cuba, and author of several books on municipal institutions and sociology.

Mr. MARIO GARCÍA KOHLY, Conservative, practicing law in Habana, member of the Cuban House of Representatives.

Mr. FELIPE GONZALEZ SARRAÍN, Zayista Liberal, practicing law in Habana, member of the Cuban House of Representatives.

Mr. RAFAEL MONTORO, Conservative, Cuban Minister to England and Germany, formerly Deputy to the Spanish Cortes, Secretary of the Treasury of Cuba in the autonomist régime, long prominent in the political affairs of the country.

Mr. ERASMO REGÜEIFEROS BOUDET, Zayista Liberal, practicing law in Santiago de Cuba.

Judge OTTO SCHOENRICH, Secretary of the Provisional Governor, formerly assistant to the Commission to Revise and Compile the Laws of Porto Rico, judge in Porto Rico, and secretary to the American Special Commissioner to Investigate the Financial Affairs of Santo Domingo.

Mr. MIGUEL F. VIONDI, Miguelista Liberal, who has practiced law in Habana for many years.

Maj. BLANTON WINSHIP, Judge-Advocate, U. S. Army, who has seen service in the Philippines.

Mr. ALFREDO ZAYAS, candidate of the Zayista branch of the Liberal party for President of the Republic, who practices law in Habana and is a member of the Cuban Senate.

Mr. JUAN GUALBERTO GOMEZ, Secretary of the Commission, Zayista Liberal, associate editor of the principal Liberal newspaper, "La Lucha," and editor of the Zayista organ, "El Liberal," long prominent in newspaper work in Cuba, Spain, and France.

The Commission, on organizing, was charged with drafting five laws—an electoral law, a municipal law, a provincial law, a judiciary law, and a civil-service law. To these have since been added a law organizing the armed forces, a military code, a law organizing the National Executive Departments, a notarial law, and the revisions of portions of the mortgage law. Numerous minor decrees have also been reported by the Commission, and the lack of adequate legislation at present obliged the Commission to draft a municipal accounting law and a municipal tax law in connection with the organic municipal law.

The work of the Advisory Law Commission is thus a work of organization of practically every fundamental branch of the Cuban Government. The law of the Executive Departments, together with the

civil-service law, will reorganize the Executive power of the National Government; the provincial law will reorganize the provincial government; the organic municipal law and the laws of municipal accounting and municipal taxation will afford to the municipalities a government in harmony with the constitution; the electoral law is applicable to offices national, provincial and municipal; the judiciary law organizes the courts and provides for the independence of the judiciary; while the law of armed forces and military code organize the military establishment of the Republic. Of these laws the Commission during the month of January, 1908, reported the electoral law and municipal law, and during the month of February, 1908, the laws of municipal accounting and municipal taxation, the provincial law, and the judiciary law. Work on the other laws is progressing rapidly.

The work going on is as important and far-reaching as was the drafting of the Constitution itself, being indispensable in order to give the Constitution its proper effect, and the American provisional administration by thus organizing the machinery of government is not only doing the Cuban people an extraordinary service but is providing the Cuban Government to be inaugurated next year with an invaluable asset.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, 1907.

Following is the annual summary of the commerce of the Dominican Republic for 1907, with comparative tables for the years 1905 and 1906, as submitted by Mr. W. E. PULLIAM, General Receiver of Dominican Customs to the Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War Department of the United States on March 2, 1908.

In the annexed tables of statistics of Dominican commerce a comparison has been made of the volume of imports and exports for the three years last past during which the American receivership has operated (having been inaugurated April 1, 1905). The remarks and comments following are intended along lines of general conditions and changes in the trade movement during the entire period indicated with, of course, particular reference to the last year in question, 1907, for which the summary is principally compiled. Three complete years in which the Republic has enjoyed comparative peace and tranquillity offer a fair opportunity to judge business conditions as reflected by customs transactions. Improvement in industrial pursuits was manifest and possibilities for the future suggested.

It is therefore gratifying to record that the year 1907 showed a greater aggregate commerce for the country than any corresponding

period previous; crops increased, with resultant larger exports, most of which yielded greater returns than heretofore to those engaged in their marketing.

Appreciating the dryness of all statistics, and the desire of those who may be interested to get quickly at the facts, a departure has been attempted by giving prominence to the salient points, expressed in actual figures for imports and exports, as preliminary to the brief remarks that follow immediately underneath for each group schedule. By this method those concerned may learn at a glance the gist of the matter, and then decide whether it is worth while for them to delve further into the tabulated statements of the summary proper for detailed particulars of countries of origin, shipments to, values, weights, etc.

FOREIGN TRADE.

For 1907 the total foreign commerce of the Dominican Republic exceeded \$12,500,000, the greatest yet attained by the country. The export trade was for the period the maximum in its history and gives promise of future prosperity for the Dominican people, the declared export values being \$7,628,356, compared with \$6,896,098 in 1905 and \$6,536,378 in 1906.

Imported merchandise to the extent of \$4,948,961 was purchased abroad during the year, or \$2,212,133 more than in 1905 and \$883,524 over 1906. Hence, as will be noted, the wealth of the Republic was augmented by its increase of sales over purchases abroad to the extent of \$2,679,395.

Increased customs collections during the year enabled the receiver-ship for and in behalf of the Government to deposit with the National City Bank of New York, designated depository, the sum of \$1,543,421.20, credited to the trust fund for the purpose of liquidating the national indebtedness. The large amount indicated was transferred, except a small proportion, by medium of exchange, without the necessity of exporting actual currency for the purpose. Deducting the deposited \$1,543,421.20 from the credit trade balance of \$2,679,395 set forth above a net balance of \$1,135,974 results for the fiscal transactions of the year just closed.

To prevent misunderstanding, the statement is made at this point, qualifying the paragraph preceding, that the financial condition of the country has been far from satisfactory during 1907. A marked scarcity of circulating medium was evident, and the effect of crises in the money centers of Europe and America was felt in the island. Consequently, importations were limited to urgent demands and actual needs of the people.

The most noteworthy features of the Dominican foreign trade for the year 1907 were an increase of more than \$1,000,000 in value of

exports over 1906 and \$750,000 gain in imports for the same period. The increase in imports over 1905 expanded \$2,000,000, while 1907 exports revealed an increase over that year of approximately \$900,000, notwithstanding the fact that since 1905 the price of raw sugar, heretofore the leading article of export, has suffered a loss of over 37 per cent. The substantial increased volume of imports can not be attributed to any special cause, but rather to a general commercial awakening in all lines of trade. The total gain in export values was due to the remarkably advanced prices realized for cacao in European markets and to abnormally heavy shipments of leaf tobacco to Germany.

The United States, by reason of its geographical advantage, continued to receive over 50 per cent of the foreign orders required for local consumption, and although American sales of merchandise to the Dominican Republic in 1907, amounting to \$2,656,549, were but \$369,026 in excess of the preceding year, the difference or increase over the year 1905 ascended more than \$1,000,000. Notwithstanding the fact that the United States continued to be the largest buyer of Dominican products, the purchases from that country have perceptibly diminished since 1905, when it bought to the value of \$4,484,271, or \$1,145,073 more than during 1907. (Explanation: Decline in sugar.)

Germany's sales to and purchases from the Dominican Republic have progressed rapidly since 1905, both transactions having risen 100 per cent. As Germany now holds second place in relative importance, both regarding imports and exports, it should be reckoned with as a close competitor of the United States for the commerce of Santo Domingo. In 1905, 1906, and 1907 Germany sold cargo values of \$441,450, \$824,126, and \$953,963, respectively, while its purchases for the same years amounted to \$1,261,006, \$2,099,816, and \$2,759,624.

France stood third, or just ahead of England, in relation to Dominican trade. An analysis of the statistics indicates splendid additions to its trade in 1907, when exports were invoiced at \$1,078,308 as against \$562,416 for 1906 and \$953,065 for 1905. On the other hand, French imports were as follows: 1907, \$250,408; 1906, \$209,500; 1905, \$150,304. France has been consistently a larger purchaser of Dominican products than a supplier of necessities for Dominican consumption, while the opposite is true of the English trade.

Purchases from this country in 1907 for British consumption, consigned to the United Kingdom, were \$330,787, or about 400 per cent over 1905 and 700 per cent more than for 1906. England sold to the Republic considerably in excess of her purchases. For the past three years the figures were \$366,684, \$526,827, and \$761,787, respectively.

Only the four countries specifically named above, the world's leaders, enter in this trade to any magnitude, but it is interesting to note in passing that while Italy and Spain in 1907 gave orders only for small quantities of Dominican products, yet the shipments representing these are the first recorded, thus giving promise of an expanding field for the Dominican exporter in the future.

The condensed table immediately following shows the combined imports and exports of merchandise only for the past three years:

Aggregate foreign trade.

[Gold and silver currency excluded.^a]

Countries.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Increase for 1907 over 1905.	Increase for 1907 over 1906.	Percentage for 1907 only.
United States.....	\$6,085,856	\$6,029,313	\$5,975,387	♠ \$110,469	♠ \$53,926	47.51
United Kingdom.....	449,484	572,714	1,092,574	643,090	519,800	8.68
Germany.....	1,702,456	2,923,942	3,713,587	2,011,131	789,645	29.53
France.....	1,103,369	771,916	1,328,716	225,347	556,800	10.56
Spain.....	43,417	93,732	127,777	84,360	34,045	1.02
Italy.....	89,873	50,842	115,520	34,647	64,678	.92
Belgium.....	4,443	5,189	6,102	1,659	913	.06
Cuba.....	77,234	47,751	36,752	♠ 40,482	♠ 10,999	.29
Porto Rico.....	16,123	32,936	76,118	59,995	43,182	.60
Other countries.....	69,671	73,480	104,784	35,113	31,304	.83
Total.....	9,632,926	10,601,815	12,577,317			100.00

^a See tabulated statements in summary proper. Figures not complete. Many transactions handled through the mails for security, convenience and economy, for which customs entries were not filed.

^b Decrease.

ANALYSIS.

IMPORTS.

Cotton manufactures.

Value, 1907.....	\$1,218,679
Gain over 1906.....	82,321
Gain over 1905.....	665,905

The cotton trade was the most conspicuous feature among the Dominican imports, and in this item is found the greatest increase resulting from generally improved conditions. Cotton goods constitute the principal needs of the natives. The invoiced value of cotton manufactures imported during the past year exceeded one-fourth the combined totals of all classes of wares brought into the country during that period. A steady gain was shown, though actual values no doubt exceeded those indicated. Undervaluation of this line upon entry into the Republic is a common practice among importers, for while values do not affect the amount of customs duty collectible thereon, the Government stamped paper requirement for clearance through custom-houses is reduced in cost proportionately to a reduction in declared values. Increases over both preceding years were perceptible chiefly in muslins and drills. More than 90 per cent of the cotton-cloth commerce remained British and American, the United

Kingdom during 1907 taking the lead from the United States, whence formerly the greater proportion of these goods were imported.

Manufactures of iron and steel.

Value, 1907.....	\$537,707
Gain over 1906.....	63,507
Gain over 1905.....	133,548

As in past years, the United States continued to receive about 70 per cent of the iron and steel trade, supplying merchandise of this class valued at \$381,081. Barbed wire, which is on the free list of the Dominican tariff, formed the most important branch in the traffic; the quantity imported this year exceeded 1906 shipments by 1,000,000 pounds.

Rice.

Value, 1907.....	\$472,145
Gain over 1906.....	101,477
Gain over 1905.....	270,816
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Quantity (pounds), 1907.....	20,572,976
Gain over 1906.....	1,698,860
Gain over 1905.....	10,555,964

The consumption of this foodstuff has more than doubled since 1905. Germany still shipped about 80 per cent of the cereal, though nearly all of it was grown in India and Cochin China. Through transshipment and warehousing at German ports that country appears a larger supplier of rice than its actual production and direct shipments warrant. The United States supplied but 1,694,393 pounds of the article mentioned, which perhaps suggests a field for trade development between the two Republics.

Wheat flour.

Value, 1907.....	\$325,386
Gain over 1906.....	74,905
Gain over 1905.....	115,563
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Quantity (barrels), 1907.....	66,460
Gain over 1906.....	7,818
Gain over 1905.....	25,047

This trade was exclusively controlled by the United States; flour of high grade generally was shipped to Santo Domingo. When it is considered that this is a close second in importance to rice as a Dominican foodstuff, the steady gains in its importation, notwithstanding the almost prohibitive revenue with which the product is burdened, must be accepted as remarkable. Import duties alone per barrel reach \$5.14; wharf charges, stamped paper, and municipal dues aggregate 50 cents per barrel; freight from New York at present is 75 cents per barrel. Added to invoiced price of approximately \$4.50, and

including in the estimate insurance and cartage charges to the amount of 11 cents, the cost per barrel of flour laid down in Santo Domingo is \$11.

Provisions.

Value 1907.....	\$305,581
Gain over 1906.....	89,353
Gain over 1905.....	167,386

Of meat and dairy products consumed during the period, the United States supplied about one-half at a cost of \$154,235. Germany secured more than one-third of the trade, valued at \$116,550. Porto Rico made its first bid for this business in 1906 and shipped during that year small lots of jerked beef. In 1907, however, the neighboring island furnished 299,070 pounds of dried beef, invoiced at \$19,781. Lard, hams, and salt pork representing \$95,000 were purchased from the United States. Cheese and butter from Germany were entered at \$112,000. Owing to shipping conditions and the purchase of such alimentary products in the Hamburg market, the German Empire is credited with much butter and cheese that were in reality of Dutch origin. Tinned meats are consumed in but insignificant quantities, the prohibitive duty thereon explaining the reason.

Oils.

Value 1907.....	\$268,197
Gain over 1906.....	50,738
Gain over 1905.....	112,263

American illuminating, lubricating, and cotton-seed oils, invoiced at \$239,446, represented by far the greatest percentage received. Olive oils shipped from Spain reached a total of \$11,957, an increase of \$9,944 over 1905.

Vegetable fibers, manufactures of.

Value 1907.....	\$170,316
Gain over 1906.....	21,289
Gain over 1905.....	84,595

The notable advance for these commodities was due principally to numerous importations of heavy sacks used as containers for sugar, cacao and coffee for export. Such bags to the number of 712,124, at an average invoiced price of \$17 per hundred, were entered in 1907. To the original cost must be added an import duty of \$0.026 per sack, placing the price of each bag at \$0.196 to exporters of the native products mentioned.

At present vegetable fibers are not gathered in the Republic, though "cabulla," a fibrous plant of the cactus species, grows wild and densely in many districts. The extracted fiber of this plant is used to good advantage in other countries for the manufacture of bags and bagging, and with increased production of Dominican

products seeking foreign markets, the foregoing statistics suggest a profitable field for local manufacture of containers.

Preserved fish and fish products.

Value 1907.....	\$162,234
Gain over 1906.....	30,757
Gain over 1905.....	48,100

America controls this line of trade. Its sales of salted codfish and smoked herring alone during 1907 amounted to about \$147,000.

Wood and manufactures of.

Value 1907.....	\$159,087
Gain over 1906.....	48,162
Gain over 1905.....	62,905

From United States was obtained the bulk of wood and its manufactures; that country furnished in 1907 values to the extent of \$141,731, divided as follows: Dressed pine, \$76,148; undressed pine, \$17,328; furniture, \$21,689; box shooks, \$10,974; empty barrels with other manufactured articles made up the balance. Germany supplied to Dominican match factories sticks already prepared for dipping into friction match compound, as well as retail boxes; the amount of these items during 1907 exceeded \$10,000.

Leather and manufactures of.

Value 1907.....	\$139,133
Gain over 1906.....	20,554
Gain over 1905.....	66,169

Boots and shoes received from the United States alone were invoiced at \$83,324; leathers for shoe uppers at \$26,525. The values from all other countries were small in comparison. England furnished leather manufactures of various kinds to the extent of \$8,989; Germany, \$5,678; France, \$5,060, and Spain, \$2,209. An encouraging sign is found in the fact that recently a shoe factory equipped with modern machinery and appliances was established in the capital, Santo Domingo, which turns out very creditable wares. The country produces splendid hides, as cattle thrive on the nutritious and abundant natural pasturage of the island.

Sugar and confectionery.

Value 1907.....	\$80,161
Gain over 1906.....	23,203
Gain over 1905.....	53,564

By act of the National Congress, December, 1904, a duty of one-half cent per pound was fixed on sugar or any article in the manufacture of which sugar forms the chief component. Prior to that legislation the duty on refined sugar was $7\frac{3}{4}$ cents per pound, and on confectionery about $18\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. The effect of the reduction may readily be seen by a comparison of the figures stated above,

bearing in mind that some months necessarily elapsed after the passage of the law before increased importations in these lines were received. Of this trade the United States supplied about 70 per cent, mainly refined sugars, while Europe filled the remainder of the orders, principally for candies and sirups.

Chemicals, drugs, and dyes.

Value 1907.....	\$79,260
Gain over 1906.....	14,108
Gain over 1905.....	21,010

So-called patent proprietary medicines formed a large percentage of such importations. Emulsions of cod-liver oil were imported in great quantities owing to duty free admission of the oil and preparations containing it.

Malt liquors, beer in bottles.

Value 1907.....	\$72,426
Gain over 1906.....	13,415
Gain over 1905.....	33,274
Quantity (dozen bottles) 1907.....	48,127
Gain over 1906 (dozen bottles).....	8,028
Gain over 1905 (dozen bottles).....	22,564

German beer predominates in the Republic. Of the quantity stated above, received from all countries in 1907, Germany shipped 38,652 dozen bottles, valued at \$59,415.

Hats and caps of all kinds.

Value, 1907.....	\$64,381
Gain over 1906.....	37,149
Decrease under 1905.....	1,149

From the summary above it will be observed that the trade in hats and caps that suffered such a heavy loss in 1906 as compared with 1905 almost entirely recovered in 1907. Italy, that plays such a prominent part in the world's supply of these necessities, as before, commanded this trade with the Republic, furnishing goods in 1907 to the value of \$49,670, while France controlled but \$7,677 and the United States \$3,603.

Vegetables.

Value, 1907.....	\$45,580
Decrease under 1906.....	3,858
Gain over 1905.....	16,231

Of the values for 1907, American products represented more than \$22,000, principally made up of beans, potatoes, and onions in their natural state. For these three varieties there exists a constant demand. The native farmer has given little time to their cultivation, dealers depending almost entirely upon the outside for stock. The soil and climate of the Republic are perfectly adapted for the propagation of edible vegetable life, and if proper seeds were used and

correct methods employed, Santo Domingo could be an exporter of such vegetables rather than a buyer in foreign markets.

Canned vegetables valued at but \$1,188 were imported during 1907. As previously reported, the prevailing duty on such comestibles precludes their profitable introduction, and thus these very essentials of diet are denied the people.

Among the several group heads outlined in the accompanying tables there will be found but three classes showing decreases in either value or quantity since 1906. These are of minor importance, such as glass and glassware, gums and resins, and canned vegetables.

EXPORTS.

Leading Dominican exports during 1907 were, in order of their declared values, cacao, sugar, tobacco, bananas, and coffee. The most favorable showings in foreign sales are found in increased returns for cacao and tobacco, the former staple having taken first place among exports, passing sugar of other years in this respect, while tobacco, though retaining third place in importance, shows an increased export movement of 60 per cent over 1906, and 175 per cent over 1905. Such development is very significant, as it points to possibilities in the culture and curing of tobacco, in which the Republic hereafter should play an important part, as it lies adjacent to Cuba and possesses the climatic advantages that have made that island justly famous for its tobacco. Of these 5 principal products sugar alone suffered a reduction in price, but the tonnage yield was satisfactory. Dominican sugar finds almost its entire market in the United States, in competition with similar products from Cuba and Porto Rico, both of which islands enjoy preferential tariff rates.

Cacao, 1907.

	Country to which exported.		
	Germany.	United States.	France.
Quantity (pounds).....	8,857,442	7,119,693	6,386,620
Value.....	\$1,185,096	\$366,057	\$865,249

Cacao exported in 1907 amounted to 22,384,082 pounds. Germany, the United States, and France purchased practically the entire crop, as will be seen from the figures given above. As in former years, Germany was the largest buyer, with the United States second in importance. Although cacao shipments were not so great in bulk as during 1905 and 1906, planters obtained a better return for their investments and labor, partly due to the quality of the bean, but largely to better markets. An extended drought diminished the total yield by 10,000,000 pounds (estimated). The partial failure of cacao crops in other countries naturally had its effect on the market values.

Average prices received for 1905 and 1906 were \$7.67 and \$7.07, respectively, against \$13.35 during 1907. These quotations are based on the quintal or hundred pounds. Prices continue upward with growing demand, encouraging industrious planters to increase their acreage. If the market remains fairly stable, newcomers should be attracted to Santo Domingo and engage in this remunerative culture.

Like other Dominican products its cacao lacks the best cultivation, and when this feature is thoroughly recognized and the remedy applied, the staple will take its due rank in the world's production of the bean. As pertinent to this important item, the following is quoted from a recent number of the London Chamber of Commerce "Official Bulletin," which reproduces from the "Gordian," a German publication devoted to cacao interests, to wit:

Santo Domingo deserves especial attention, as her cacao production will be an important factor of the world's output in the near future. Plantations there have increased during the past year. Considering that extensive areas suitable for cacao cultivation still exist in the Dominican Republic, it is safe to assume that her production of the bean will materially increase at no distant date.

Sugar.

	1907.	1906.	1905.
Quantity exported (tons).....	54,100	61,700	52,986
Value.....	\$2,099,679	\$2,392,406	\$3,292,470
Average price per ton.....	\$38.80	\$38.77	\$62.14

Least favorable of the four great exports produced in the Dominican Republic was the showing of the sugar industry for 1907. Primarily this may be attributed to the continued low price of \$39 per ton that has prevailed since 1906. Lessened output also contributed to the decrease. The excellent price, \$62.14 per ton, obtained in 1905 naturally swells total export values for that year, while the reduced yield for 1907 of 7,600 tons under consignments in 1906 likewise affected total returns. The United States purchased 45,336 tons in the past year; the United Kingdom 8,464 tons.

Tobacco.

	1907.	1906.	1905.	Increase over 1906.	Increase over 1905.
Quantity (pounds).....	21,802,982	14,965,799	11,510,762	6,837,183	10,292,220
Value.....	\$1,341,233	\$837,057	\$481,487	\$504,176	\$860,746
Average per 100 pounds.....	\$6.15	\$5.60	\$4.17		

Marked activity was a feature of tobacco exports for 1907. Production over 1905 increased almost 100 per cent, and above 1906 appreciably. As the production has grown, so have prices risen in proportion to those realized in 1905 and 1906. Germany, as in

the past, was the only important buyer of Dominican tobacco, having taken over 95 per cent of the quantity exported.

Bananas.

Quantity (bunches):	
1907.....	640,000
1906.....	668,100
1905.....	514,033

Plantations in the vicinity of Puerto Plata, owned by the United Fruit Company, continued to produce about the same quantity of fruit in 1907 as during the year preceding, only a slight decrease being noticeable. All bananas exported were consigned to the United States at the uniform price of 50 cents per bunch.

Coffee, 1907.

Purchased by:	Pounds.
France.....	1,243,206
Germany.....	950,747
United States.....	811,612

Coffee shipments collectively during the year amounted to 3,376,970 pounds, invoiced at \$252,390. France received more than one-third of the total, having increased her purchases of this excellent Dominican product by more than 100 per cent. Two new buyers, Italy and Spain, appeared during 1907 in the Dominican coffee market. To Italy 64,327 pounds were shipped, Spain taking 52,459 pounds. Approximately two-thirds of the coffee sent to Spain and Italy was shipped from the port of Barahona. It is authoritatively stated that during the past year the Vatican has become a regular consumer of Barahona coffee, upon request a special order having been forwarded by the Archbishop of Santo Domingo.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

While over 91 per cent of the export trade conducted by the Republic in 1907 is embraced in the items hereinbefore specifically enumerated, increased foreign sales are revealed for many of the minor products, as hides of goats and cattle, honey, dyewoods, lignum-vitæ, etc. In this miscellaneous commerce a gain of \$40,000 was developed over either 1905 or 1906.

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS.

Importing vessels.—Collectively, vessels of American and German registry continue to bring to the Republic about 86 per cent of all imports. During 1907 cargoes valued at \$2,804,605, or 54 per cent of all imports transported, were received in ships flying the flag of the former country; \$1,629,715, or 32 per cent, in German bottoms. French and Norwegian carriers do not enter this field to a great

extent, but have nevertheless each increased their business by about 100 per cent since 1906. Merchandise worth \$272,111 for 1906, and \$426,481 in 1907, have been brought in French ships, and Norwegian vessels entered with import cargoes valued at \$55,421 in 1906, against \$102,028 in 1907. All other freight was distributed among vessels of British, Cuban, Spanish, Dominican, and Dutch registries, as may be seen in detail by reference to accompanying tables.

Exporting vessels.—American and German vessels transported more than two-thirds of the 1907 exports, each nationality receiving an almost equal share of the carrying trade; that of the latter country showed a slight lead over American tonnage in 1906, but during 1907 this order was reversed, American vessels obtaining products to the amount of \$2,596,464; German, \$2,538,631. French and Norwegian ships carried about \$895,000 worth of cargo, while the remaining business was taken by British, Dutch, Dominican, and Cuban ships, carrying cargoes valued at \$600,959, \$44,430, \$33,722, and \$30,962 during the year in the order named.

Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Agricultural implements:						
United States.....		\$15,394		\$15,450		\$20,491
United Kingdom.....		2,427		4,008		4,685
Germany.....		19,230		24,519		21,238
France.....		321		60		47
Cuba.....				3		
Porto Rico.....		97		344		27
Other countries.....		1,362		327		
Total.....		38,831		44,771		46,488
Animals:						
Horses and mules						
United States.....	52	7,529	3	800	2	470
Cuba.....	20	400				
Porto Rico.....	27	1,344	12	1,305	17	2,160
Total.....	99	9,273	15	2,105	19	2,630
Cattle						
United States.....	2	365				
Porto Rico.....	134	4,075			35	960
Total.....	136	4,440			35	960
All other						
United States.....		96		82		160
Germany.....		32				
Porto Rico.....				819		20
Total.....		128		901		180
Books, maps, and other printed matter:						
United States.....		2,593		5,064		3,780
United Kingdom.....		5		83		420
Germany.....		1,542		2,512		5,224
France.....		1,445		4,791		2,086
Spain.....		463		697		4,670
Italy.....		30		182		163
Cuba.....		388		1,013		2,526
Porto Rico.....				119		
Other countries.....				3,500		
Total.....		6,436		18,561		19,778

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Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906—Continued.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Breadstuffs (barrels):						
Wheat flour						
United States.....	41,172	\$208,968	58,622	\$250,390	65,908	\$322,734
Germany.....				1		
Porto Rico.....	10	50			357	1,750
Other countries.....	231	805	20	90	195	902
Total.....	41,413	209,823	58,642	250,481	66,400	325,386
All other						
United States.....		20,508		19,438		26,466
United Kingdom.....		70		103		217
Germany.....		74		153		217
France.....		433		946		1,729
Spain.....		305		157		141
Italy.....		820		710		1,067
Porto Rico.....		4		6		874
Other countries.....		12		58		242
Total.....		22,226		21,571		30,953
Chemicals, drugs, and dyes.						
United States.....		39,023		48,331		57,251
United Kingdom.....		4,340		5,982		2,243
Germany.....		2,959		3,218		4,877
France.....		10,856		7,063		12,959
Spain.....		85		266		487
Italy.....		375		84		118
Cuba.....		113				61
Porto Rico.....		74		168		9
Other countries.....		275		40		1,255
Total.....		58,250		65,152		79,260
Food (tons):						
United States.....	1,280	12,803	5,743	21,701	8,495	32,032
United Kingdom.....	2,336	8,582	805	3,191	1,587	7,358
Porto Rico.....	2	20				
Other countries.....	425	2,485	50	375	150	1,320
Total.....	7,043	23,890	6,598	25,267	10,232	40,710
Cotton, manufactures of:						
United States.....	218,100		596,347		494,279	
United Kingdom.....	190,074		339,811		506,737	
Germany.....	69,450		97,199		90,630	
France.....	36,347		46,281		54,542	
Spain.....	20,102		31,752		38,468	
Italy.....	11,591		13,482		12,405	
Belgium.....	90					
Cuba.....			45			
Porto Rico.....		1,038		7,052		707
Other countries.....		2,982		4,479		681
Total.....		552,774		1,136,358		1,218,679
Earthen, stone, and chin ware.						
United States.....		589		802		1,387
United Kingdom.....		1,915		2,185		3,970
Germany.....		13,134		19,838		26,633
France.....		1,001		611		1,973
Spain.....		11		26		3
Italy.....				52		83
Belgium.....		73				
Porto Rico.....				7		69
Other countries.....				12		30
Total.....		16,736		23,533		34,148
Fibers, vegetable, manufactures of						
United States.....	29,770		60,310		56,812	
United Kingdom.....	32,469		34,000		47,520	
Germany.....	12,943		54,325		47,538	
France.....	6,466		726		2,546	
Spain.....	796		2,040		4,850	
Italy.....	171		464		417	
Porto Rico.....					15	
Other countries.....	2,806		162		618	
Total.....		85,721		149,027		170,316

Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906—Continued.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Fish, preserved, and fish products:						
United States.....		\$109,455		\$126,299		\$155,643
United Kingdom.....		10				9
Germany.....		933		2,129		2,864
France.....		1,530		1,072		622
Spain.....		1,264		1,712		2,410
Italy.....		522		18		114
Porto Rico.....		130		92		135
Other countries.....		220		155		437
Total.....		114,134		131,477		162,234
Fruits and nuts:						
United States.....		3,210		5,185		7,066
United Kingdom.....		15		23		75
Germany.....		30		337		25
France.....		1,468		1,737		4,077
Spain.....		1,487		6,582		6,281
Italy.....		108		620		466
Cuba.....		105		230		
Porto Rico.....				6		
Other countries.....		49				
Total.....		6,567		15,290		17,990
Glass and glassware:						
United States.....		5,605		13,473		13,288
United Kingdom.....		209		105		980
Germany.....		3,099		8,339		8,159
France.....		441		1,022		679
Spain.....		3		515		25
Italy.....		176		106		100
Belgium.....		7				
Porto Rico.....		23		54		58
Cuba.....						54
Other countries.....				88		185
Total.....		9,563		23,822		23,228
Gold and silver currency:						
United States.....		359,435		215,900		207,100
Grease and grease scraps for soap stock (pounds):						
United States.....	972,205	37,856	695,174	35,213	650,082	41,075
United Kingdom.....					2,644	45
Germany.....	22,926	503				
France.....	357	8				
Spain.....	1,130	150				
Porto Rico.....	238,637	5,005	130,733	3,207		
Total.....	1,235,255	43,522	835,907	38,420	652,726	41,120
Gums and resins:						
United States.....		13,583		17,149		14,585
United Kingdom.....		60		415		182
Germany.....		7		1,319		1,019
France.....		12		21		159
Spain.....				56		
Porto Rico.....						30
Total.....		13,662		18,960		15,975
Hats and caps:						
United States.....		9,070		2,162		3,603
United Kingdom.....		553		137		1,050
Germany.....		2,292		1,199		1,735
France.....		4,626		7,444		7,677
Spain.....		14		212		398
Italy.....		47,364		15,797		49,670
Porto Rico.....		652		311		148
Other countries.....		829				
Total.....		65,530		27,232		64,381

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Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906—Continued.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Iron and steel, manufactures of.						
United States.....		\$287,381		\$283,501		\$381,081
United Kingdom.....		63,508		86,789		87,796
Germany.....		37,022		57,161		42,759
France.....		10,438		34,736		16,476
Spain.....		262		928		957
Italy.....		709		7		79
Belgium.....		3,732		3,834		3,763
Cuba.....		93		45		3,000
Porto Rico.....		581		7,067		1,502
Other countries.....		353		72		294
Total.....		404,159		474,200		537,707
Jewelry, including watches and clocks:						
United States.....		1,532		795		4,551
United Kingdom.....		111		15		38
Germany.....		846		1,883		2,112
France.....		3,588		5,533		7,981
Spain.....				10		10
Italy.....		1,141		7,193		10,596
Porto Rico.....		81				
Total.....		7,299		15,449		25,288
Leather, and manufactures of:						
United States.....		59,455		101,833		116,988
United Kingdom.....		3,800		4,034		8,989
Germany.....		3,188		6,015		5,678
France.....		4,988		4,243		5,000
Spain.....		1,312		2,240		2,269
Italy.....				175		50
Cuba.....						9
Porto Rico.....		89		69		149
Other countries.....		72				1
Total.....		72,964		118,579		139,133
Malt liquors: beer in bottles (dozen bottles):						
United States.....	4,175	5,240	9,252	11,006	6,863	9,174
United Kingdom.....	450	690	912	1,458	1,404	2,272
Germany.....	20,061	30,572	28,987	45,172	38,652	59,415
France.....	810	2,601	667	945	1,097	1,349
Spain.....	12	15				
Cuba.....					50	85
Other countries.....	55	34	281	430	61	131
Total.....	25,563	39,152	40,099	59,011	48,127	72,426
Metals, and manufactures of (not elsewhere specified):						
United States.....		7,939		13,745		14,796
United Kingdom.....		1,016		1,204		2,842
Germany.....		2,348		3,904		2,726
France.....		244		727		1,519
Spain.....		126		29		120
Italy.....		40		3		
Cuba.....		85				
Porto Rico.....		97				23
Other countries.....		81		3		
Totals.....		11,976		19,615		22,026
Oils:						
United States.....		147,309		202,378		289,446
United Kingdom.....		1,057		1,506		2,149
Germany.....		1,609		1,379		411
France.....		1,653		1,854		2,315
Spain.....		2,013		7,738		11,957
Italy.....		465		819		2,287
Belgium.....		22				
Cuba.....						294
Porto Rico.....		19		1,302		2,540
Other countries.....		1,787		483		6,798
Total.....		155,934		217,459		268,197

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

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Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906—Continued.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Paints, pigments and colors:						
United States.....		\$9,117		\$9,182		\$10,805
United Kingdom.....		2,577		3,431		5,785
Germany.....		2,507		4,174		3,728
France.....		41		126		28
Spain.....		82				126
Other countries.....		41				66
Total.....		14,365		16,913		20,538
Paper, and manufactures of:						
United States.....		13,170		13,165		14,654
United Kingdom.....		299		53		449
Germany.....		7,945		18,670		17,461
France.....		3,053		1,007		2,189
Spain.....		2,837		2,145		2,511
Italy.....		700		982		1,272
Belgium.....						545
Cuba.....						1,473
Porto Rico.....				9		275
Other countries.....		3		176		354
Total.....		28,249		36,207		41,183
Perfumery and cosmetics:						
United States.....		3,078		1,560		2,430
United Kingdom.....		200		6		49
Germany.....		1,082		671		1,025
France.....		10,822		8,495		16,419
Spain.....		130		112		100
Italy.....		221		105		290
Porto Rico.....				185		
Other countries.....		19				32
Total.....		15,552		11,134		20,345
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:						
United States.....		72,834		109,208		154,235
United Kingdom.....		1,216		539		1,770
Germany.....		56,101		89,245		116,550
France.....		4,870		9,108		8,170
Spain.....		526		610		456
Italy.....		653		931		1,101
Cuba.....		1,241		969		
Porto Rico.....		648		5,260		20,460
Other countries.....		106		358		2,839
Total.....		138,195		216,228		305,581
Rice (pounds):						
United States.....	1,532,319	31,613	1,533,985	32,527	1,694,393	41,947
United Kingdom.....	2,203,707	35,334	1,310,836	23,000	1,921,282	41,304
Germany.....	5,913,424	127,704	15,390,595	302,616	16,602,768	380,504
France.....	271,517	4,868	462,801	8,249	127,644	2,549
Spain.....	4,032	124	10,149	395	11,809	454
Italy.....	1,100	29			1,512	56
Belgium.....					66,089	1,600
Porto Rico.....					14,700	588
Other countries.....	90,913	1,657	165,750	3,881	132,719	3,053
Total.....	10,017,012	201,329	18,874,116	370,668	20,572,976	472,145
Rubber, manufactures of:						
United States.....		4,286		5,130		6,264
United Kingdom.....		822		219		290
Germany.....		1,300		764		484
France.....		466		251		284
Spain.....		12				20
Other countries.....						15
Total.....		6,886		6,364		7,357

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Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906—Continued.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Soap (pounds):						
United States.....	707,286	\$22,382	741,757	\$25,872	1,415,543	\$46,566
United Kingdom.....	652	27	60	2	2,369	61
Germany.....	82	16	228	9	43	9
France.....	801	116	1,822	119	1,425	412
Spain.....					400	15
Italy.....			430	17	108	4
Cuba.....	308	64				
Porto Rico.....	200	8	30	13		
Other countries.....	9,280	309	10,640	336	26,850	1,094
Total.....	718,609	22,922	754,967	26,368	1,446,738	48,161
Sugar and confectionery:						
United States.....		22,265		48,614		69,744
United Kingdom.....		411		517		1,917
Germany.....		1,549		2,017		2,358
France.....		1,457		3,378		3,897
Spain.....		669		1,924		1,555
Italy.....		246		569		498
Porto Rico.....						50
Other countries.....						142
Total.....		26,597		56,959		80,161
Tobacco, manufactured:						
United States.....		368		133		287
Germany.....		61				125
Cuba.....		2,365		1,489		2,961
Other countries.....				30		
Total.....		2,794		1,652		3,373
Umbrellas and canes:						
United States.....		960		156		495
United Kingdom.....		1,306		1,788		2,282
Germany.....		1,319		2,986		2,551
France.....		1,730		3,188		3,048
Spain.....		799		297		630
Italy.....		8,017		3,213		12,314
Other countries.....		38		254		200
Total.....		14,229		11,882		21,520
Vegetables:						
United States.....		16,620		20,863		22,008
United Kingdom.....		271		833		808
Germany.....		382		500		1,172
France.....		2,149		3,981		3,126
Spain.....		3,654		14,004		7,506
Italy.....		362		378		534
Cuba.....		4,037		4,284		1,788
Porto Rico.....		889		4,505		8,607
Other countries.....		85				31
Total.....		29,349		49,438		45,580
Vehicles:						
United States.....		14,914		9,188		19,368
Germany.....				169		16,060
France.....				10		1,327
Porto Rico.....		50				279
Other countries.....		400		120		100
Total.....		15,364		9,487		37,134
Wines, liquors, and distilled spirits:						
United States.....		2,693		1,439		959
United Kingdom.....		325		29		176
Germany.....		2,988		6,367		7,019
France.....		10,290		17,370		19,866
Spain.....		4,394		14,972		11,230
Italy.....		2,143		3,271		4,788
Cuba.....				115		
Porto Rico.....				38		30
Other countries.....		68		416		1,007
Total.....		22,900		44,017		44,775

Imports into the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of origin in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906—Continued.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Wood, and manufactures of:						
United States.....		\$57,355		\$95,780		\$141,731
United Kingdom.....		3,072		2,601		946
Germany.....		4,719		10,440		12,125
France.....		698		1,413		2,311
Spain.....				147		818
Italy.....		130		103		78
Cuba.....		138		302		50
Porto Rico.....				124		605
Other countries.....		170		15		333
Total.....		96,182		110,925		159,087
Wool, and manufactures of:						
United States.....		989		949		2,117
United Kingdom.....		5,105		7,890		11,242
Germany.....		6,461		14,643		15,192
France.....		2,667		7,452		7,321
Spain.....		535		486		1,120
Italy.....		549		96		2,426
Belgium.....		89				
Other countries.....		17				
Total.....		16,412		31,516		39,418
All other articles, not elsewhere specified:						
United States.....		55,568		81,143		105,772
United Kingdom.....		4,568		3,810		5,431
Germany.....		25,394		40,193		54,280
France.....		18,655		25,461		55,065
Spain.....		1,144		3,710		3,561
Italy.....		952		1,495		2,927
Belgium.....		410		1,355		194
Cuba.....		56		1,997		548
Porto Rico.....		1,139		874		1,439
Other countries.....		4,627		8,400		14,193
Total.....		112,513		168,438		243,410

RECAPITULATION OF IMPORTS.

Countries.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Value.	Percentage of whole.	Value.	Percentage of whole.	Value.	Percentage of whole.
United States.....	\$1,961,020	63.3	\$2,503,423	58.5	\$2,863,709	55.5
United Kingdom.....	366,684	11.9	536,827	12.3	761,787	14.8
Germany.....	441,450	14.3	824,126	19.2	933,963	18.5
France.....	150,304	4.9	209,500	4.9	250,408	4.9
Spain.....	43,417	1.4	93,732	2.2	123,448	2.4
Italy.....	80,873	2.6	50,842	1.2	103,903	2.0
Belgium.....	4,443	.1	5,189	.1	6,102	.1
Cuba.....	10,167	.3	10,502	.2	12,853	.3
Porto Rico.....	16,123	.5	32,936	.8	43,595	.8
Other countries.....	21,782	.7	24,260	.6	36,353	.7
Total.....	3,096,263	100.0	4,281,337	100.0	5,156,121	100.0

NOTE.—The total value of imports from the United States includes gold and silver currency amounting to \$359,435 for the year 1905, \$215,900 for the year 1906, and \$207,160 for the year 1907.

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Exports from the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of destination, in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Animals, live stock:						
United States.....						\$150
Germany.....						362
Cuba.....	441,937			\$12,004		6,085
Other countries.....	100			255		347
Total.....		42,097		12,859		6,944
Bananas (bunches):						
United States.....	514,000	257,000	668,000	334,000	640,000	319,500
Other countries.....	33	17	100	5		
Total.....	514,033	257,017	668,100	334,005	640,000	319,500
Cocoa (pounds):						
United States.....	7,816,441	587,812	9,821,512	699,462	7,119,693	936,057
United Kingdom.....	197,720	19,343				
Germany.....	11,840,612	859,653	17,502,961	1,220,333	8,857,442	1,185,096
France.....	8,981,591	745,065	4,696,927	343,033	6,861,620	865,249
Spain.....						12,717
Italy.....						5,942
Other countries.....			1,060	64		198
Total.....	28,836,364	2,211,873	32,022,400	2,262,912	22,384,082	2,988,453
Chemicals, drugs, and dyes, raw materials for:						
United States.....		2,784		6,005		13,553
United Kingdom.....		5,410		4,875		5,142
Germany.....		18,061		43,430		27,908
France.....		222				12,599
Italy.....						348
Cuba.....		228		15		
Porto Rico.....						300
Other countries.....		5,063		1,736		2,528
Total.....		31,798		56,061		62,378
Cocoanuts (pounds):						
United States.....	15,984	133	37,040	266	1,298	20
Germany.....	360,392	3,400	577,598	5,500	763,108	3,882
Other countries.....		5,219		48	439	5
Total.....	376,376	3,533	619,857	5,814	764,845	3,907
Coffee (pounds):						
United States.....	458,591	39,992	564,291	49,556	811,612	65,159
Germany.....	770,691	47,856	1,562,193	98,997	950,747	63,441
France.....	681,958	51,131	509,213	50,030	1,243,306	93,864
Spain.....						3,296
Italy.....						64,327
Cuba.....	102,587	10,434	86,608	7,957	81,835	6,244
Porto Rico.....						5,435
Other countries.....	135,361	7,550	134,422	13,511	167,349	14,853
Total.....	2,149,188	156,963	2,916,727	229,051	3,376,970	252,390
Copra (pounds):						
United States.....			4,252	137		
Germany.....	128,595	2,024	74,693	1,896	156,122	5,776
Total.....	128,595	2,024	78,945	2,033	156,122	5,776
Gums and resins (pounds):						
United States.....	14,957	2,249	6,751	758	17,288	1,245
United Kingdom.....	2,565	50				
Germany.....						7,102
France.....			1,289	90		2,085
Other countries.....	15,237	903	11,831	1,058	2,538	287
Total.....	32,759	3,202	19,871	1,906	29,013	2,377
Hides and skins (pounds):						
Goatskins—						
United States.....	168,594	46,149	181,655	52,874	191,692	60,901
Germany.....			27,546	2,471		
France.....			2,546	351		98
Other countries.....	4,852	981	22,837	2,826	12,937	3,011
Total.....	173,446	47,130	234,584	58,522	205,069	64,010

Exports from the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of destination, in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Hides and skins (pounds)—Cont'd.						
Hides of cattle (pounds)—						
United States.....	167,567	\$17,565	261,347	\$25,461	143,714	\$17,396
Germany.....	248,056	24,278	555,157	58,378	726,067	105,780
France.....	167,247	21,591	63,006	7,170	68,140	8,837
Italy.....					1,571	189
Other countries.....	5,111	511	9,104	909	15,262	1,738
Total.....	587,981	63,945	888,614	91,918	954,754	134,040
Honey (gallons):						
United States.....	32,519	9,756	39,611	10,474	26,375	8,719
United Kingdom.....	680	68				
Germany.....	1,030	213	9,357	2,995	15,617	4,603
France.....	945	160	5,000	1,724	11,515	2,949
Italy.....					2,000	400
Other countries.....	9,330	1,759	4,100	792	16,670	3,622
Total.....	44,504	11,956	58,068	15,985	72,177	20,293
Sisal and other vegetable fibers (pounds):						
United States.....	77,515	9,393	69,522	5,857		528
Germany.....				2,000	274	674
France.....	5,950	425	950	107		
Cuba.....	62,722	11,609	75,125	14,142		11,500
Porto Rico.....						7,350
Other countries.....	33,000	450	1,200	250		6
Total.....	179,187	21,777	148,797	20,630		20,058
Sugar, raw (pounds):						
United States.....	104,612,601	3,243,437	120,191,975	2,291,527	90,672,171	1,775,121
United Kingdom.....	1,186,700	43,886	1,754,175	31,978	16,928,530	314,728
Germany.....	127,199	4,221	801,876	58,983	388,800	5,832
France.....			304,605	4,669		
Italy.....					147,305	2,582
Cuba.....					1,400	36
Other countries.....	45,900	926	348,640	5,249	72,320	1,380
Total.....	105,972,400	3,292,470	123,401,271	2,392,406	108,210,329	2,069,679
Tobacco leaf (pounds):						
United States.....	3,719,458	143,951	3,746,162	189,279	197,604	12,891
Germany.....	5,800,665	244,147	8,946,053	528,897	20,727,155	1,260,335
France.....	1,900,639	92,389	2,273,584	118,881	696,585	59,622
Porto Rico.....					179,681	8,265
Other countries.....					1,957	120
Total.....	11,510,762	480,487	14,965,799	837,057	21,802,982	1,341,233
Wax (pounds):						
United States.....	111,462	25,164	154,233	41,714	93,562	24,163
United Kingdom.....	14,406	1,655				
Germany.....	182,785	42,614	281,288	67,691	327,994	83,937
France.....	162,550	23,850	65,584	13,483	110,150	24,985
Italy.....					6,433	1,531
Other countries.....	9,721	1,896	13,720	2,791	23,636	5,359
Total.....	470,922	94,669	514,825	125,599	561,375	139,977
Wood:						
Mahogany (feet)—						
United States.....	186,519	6,936	22,719	1,070	112,515	11,999
United Kingdom.....	202,031	7,086	58,834	2,936	5,306	465
Germany.....	27,228	1,609	19,693	990	27,618	1,393
France.....	58,111	4,653	10,733	453	3,203	110
Porto Rico.....					800	40
Other countries.....	62,739	1,951	45,968	1,398	37,967	1,600
Total.....	536,628	22,235	157,947	6,847	187,409	15,607
Lignum-vitæ (tons):						
United States.....	1,942	51,674	811	16,655	1,158	26,478
United Kingdom.....	270	2,564	231	2,980	225	4,217
Germany.....	89	815	175	1,893	120	2,075
France.....	115	2,108	70	5,464	27	264
Other countries.....	604	12,821	403	6,051	761	10,489
Total.....	3,020	69,982	1,693	33,073	2,291	43,525

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Exports from the Dominican Republic during the calendar year 1907, showing the values and principal countries of destination, in comparison with those of the calendar years 1905 and 1906.

Articles.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Wood—Continued.						
All other woods—						
United States.....		\$18,522		\$10,048		\$17,158
United Kingdom.....		3,279		3,118		6,155
Germany.....		2,897		5,958		5,955
France.....		10,537		8,358		3,101
Italy.....						675
Cuba.....		100				3,969
Porto Rico.....						20,083
Other countries.....		7,042		5,477		
Total.....		42,937		32,939		57,129
All other exports:						
United States.....		21,754		14,141		37,980
United Kingdom.....		59				80
Germany.....		9,218		1,110		2,609
France.....		934		8,673		5,616
Italy.....						22
Cuba.....		2,859		2,531		34
Porto Rico.....						12,114
Other countries.....		5,179		6,800		2,805
Total.....		40,003		33,255		61,260

RECAPITULATION OF EXPORTS.

Country.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Value.	Percentage of whole.	Value.	Percentage of whole.	Value.	Percentage of whole.
United States.....	\$4,484,271	65.00	\$3,749,284	57.30	\$3,329,018	43.60
United Kingdom.....	82,800	1.20	45,887	.70	330,787	4.35
Germany.....	1,261,006	18.30	2,069,816	32.10	2,759,624	36.10
France.....	953,065	13.80	562,416	8.60	1,078,308	14.10
Spain.....					4,329	.05
Italy.....					11,617	.20
Cuba.....	67,067	1.00	37,249	.60	25,809	.30
Porto Rico.....					32,523	.40
Other countries.....	47,889	.70	49,220	.70	68,431	.90
Total.....	6,896,098	100.00	6,543,872	100.00	7,638,536	100.00

NOTE.—The total value of exports to the United States includes gold and silver currency in 1906, amounting to \$7,494, and in 1907, \$10,181.

Imports and exports, and nationality of vessels carrying same, during the calendar year 1907.

IMPORTS.

Countries.	Dominican.	American.	British.	German.	French.	Spanish.
United States.....		\$2,665,810	\$100,306	\$25		
United Kingdom.....		7,770	4,657	531,058	\$218,783	
Germany.....		181		947,718	6,064	
France.....		3,078		68,722	178,408	
Spain.....		49,069		42,922	5,411	\$24,778
Italy.....		76,001		16,627	11,275	
Belgium.....				6,102		
Cuba.....					337	
Porto Rico.....	\$762	1,680		7,461	9,233	
All other.....	11,320	1,076	1,576	9,980	1,711	
Total.....	12,082	2,804,605	106,599	1,629,715	426,481	24,778

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

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Imports and exports, and nationality of vessels carrying same, during the calendar year 1907—Continued.

IMPORTS—Continued.

Countries.	Dutch.	Norwegian.	Cuban.	All other.	Total.
United States.....		\$97,508			\$2,863,709
United Kingdom.....		4,520			761,787
Germany.....					953,983
France.....					230,408
Spain.....			\$1,270	\$58	123,448
Italy.....					103,903
Belgium.....					6,102
Cuba.....			12,516		12,853
Porto Rico.....			24,399		43,595
All other.....	\$10,390			1,000	36,353
Total.....	10,590	102,028	38,185	1,058	5,156,121

EXPORTS.

Countries.	Dominican.	American.	British.	German.	French.	Spanish.
United States.....		\$2,010,099	\$506,486	\$27,500		
United Kingdom.....		6,189	88,850	128,611	\$1,017	
Germany.....		576,940		1,961,785	218,139	
France.....		662		415,700	657,221	
Spain.....					4,329	
Italy.....		2,574		2,039	2,136	
Cuba.....	\$6,257		185			409
Porto Rico.....	3,563		146	1,785		13,115
All other.....	23,902		5,292	1,211	1,321	
Total.....	33,722	2,596,464	600,959	2,538,631	897,687	

Countries.	Dutch.	Norwegian.	Cuban.	All other.	Total.
United States.....	\$4,192	\$780,741			\$3,329,018
United Kingdom.....	1,630	104,490			330,787
Germany.....	200	2,590			2,790,624
France.....		4,725			1,078,308
Spain.....					4,329
Italy.....	4,808				11,617
Cuba.....			\$17,048		23,899
Porto Rico.....			13,914		32,523
All other.....	33,546			\$3,165	68,431
Total.....	44,430	892,516	30,962	3,165	7,638,636

Number and tonnage of vessels engaged in the foreign and coastwise trade, by ports, during the calendar year 1907.

FOREIGN.

Ports.	Entrances.				Clearances.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Azua.....	13	2,460	48	64,471	17	2,661	48	64,471
Barahona.....	17	1,842	3	501	23	2,173	3	501
Macoris.....	64	3,237	92	119,491	59	2,997	90	117,446
Monte Cristi.....	21	2,305	46	88,922	18	2,283	46	88,922
Puerto Plata.....	42	4,242	125	192,909	42	3,663	124	191,973
Samana.....	9	977	49	92,201	8	937	49	91,828
Sanchez.....	10	1,285	72	134,366	7	731	71	132,400
Santo Domingo.....	51	8,028	110	123,019	44	7,344	110	120,723
Total.....	227	24,376	545	815,880	218	22,789	541	808,264

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Number and tonnage of vessels engaged in the foreign and coastwise trade, by ports, during the calendar year 1907—Continued.

COASTWISE.

Ports.	Entrances.				Clearances.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Azua.....	130	3,706	95	4,034	116	3,419	96	4,077
Barahona.....	197	3,148	49	2,076	219	3,289	49	2,076
Macoris.....	463	10,559	226	6,886	494	10,983	231	7,104
Monte Cristi.....	107	1,551	.....	.....	108	1,452	.....	.....
Puerto Plata.....	488	6,166	137	1,632	514	6,223	147	1,731
Samana.....	516	4,402	.....	.....	511	5,289	.....	.....
Sanchez.....	374	5,944	.....	.....	381	5,919	.....	.....
Santo Domingo.....	786	17,322	272	9,018	813	18,565	275	9,147
Total.....	3,061	52,798	779	23,646	3,156	55,139	798	24,135

CONVENTIONS ON LITERARY AND ARTISTIC COPYRIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW.

On June 15, 1907, the Dominican Republic ratified the Convention on Literary and Artistic Copyrights, made in the City of Mexico on January 27, 1902, by the Second International Conference of American States, and the Convention on International Law, subscribed to in Rio de Janeiro on August 23, 1906, by the delegates of the Third International Conference of American States. The decrees promulgating the ratifications of these conventions are published in the "*Official Gazette*" of the Republic for October 5 and 12, 1907, respectively.

ECUADOR.

RAILWAY FROM DAULE TO SANTO DOMINGO DE LOS COLORADOS.

On December 30, 1907, the Government of Ecuador contracted, subject to the approval of the Congress, with E. CATEFORT for the organization of a company entitled *Compañía de los Ferrocarriles Agrícolas al Oeste*, to build a 60-centimeter-gauge railway from Daule to Santo Domingo de los Colorados. The length of the line will be about 230 kilometers. The company is authorized to issue bonds for construction purposes to the amount of \$10,000 per kilometer, the Government guaranteeing thereon interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. Construction must begin within one year from the date of the permanent approval of the contract, and the entire line must be completed within a period of six years.

GUATEMALA.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT ESTRADA CABRERA.

The message presented by President ESTRADA CABRERA at the opening of the ordinary sessions of 1908 of the National Assembly, on March 1, is a very interesting document that emphasizes the present prosperity of Guatemala. The President opened his message with reference to the peace and progress that prevailed in the country during the year, and the increasing public tranquillity based upon the observance of the laws, and the stimulus of work.

International relations of the Republic continue to be cultivated with careful attention. Referring to the Central American Peace Conference, President ESTRADA says:

An event of the greatest importance was, undoubtedly, the Central American Peace Conference held in Washington on the initiative of His Excellency the President of the United States of America, and His Excellency the President of Mexico.

* * * The Minister of the Department will, in due time, make a report to the honorable Assembly of the conventions signed at that conference, and I do not doubt that you will see fit to consider them with the interest they merit, not only because they guarantee and consolidate peace in Central America, but also on account of the friendly intervention of the Governments that took the initiative. The Government of Guatemala should, directly and through its delegates, show its appreciation for said intervention with the loyalty and frankness that characterize its acts, and particularly for the respect with which it has always fulfilled its international agreements and obligations.

In the following paragraph the President makes mention of the inauguration of the Interoceanic Railroad of Guatemala, saying:

We feel grateful toward the Governments with which Guatemala maintains relations for a new act of exquisite courtesy and deference. To us the most noteworthy event, not only during the previous constitutional year but also during our independent life, has been the inauguration of the Interoceanic Railway of Guatemala, which took place in the presence of the representatives of the friendly nations. All the members of the Diplomatic Corps were present, thus giving the act a greater solemnity; the Governments of the United States of America, of Mexico, of Panama, and of our four sisters of the Isthmus sent special delegations.

The message gives an account of the international congresses and conventions in which Guatemala participated; they were the following: Second International Peace Conference, held at The Hague in the middle of 1907; Third International Sanitary Conference, which met in Mexico in December, 1907; International Congress of Hygiene and Demography, of Berlin; International Conference of the Red Cross, held in London; International Zoological Congress, of Boston; International Dermathological Congress, of New York; Fifteenth Irrigation Convention, of Sacramento, Cal.; International Conference on Electrical Units and Standards, in England; Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons, held at the Jamestown Exposition, Norfolk, Va. Delegates have also been

appointed to represent the Republic in the International Commission of Jurists for the purpose of preparing draft codes of private and international law regulating the relations between the American nations.

Speaking of the conflict between Honduras and Nicaragua, President ESTRADA says that it did not affect the neutrality nor the good relations that Guatemala maintains with those Republics and her sisters of the Isthmus, the Government having exerted special efforts to prevent the conflict, both alone and together with the Presidents of the United States and Mexico; he also expresses the hope that if the agreements signed in Washington are taken into consideration, peace in Central America shall never again be disturbed. These treaties, he says, should be observed, not only for their own sakes, but also as acknowledging the interest and the international good faith of the Governments that initiated the conference—the United States of America and the United Mexican States.

During the year 1907, the public revenues yielded a total of 35,297,822.67 *pesos* (\$17,648,911), being an increase of 10,297,822.67 *pesos* (\$5,148,500) over the amount estimated in the budget law. The fiscal expenditures amounted to 21,860,196.12 *pesos* (\$10,930,000) and the amount applied to the service of the public debt was 22,700,025.99 *pesos* (\$11,350,000), the total disbursements amounting, therefore, to 44,560,222.11 *pesos* (\$22,280,000).

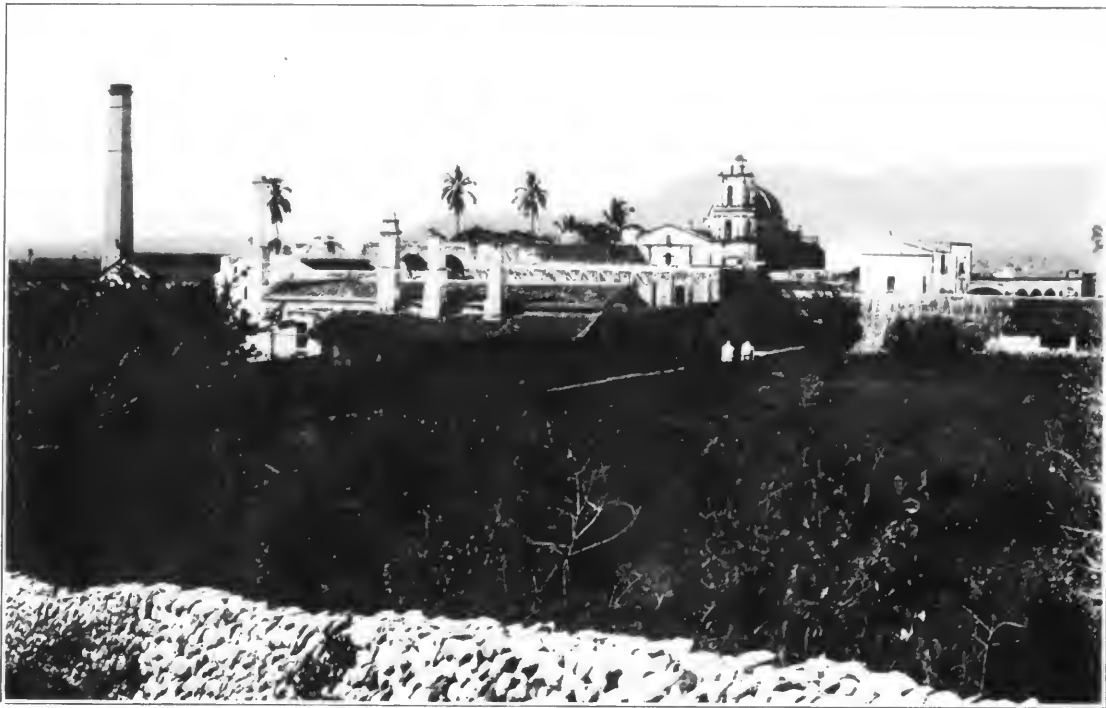
Public instruction received the special attention of the Government. On March 8, 1907, the Secretary of the Department was authorized to appoint a committee for the purpose of preparing a draft of amendments to the school law, in order to extend to all towns of the Republic the system of practical instruction that has been tried with satisfactory results in the capital. It is expected that the committee in reference will soon complete its work. On November 21, 1907, were inaugurated throughout almost the entire Republic the buildings to be used as practical schools for men. These schools will be opened as soon as the school materials ordered from abroad at a cost of \$50,000 gold have been received.

The Government gave particular attention to the development of agriculture, prescribing such measures as it deemed necessary for the promotion of production in order to attain the desired perfection of the principal and most profitable occupation in which are engaged a great majority of the Guatemalans. As a result of those measures, the agricultural production of 1907 had a considerable increase over the imports of agricultural products, due to which increase the country profited by a saving of \$82,000 gold in the importation of rice, maize, potatoes, and wheat. Cotton, henequen, ramie, cacao, Manila hemp, rubber, and other plants constitute the most promis-



MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE W. DAVIS, RETIRED, U. S. ARMY, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES AT THE OPENING OF THE GUATEMALA TRANS-CONTINENTAL RAILWAY, JANUARY, 1908.

EL GENERAL DE DIVISIÓN GEORGE W. DAVIS, RETIRADO, DEL EJÉRCITO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, REPRESENTANTE ESPECIAL DE SU GOBIERNO EN LA INAUGURACIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL TRANSCONTINENTAL DE GUATEMALA QUE TUVO LUGAR EN ENERO DE 1908.



SAN GABRIEL SUGAR ESTATE IN MORELOS, MEXICO. THIS STATE IS THE CENTER OF SUGAR PRODUCTION IN THE REPUBLIC, WITH AN OUTPUT IN 1907 OF OVER 45,000 TONS.

INGENIO DE AZÚCAR DE SAN GABRIEL, MORELOS, MÉXICO. ESTE ESTADO ES EL CENTRO DE LA PRODUCCIÓN AZUCARERA DE LA REPÚBLICA, CUYA COSECHA EN 1907 FUÉ MAYOR DE 45,000 TONELADAS.

ing hope for the development of the national agriculture. The establishment of an experimental and normal farm was ordered by virtue of a resolution dated February 21, 1907, and it is intended to establish agricultural stations throughout the Republic.

A resolution dated July 1, 1907, created the General Bureau of Mines, Industries and Commerce, which entered upon its duties, forming an important collection of metallurgic minerals and of materials suitable for construction purposes, sculpture, ceramics, etc. This collection was exhibited at the National Exposition held in the capital and closing on February 9, 1908, where it attracted considerable attention and showed that Guatemala equals in mineral wealth any other country. The new mining code will soon be enacted, and it will tend to promote the development of so important an industry.

In regard to commerce, the message states that it is intended by the Government to establish a chamber of commerce that would be at the same level of the institutions of its character in the most civilized nations of the world.

In order to encourage the development of pisciculture, a new industry in the country, by a decree dated August 23, 1907, fisheries were established in Lake Amatitlan, the results of which have been very satisfactory up to the present date.

Public works received an extraordinary impulse during 1907. The construction of several public roads was completed, and many others are being rapidly built; important bridges throughout the country were opened to traffic, and several public buildings were completed in the national capital and in other towns of the Republic; the water systems of various cities were also completed during the year.

The telegraph and telephone services were greatly improved, new lines having been built and old ones repaired; new telegraph and telephone stations were also established throughout the Republic.

The Government made every possible effort, the message states, to make the postal service of the country as efficient and perfect as practicable. The revenues from duties on parcels post amounted during the year to 155,393.86 *pesos* (\$77,696), showing an increase of 70,799 *pesos* (\$35,399) as against the sum collected in 1906.

The railroad and commercial companies of the Republic rendered their services satisfactorily and without interruption, receiving from the Government its support and protection.

On November 21, 1907, a railroad line connecting the station of Palogordo with the town of San Antonio Suchitepéquez was inaugurated, and on the same date were commenced the works on the railroad between San Andres Villaseca and San Francisco Zapotitlán.

NOTES OF PROGRESS.

From the private letter of a gentleman interested in the development of Guatemala it is learned that the work of construction of a branch of the Northern Railway—recently inaugurated—from Zacapa to the Salvador frontier is now about commencing, a contract for this construction having recently been arranged between the Government and the representative of the Northern Railway.

The authorities at Puerto Barrios shall undertake the sanitation of that port, and follow the suggestions of the United States Marine-Hospital Service and take the precautions necessary in maintaining proper health conditions at that important seaport. This work will be carried on under the direction of Doctor HARRISON, of the United States Marine-Hospital Service, who is regularly stationed at Belize, in British Honduras. The Government has arranged with the railroad officials for the immediate erection of a light-house near Puerto Barrios, and have buoys on the shoals in that vicinity.

These manifestations of good feeling and desire to promote the welfare, development, and progress of the Republic shown by President CABRERA give assurance of the continued prosperity and progress for this rich Republic.

HAITI.

GOLD PLACERS IN THE REPUBLIC.

Recent discoveries in Haiti, to the north of the placer deposits in the Gosseline River, by L. GENTIL TIPPENHAUER, a civil engineer and geologist of repute, have established the probable source of the gold supply of the island. More than one hundred years ago the existence of gold and iron in this part of Haiti was reported, but the exact location was not defined.

One of the more important gold placer districts is situated in the southern part of the island, near the town of Jacmel in the region lying between the coast and the mountains of Morne de la Selle, which reach a height of over 9,000 feet. The Gosseline River has its origin in several springs flowing out of the La Selle Mountains, and in its total length of 20 miles passes for the first quarter through steep and rugged cliffs, the remaining 15 miles being easily traveled. One of its main tributaries, to the right, is the Mabial, at whose entry the river widens considerably and descends by an easy grade to the seaport town of Jacmel. For the entire distance gold has been discovered, and analyses made in 1900 yielded from a sample of 155 pounds of sand over \$4.50 gold per cubic yard.

About 1½ miles from the sea the Gosseline connects with the Grande River, in which gold has also been found as well as in the alluvial sands near Jacmel. The basalt outcroppings in the Gosseline yielded on assay 3 grams gold to the ton and it is believed that richer

parts will be encountered when a thorough survey of the region has been made. Gold nuggets measuring 2 to 3 millimeters have been found in the tributaries of the river.

Plans are being perfected for the thorough exploitation of the deposits under titles granted in perpetuo by the Haitian Government.

HONDURAS.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1906-7.

The United States Consul at Tegucigalpa, Mr. WILLIAM E. ALGER, reports total exports from the Republic of Honduras during the twelve months' period August, 1906, to July, 1907 (the fiscal year of the Republic), as having a valuation in United States currency of \$2,012,409.69, while imports figure for \$2,331,516.96.

The United States is the leading factor in both branches of the country's trade, imports thence amounting to \$1,561,855.05 and exports thither to \$1,807,952.55.

For the preceding fiscal year imports amounted to \$2,511,610 and exports to \$2,877,743, the United States taking \$2,204,692 and furnishing \$1,896,204.

The merchandise received from Honduras by other countries on the export list had the following valuations in 1907:

Country.	Value.	Country.	Value.
Guatemala	\$64,912.87	Salvador	\$10,758.99
Cuba	55,861.30	Great Britain	9,611.57
Germany	50,756.47	Nicaragua	1,484.44
Belize.....	11,952.13	Costa Rica	126.85

Imports, other than from the United States, had the following origin:

Country.	Value.	Country.	Value.
Great Britain	\$369,556.65	China	\$1,207.00
Germany	299,089.47	Austria	1,134.73
France.....	110,425.88	Mexico.....	1,030.00
Belize.....	63,404.17	Guatemala	960.00
Salvador	36,173.84	Porto Rico	787.00
Nicaragua	34,849.62	Scotland	229.45
Spain.....	23,501.68	Sweden	126.00
Italy	8,199.40	Holland	86.62
Cuba	5,000.00	Hungary	46.56
Ecuador.....	2,080.00	Japan	39.25
Belgium.....	1,734.59	Panama.....	20.00

Bananas form the chief export item, the number of bunches sent abroad being 4,266,567, valued at \$930,916.36. Mineral ores, with a valuation of \$444,332.61, rank next, followed by live animals, \$136,016.31; bar silver, \$132,168.24; hides, \$66,313.89; cocoanuts, \$62,760.25; dye and cabinet woods, \$41,268.14, and rubber, \$38,745.25.

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

An increase of duties on imports of spirits and wines entering the Republic of Honduras became effective on January 1, 1908, according to the following schedule:

[Amounts in cents (silver).]

Article.	Former duty.	Present duty.
Spirits:		
In bottle.....per half kilog..	35	52½
In cask.....do.....	50	75½
Wines:		
In bottle.....do.....	5	7½
In cask.....do.....	10	15

On bullion exports the following duties have been levied:

	Pesos (silver).
Silver bullion.....per kilog..	4.80
Gold bullion.....do....	13.30

MEXICO.**MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT DIAZ.**

The message of the Chief Executive of Mexico, delivered at the opening of the fourth period of the sessions of the twenty-third Congress on April 1, 1908, is a valuable résumé of economic conditions prevailing throughout the Republic on that date, and a review of public affairs since his last similar statement of September, 1907.

In regard to foreign relations he states that satisfactory conditions are noted, while in most cases sincere friendship characterizes international intercourse.

With reference to the Central American Peace Conference, President DIAZ states:

This conference possessed special interest for us, both because of the participation therein of our Ambassador at Washington, in concert with a commissioner of the American Government, and because it afforded a propitious occasion for proving to the Republics of Central America that Mexico is keenly alive to all that concerns them, identifying herself as she does with the independence, the peace, and the progress of all the countries of the New World. To the influence of this spirit, we owe, no doubt, the visit here of the delegates of Honduras and Nicaragua, who represented their respective Governments at the conference and of whom the former is clothed with the character of Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico, and in that capacity has negotiated with the Government treaties of amity and extradition which will be submitted to the Senate.

The satisfactory status of the settlement of the Venezuelan claims is commented on and the conditions of the Magdalena Bay concession are stated as follows:

The Government of the United States asked permission to station two coaling vessels for the service of its Pacific fleet in Magdalena Bay for a period of five years. In accordance with the constitution a bill on the subject was presented to the Senate limiting, however, the period of the privilege to three years, and laying down the

principle of strict reciprocity in so far as Mexico is concerned, for it was considered that, on that basis, while on the one hand a service is rendered to a friendly nation, on the other, the Republic suffers no harm, nay, secures a privilege which may at some time be of use. The views of the Senate coincided with those of the Executive and the permission was granted on the conditions named.

The arbitration treaties under negotiation with the Washington Government are favorably reported on and the adjustment of controversial matters between the two Governments in a spirit of fairness and friendliness is noted.

On September 27, 1907, Mexico's acceptance of the Declaration of Paris of April 16, 1856, with regard to special points of maritime law, including the abolition of letters of marque, was made known by the nation's delegates to The Hague Conference, other adopted conventions being also signed with the exception of one treating of the firing of projectiles and explosives from balloons.

These conventions, as well as an extradition treaty recently negotiated with the Netherlands, will be submitted to the Senate for action.

The continued development of Mexico's foreign commerce has necessitated the reorganization of the consular service, and a new bureau has been added to the Department of Foreign Relations, charged with the administrative features of the service.

The sanitary conditions of the coast leave nothing to be desired. In accordance with resolutions of the Second International Conference of American States, the Third Sanitary Convention was held in the capital in December, 1907, the nations represented being Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, the United States, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, Uruguay, and Mexico. One of the results of this gathering was an increase in the number of adhesions to the Sanitary Convention signed at Washington in 1905, the new signatories being Brazil, Colombia, and Uruguay. The sanitation works of the capital include the addition of 2,225 meters of main sewer, 7,583 meters of lateral sewers, and 3,760 meters of drains, while other municipal improvements cover new charitable and corrective institutions, public gardens and lighting, a new market, extended paving areas, and road improvements.

The volume of transactions entered at the Public Registry of the capital during 1907 aggregated \$448,315,000 silver, or approximately \$224,000,000 gold, which is over \$15,000,000 gold in excess of the recorded total for the preceding year.

The time granted to the Executive for the amendment of the Federal Code of Civil Procedure and the issuance of a Federal Code of Penal Procedure and an organic law of Federal Prosecution has been extended until December 31, 1908, and the commission charged with the work is proceeding as rapidly as is compatible with the delicacy and importance of the matter.

In educational measures the Republic has in every way advanced its position both at home and abroad, new schools and institutes being inaugurated under government supervision, while participation was had in the Congress of Mothers held recently in Washington, and delegates appointed to take part in the Vienna Congress of Architects and of Americanists. To the latter body an invitation has been extended to meet in Mexico in the centenary year of the nation's independence.

One of the principal measures adopted for the encouragement of agriculture is a law concentrating under the Department of Fomento all establishments which are charged with imparting a knowledge of husbandry, the Department being authorized to reorganize the methods of agricultural training. In consequence, the National College of Agriculture and Veterinary Surgery opened its classes under a new curriculum and with 240 students from all the States of the Republic. A central experiment station has been established in connection with the college, the results of whose labors will be communicated to similar stations to be founded in the various States and Territories for the acquisition of a scientific knowledge of agricultural pursuits.

In the period from July to December, 1907, title deeds to the number of 3,498 and covering an area of 357,342 hectares were issued by the Department of Fomento. Title deeds to mines for the same period numbered 3,000, embracing 60,852 claims, these figures surpassing all previous records for a like period. This is the more surprising as the decline in the price of silver and copper caused a suspension of work in several mineral properties.

In the same half year 634 patents of invention were granted and 478 trade-marks registered.

The work of the geographic and geodetic surveys has continued with satisfactory results and the meteorological and astronomical services have been extended and improved.

There is a constant growth in the number of applicants for concessions to use water courses subject to Federal jurisdiction for irrigation and motive power. In the first half of the current fiscal year—July to December, 1907—32 concessions, involving 163,000 meters per second, to be used for the objects stated, were granted, and 37 title deeds were issued, some for the purpose of confirming previously acquired rights and others as a result of new concessions.

Among the various concessions granted for the establishment of new industries in the Republic, special mention is made of a system of packing houses, refrigerators, and factories for by-products established at Uruapam, in the State of Michoacan. Operations were started in January, 1908, having been officially accepted in the preceding month. Two concessions were also granted for the taking of fish and marine products in general, and four for the extraction of guano from the islands of the Gulf and the Pacific Ocean.

Preliminary measures are under way for the taking of a new census of the Republic, which is ordered for October 28, 1910.

The Department of Communications reports a total length of railways in the Republic aggregating 22,822 kilometers (about 14,181 miles), of which 462 kilometers were added in the preceding half year. The Federal jurisdiction covers 18,386 kilometers, and private ownership accounts for the remaining 4,436 kilometers.

In regard to what is known as the railway merger, the President states that a company known as the National Railways of Mexico has been incorporated in the capital for the purpose of taking over all the lines of the National Railroad Company of Mexico and the Central Mexican Railway Company, the plan of conversion to be published in different parts of the world.

The receipts of the Tehuantepec National Railway show constantly augmenting receipts, an increase of \$1,410,000 silver, or \$700,000 gold, being noted in the last half of 1907 as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year.

At Puerto Mexico, Salina Cruz, Manzanillo, Tampico, and Mazatlan port and sanitation works continued their progress toward completion, while new light-houses and various river improvements contributed to the generally improved condition of water transit. Between Tuxpam and Tampico the length of canal at present navigable is 115 kilometers.

The total number of post-offices on December 31, 1907, was 2,909, of which during the preceding half year 25 had been added, while 99 agencies and 10 ambulatory offices were created in the same period. As compared with the last six months of 1906, postal matter increased greatly, the total number of pieces handled aggregating 90,000,000 as against 86,000,000. Interior postal orders increased 11 per cent, being valued at \$24,532,000, and total post-office receipts for the half year of 1907 were \$2,135,000, an increase of 9 per cent over the last half of 1906.

On January 1, 1908, the decree of November 14, 1907, allowing an increase in the weight of letters without any alteration in the rates of postage, so as to bring the inland system into line with the agreement entered at Rome, became operative, and on March 1, 1908, the decree of December 26, 1907, became effective, whereby the use of complementary stamps and the delivery of registered mail matter was regulated.

Particular attention is called to the prosperous condition of the national exchequer in contrast to the financial stringency prevailing for several months in the business world. The decline abroad of the prices of most of the national products inevitably affected many industrial enterprises, but measures taken by the Department of Finance and the improved quotations lately given for silver, henequen, and other staples of export have minimized the unfavorable conditions.

It must not, however, be inferred that the public revenue will not be affected by the economic stringency, as is indicated by a decrease in collections from imports. Total customs collections in the last six months of 1907 were \$4,000,000 silver in excess of those received in the corresponding period of the previous year, which fact offsets in a great degree subsequent declines in either import or export receipts.

The quantity of coin in circulation has been continually on the increase. In the last half of 1907 \$9,000,000 in gold and \$3,000,000 in silver coins of \$1 and subsidiary coins have been struck, which, added to nickel and bronze pieces, makes a total of new currency put into circulation of more than \$111,000,000, as against \$98,000,000 formerly reported. It is also noteworthy that during the period no considerable amount of the national currency left the country, but, on the other hand, nearly \$3,000,000 (hard pesos) returned thither from abroad.

The stamp revenue from July to December, 1907, showed a gain of \$400,000 silver over the corresponding period of the preceding year, a gain seemingly inconsiderable, and is remarkable owing to the reduction of 20 per cent in the rate of federal contribution.

Under the head of matters relating to war and marine, President DIAZ refers to Mexican participation in the Jamestown Exposition and the fact that the Republic was awarded for its exhibits 14 first and 4 second prizes. The courtesy of the United States in inviting Mexican military officers to enter the military academies of the latter is commented on, and the statement made that the superintendents at Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth have made satisfactory reports on their application and proficiency.

The fortification of the Tehuantepec terminals is under the consideration of a technical commission, and the National Cartridge Factory has commenced operations and a contract been entered into for the installation in the Republic of a plant for the manufacture of smokeless powder for cannon and small arms.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST HALF OF 1907-8.

According to figures published by the statistical division of the Department of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico, the total value of imports during the first half of the fiscal year 1907-8 (July-December, 1907), was 122,977,698.70 *pesos* (\$61,488,849.35), as compared with 107,746,708.51 *pesos* (\$53,873,354.25) in the same months of the previous fiscal year, an increase of 15,230,990.19 *pesos* (\$7,615,495.09). The exports were valued at 127,786,511.63 *pesos* (\$63,893,255.81), showing an increase of 9,902,574.45 *pesos* (\$4,951,287.22) in comparison with 117,883,937.18 *pesos* (\$58,941,468.59) during the same period of 1906-7. This increase in imports is very notable, considering the fact that they had undergone an important decrease during the fiscal years of 1905-6 and 1906-7.

The value of merchandise imported during the month of December, 1907, was 19,574,425.88 *pesos* (\$9,787,212.94), as against 19,799,519.83 *pesos* (\$9,899,759.91) in the same month of 1906, a decrease of 225,093.95 *pesos* (\$112,546.97). The exports in December, 1907, were valued at 17,858,489.77 *pesos* (\$8,929,244.88), as against 21,742,267.38 *pesos* (\$10,871,133.69) in the same month of 1906, a decrease of 3,883,777.61 *pesos* (\$1,441,888.80).

In the following table are indicated the kinds of merchandise received during the period in reference, the classification having been made in accordance with the import tariff in force, the figures for the corresponding period of 1906-7 being given for purposes of comparison:

Imports.

[Silver valuation.]

Article.	First six months of fiscal year—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Animal substances.....	9,204,312.70	10,024,280.17
Vegetable substances.....	16,883,530.21	13,470,379.07
Mineral substances.....	39,946,402.50	37,024,632.70
Dry goods.....	15,982,505.65	12,474,266.41
Chemical substances.....	5,488,215.69	4,052,636.88
Beverages.....	3,721,196.32	3,370,701.38
Paper and its applications.....	3,316,815.59	2,375,034.53
Machinery and apparatus.....	15,803,818.69	13,711,965.38
Vehicles.....	4,735,571.99	4,091,178.94
Arms and explosives.....	2,034,491.29	2,058,171.83
Miscellaneous.....	5,860,838.07	4,490,411.22
Total.....	122,977,698.70	107,746,708.51

In accordance with the official export classification, the articles of merchandise shipped to foreign countries during the periods in reference were as follows:

Exports.

[Silver valuation.]

Article.	First 6 months of the fiscal year—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Mineral products:		
Gold.....	17,507,618.60	12,756,603.41
Silver.....	53,597,579.12	48,745,639.65
Copper.....	14,619,049.48	14,109,258.98
Other mineral products.....	4,209,838.53	3,534,134.08
Vegetable products:		
Cotton.....	1,161,846.55	234,096.00
Rubber.....	4,384,536.80	2,070,499.00
Chick-peas.....	2,055,998.70	2,603,581.00
Heneguen.....	12,747,174.00	17,097,429.77
Other products.....	9,905,559.56	9,709,618.40
Animal products:		
Manufactured products.....	4,287,671.80	5,292,839.02
Miscellaneous.....	1,419,490.64	1,366,966.22
Miscellaneous.....	890,147.85	363,271.65
Total exportation:		
Precious metals.....	71,105,197.72	61,502,243.06
Other articles.....	56,681,313.91	56,381,694.12
Grand total.....	127,786,511.63	117,883,937.18

810 INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Following is a résumé of the valuations of Mexican imports during the periods under comparison, with reference to their countries of origin:

Countries of origin.	First six months of fiscal year -	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
Europe:	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Germany.....	15,845,852.12	12,180,052.06
Austria-Hungary.....	845,145.16	632,588.84
Belgium.....	2,066,407.41	1,437,773.48
Spain.....	3,829,457.45	3,798,019.94
France.....	10,595,007.08	8,571,656.92
Great Britain.....	15,963,794.15	10,211,458.88
Holland.....	316,030.68	294,904.02
Italy.....	1,077,301.86	780,943.31
Norway.....	81,881.46	76,413.61
Portugal.....	88,511.57	168,537.32
Russia.....	90,714.17	131,805.57
Sweden.....	429,520.11	364,310.79
Switzerland.....	552,489.52	396,942.73
Other countries.....	58,231.08	45,225.64
Total Europe.....	50,942,310.82	39,000,723.11
Asia:		
China.....	89,105.39	132,668.07
India.....	524,644.72	509,294.77
Japan.....	337,528.68	76,914.60
Other countries.....	25,812.79	41,878.04
Total Asia.....	977,091.58	760,755.48
Africa:		
Egypt.....	43,399.00	115,948.07
Other countries.....	7,414.66	12,726.41
Total Africa.....	50,813.66	128,674.48
North America:		
Canada.....	369,650.13	115,277.54
United States.....	69,932,589.37	67,404,371.24
Total North America.....	70,302,189.50	67,519,648.78
Central America:		
Guatemala.....	4,320.77	3,097.88
British Honduras.....	11,620.04	2,433.58
Other countries.....	25,957.91	6,578.54
Total Central America.....	41,898.72	12,110.00
South America:		
Brazil.....	8,945.37	5,204.38
Colombia.....	14,750.00	7,736.00
Chile.....	28,663.50	7,109.00
Ecuador.....	65,823.62	26,731.38
Panama.....	1.44	.....
Peru.....	1,120.00	18,124.00
Argentine Republic.....	344,408.00	21,968.13
Venezuela.....	4,880.00	4,834.24
Other countries.....	2,881.14	4,405.97
Total South America.....	471,551.07	96,113.10
West Indies:		
Cuba.....	64,299.31	87,859.21
Other countries.....	3,578.76	2,801.91
Total West Indies.....	67,878.07	90,661.12
Oceania:		
Australia.....	103,023.28	42,398.44
Other countries.....	20,942.00	5,624.00
Total Oceania.....	123,965.28	48,022.44
Grand total.....	122,977,498.70	107,746,708.51

The valuations of exports during the periods in reference, as regards the countries of destination, were as follows:

	First six months of fiscal year—	
	1907-8.	1906 7.
Europe:		
Germany.....	<i>Pesos.</i> 11,303,981.93	<i>Pesos.</i> 9,280,319.74
Austria-Hungary.....	7,200.00	1,500.00
Belgium.....	2,340,310.52	2,716,273.65
Spain.....	1,345,395.23	1,866,450.00
France.....	4,780,731.60	3,931,970.91
Great Britain.....	16,272,671.35	15,013,238.44
Holland.....	9,210.00	34,150.00
Italy.....	6,131.00	24,555.00
Norway.....	1,000.00	
Portugal.....	544.00	
Russia.....	5,565.00	19,000.00
Other countries.....		430.00
Total Europe.....	36,072,740.63	32,887,887.74
Asia—China.....	500.00	796.00
North America:		
Canada.....	98,378.00	62,508.00
United States.....	89,745,807.77	83,113,718.93
Total North America.....	89,844,185.77	83,176,226.93
Central America:		
Guatemala.....	330,099.60	365,715.11
British Honduras.....	122,912.20	130,900.40
Other countries.....	4,334.04	5,402.00
Total Central America.....	457,345.84	502,017.51
South America:		
Chile.....	15,108.39	
Ecuador.....		200.00
Panama.....	10,141.00	60,569.00
Peru.....	400.00	
Argentine Republic.....	945.00	
Venezuela.....	50.00	
Total South America.....	26,644.39	60,769.00
West Indies:		
Cuba.....	1,385,065.00	1,254,240.00
Other countries.....		2,000.00
Total West Indies.....	1,385,065.00	1,256,240.00
Grand total.....	127,786,511.63	117,883,937.18

STATISTICS OF THE SUGAR CROP FOR 1907.

The annual report issued by "El Hacendado Mexicano," covering the sugar production of Mexico fixes the output for 1906-7 at 119,000 tons as compared with 107,500 tons in the preceding year, while for 1907-8 the estimated production is 115,000 tons.

The output of the various producing States is given as follows:

State.	Quantity.	State.	Quantity.
	<i>Kilos.</i>		<i>Kilos.</i>
Campeche.....	1,445,549	Oaxaca.....	1,682,320
Chiapas.....	732,300	Puebla.....	16,739,000
Colima.....	1,597,243	San Luis Potosi.....	1,268,000
Guerrero.....	2,889,450	Sinaloa.....	8,785,000
Jalisco.....	6,304,300	Tabasco.....	2,005,006
Mexico.....	189,863	Tamaulipas.....	1,578,000
Michoacan.....	7,492,809	Tepe (Territory).....	3,250,000
Morelos.....	42,229,727	Veracruz.....	18,690,000
Nuevo Leon.....	924,000	Yucatan.....	1,694,000

Molasses and "panela" were also produced to the extent of 68,329,799 and 50,000,000 kilos, respectively.

This report represents the workings of 773 properties and the interest in sugar growing and manufacturing has been greatly stimulated by the increased import duties levied on the foreign product in February. Since last year two United States factories have been established, one on the Mexican Central between San Luis Potosi and Tampico, and the other on the Mexican Railway, about 90 kilometers from the port of Veracruz. Both are equipped with modern machinery and have capacities of 3,000 and 800 tons daily, respectively. New machinery has been installed in many of the old establishments, and the quality of the product has been brought up to the best standard.

EFFECTS OF THE RAILROAD MERGER.

Unofficial advices report the formation in Mexico, on March 29, 1908, of a new company to administer the railroads recently merged under the name of the National Railways of Mexico.

The list of 23 incorporators is headed by Señor JOSÉ YVES LIMANTOUR and includes men prominent in financial affairs in Mexico. The readjustment of securities incident to the merger will be effected through New York banking houses.

The formation of a Mexican stock company having for its object the incorporation of the properties of the National Railways with the Mexican Central, with power to acquire, construct, and operate any other lines within the national territory and to enter into all contracts for the furtherance of the same, was authorized by the Mexican Congress on December 26, 1906, and full power conferred upon the Executive for the carrying out of the necessary preliminaries. The actual control of the Central was turned over to the Government on February 28, 1908, in accordance with the contract of July 6, 1907.

THE PORT OF TAMPICO AND THE RAILWAY MERGER.

The port of Tampico as affected by the merger of the Mexican Central and Mexican National Railways is considered by United States Consul MERRILL GRIFFITH, at that port, in a paper forwarded to the International Bureau of the American Republics.

He states that the future beneficial effects of this action on Tampico can scarcely be conjectured. The many improvements effected in the matter of harbor improvements and dockage facilities have already converted it into one of the most important shipping and distributing points of Latin America. Nearly 1,000,000 tons of freight were handled during 1907, and the completion of a short line of railway as a result of the merger will bring the port within ten hours of the capital, a fact significant to all shippers.

Another result of the agreement referred to will be the enlargement of local terminal facilities and other improvements necessary to handle the increasing tonnage. Later on the extension of a branch road from Tampico, through the State of Tamaulipas to Matamoras (for which a concession has already been granted), connecting with the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad, will make the shortest international route, via Houston, Tex., Matamoras, and Tampico, from all the central and eastern markets of the United States to the City of Mexico.

SILVER BASIS OF THE STAMP AND CUSTOMS TAXES, APRIL, 1908.

The usual monthly circular issued by the Department of Finance of the Mexican Republic announces that the legal price per kilogram of pure silver during the month of April, 1908, is \$36.32 Mexican currency, according to calculations provided in the decree of March 25, 1905. This price will be the basis for the payment of the stamp tax and customs duties when silver is used throughout the Republic.

STEEL DOCK AT ACAPULCO.

The Mexican Executive on March 7, 1908, approved the terms of the contract between the Department of Communications and the Mexican Pacific Company for the construction of a steel dock at Acapulco. The company is authorized to import free of duty all materials required both for the construction of the temporary wooden dock and also for the permanent steel dock which is to replace it within thirty years. The complete equipment, with all necessary appliances for the lading and unlading of vessels, for the transport of merchandise and the installation of lighters, is imposed upon the company, with the privilege of collecting charges for the use of the wharf during the life of the contract. At the end of ninety-one years the entire property shall revert to the Government.

FRUIT TRAFFIC WITH GALVESTON.

On March 7, 1908, a contract was signed between the Mexican Government and Lic. MANRIQUE MORENO, a representative of the Southern Steamship and Importing Company, of Galveston, Tex., United States, for the establishment of a line of boats between the frontier of the State of Tabasco and Galveston. These steamers are to be used for the transport to United States markets of such tropical fruits as are produced in Tabasco, the company agreeing to a schedule of two trips monthly and the Government conceding \$1,000 for each round trip made during a period of four years.

EXTENT OF THE FEDERAL TELEGRAPH SYSTEM.

According to statistics issued by the Director-General of Federal Telegraphs of Mexico, the extent of lines belonging to the Govern-

ment aggregates 38,527 miles, the cost of construction varying from \$80 in level lands to \$300 in mountainous districts.

The Government cable lines have a total length of 481 miles.

PRICE OF PUBLIC LANDS, 1908-9.

On January 9, 1908, the Mexican Government fixed the price of public lands for 1908-9, as follows:

States.	Price per hectare.	States.	Price per hectare.
	<i>Pesos.</i>		<i>Pesos.</i>
Aguascalientes.....	7.00	Puebla.....	11.00
Campeche.....	4.00	Queretaro.....	9.00
Chiapas.....	4.00	San Luis Potosi.....	4.00
Chihuahua.....	4.00	Sinaloa.....	4.00
Coahuila.....	4.00	Sonora.....	4.00
Colima.....	6.00	Tahasco.....	7.00
Durango.....	4.00	Tamalipas.....	4.00
Guamajuato.....	12.00	Tlaxcala.....	17.00
Guerrero.....	5.00	Veracruz.....	12.00
Hidalgo.....	5.00	Yucatan.....	4.00
Jalisco.....	9.00	Zacatecas.....	4.00
Mexico.....	21.00	Federal District.....	100.00
Michoacan.....	14.00	Territory of Tepic.....	4.00
Morales.....	27.00	Territory of Lower California.....	2.00
Nuevo Leon.....	4.00	Territory of Quintana Roo.....	2.00
Oaxaca.....	5.00		

GUANO EXPLOITATION.

On February 19, 1908, the Mexican Government authorized GEORGE F. ARCHER, or the company he may organize, to exploit, for a period of ten years, in accordance with the concession granted him on September 18, 1906, the guano deposits in the Arcas Islands, near the Campeche coast, as well as those situated in the Arenas Islands to the northwest of Punta Palma, 22° 7' north latitude near the coast of Yucatan. The guano concession granted to HARRY J. EARLE, or his assigns, on September 26, 1907, was modified on February 22, 1908, by withdrawing the permission given him to exploit the guano beds on the Arenas Islands, and by authorizing him to work the guano deposits found in the Contoy, Cancun, Chinchorros, Alacranes, Desterrada, Cornezuelo, and Perez islands near the coasts of Quintana Roo, Yucatan, and Campeche.

A commission has been ordered to make a report to the Government concerning the commercial value of the guano beds located on the islands along the Mexican coast with the purpose of exploiting to the fullest extent this source of public revenue.

NICARAGUA.

RECENT CONCESSIONS.

The National Legislative Assembly of the Republic of Nicaragua has recently approved the following concessions:

Contract with the American-European Finance and Development Company for the sale of lands the products from sale to be exclu-

sively applied to the construction of Matagalpa Railroad; contract entered into with Generals ASCENCION FLORES, CARLOS A. DE ZUBIRÍA and others granting them the right to own and exploit all mineral deposits situated within a zone on the Atlantic coast; contract with Dr. MANUEL VIDAURRÁZAGA for the introduction into the country of Chinese and Japanese immigrants for agricultural work; contract with Mr. JAMES DIETRICK for the introduction of Chinese immigrants to be employed in railroad construction and other works specified in the contract; contract with Señor JUAN HEATTASCH for the establishment of a porcelain factory, and contract entered into with Don JUAN CARLOS SERRANO granting him exclusive privilege for the manufacture of paper of all kinds from such raw materials as he may acquire in the country, and also from cotton, rags, sawdust, barks, and all other materials.

PANAMA.

CONCESSION FOR A BREWERY.

The Government of Panama has granted a concession to STEPHEN S. SIMPSON for the establishment of a large, modern equipped brewery in the city of Panama. All the materials, supplies, machinery, tools, utensils, apparatus, chemicals, and raw products necessary for use in the construction and operation of the brewery are admitted free of duty for a period of twenty-five years. The concessionaire agrees to pay to the Government \$0.75 per barrel of beer of 32 gallons manufactured in the brewery and offered for sale in the Republic or exported therefrom. Construction must be commenced before December 18, 1908. The Government obligates itself to grant no more favorable concession to any person or persons during the life of this contract. The Government must be advised before a transfer of the concession is made to a third party.

PERU.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

Latest figures received by the International Bureau of the American Republic, covering the foreign commerce of Peru, show total imports for the first quarter of 1907 valued at \$5,933,510 (£p. 1,186,702) and exports \$6,703,370 (£p. 1,340,674). For the same period of 1906 imports figured for \$6,587,730 (£p. 1,317,546) and exports for \$7,126,935, (£p. 1,425,387).

A total decline in commercial transactions to the extent of \$977,785 is thus indicated for the first three months of 1907 as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year.

IMPROVEMENTS AT TUMBES AND PACASMAYO.

In accordance with the authority conferred upon him by the Federal Congress in its session of October 25, 1907, President PARDO, on November 26 of the same year, issued a decree appropriating £35,000 for the construction of a wharf at the port of Tumbes, the building of a railway connecting the city of Tumbes with the port of the same name, and the erection of a bridge over the Tumbes River, and £15,000 for the repair of the wharf at Pacasmayo. The appropriation of £50,000 referred to is payable out of the receipts of former years from the tax on tobacco.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPH LINE.

"*El Peruano*," the official publication of the Peruvian Government, publishes in its issue for October 16, 1907, a law, passed by the National Congress on September 6, 1907, and promulgated by President PARDO on the 7th of the same month, appropriating the amount of £7,428 5s. 74c. for the establishment of a wireless telegraph line from the region known as "montaña" to the city of Iquitos.

INTERNAL REVENUES, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

The revenue derived from the taxes administered by the National Company of Collections amounted, during the first half of 1907, to £415,142 3s. 69c., as compared with £403,995 1s. 94c. collected during the same period of 1906.

CUSTOMS REVENUES AT SALAVERRY, 1907.

The custom-house of Salaverry, Peru, collected during the year 1907 a total revenue of £43,989 4s. 79c., of which £39,782 0s. 81c. were from import duties, £3,173 6s. 93c. from the 8 per cent surtax, and the remaining sum from various sources.

COTTON SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

The British "Board of Trade Journal" reports to the effect that the cotton produced in the Payta district of Peru has a daily increasing demand in the United States, being of a class quite distinct from that grown in the latter country. It is also stated that shipments thither pay much better than to Great Britain.

SALVADOR.**MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT FIGUEROA.**

On the occasion of the opening of the regular sessions of the National Assembly, on February 20, 1908, President FIGUEROA, of the Republic of Salvador, presented his message for the year 1907, reviewing the governmental administration of the country during said year.

The message states that all branches of the public administration are well organized and attended to. The Government is giving special attention to the prosecution of important works required by the progress of the country, and many improvements are being carried out.

Public instruction is an object of preferential attention from the Government; a modification of the general system of primary instruction is now under process of preparation, which reform will render the system more practical and of more positive results; it is proposed to establish several high schools throughout the Republic. The School of Agriculture, equipped with all necessary elements, was inaugurated during the year.

Speaking of the conference that the Presidents of Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua held in Amapala on November 6, 1907, General FIGUEROA says:

The result of this event was particularly beneficial to peace in Central America, and the Central American delegates in Washington, without differences or animosity, all united by one single sentiment, were easily able to come to an understanding that would guarantee peace and prosperity in Central America, thus fulfilling the noble wishes of the Presidents of the United States and Mexico.

President FIGUEROA expressed the gratitude of the people and Government of Salvador to Presidents ROOSEVELT and DIAZ for their important and friendly offices in behalf of the Central American peace and welfare. He made a similar manifestation of gratitude to the Presidents of Guatemala and Costa Rica for the proofs of friendship and fraternity they have given Salvador.

Finally, the President informed the Assembly that at present the relations that Salvador maintains with her sister Republics of Central America are very cordial and friendly, and that it is his purpose to widen and strengthen them in so far as possible. He stated further that relations with the other countries of the world continue to be in the best of terms.

CUSTOMS REVENUES, FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1907.

The total amount of revenues collected by the custom-houses of the Republic of Salvador during the first nine months of 1907 was 3,900,121.33 *pesos* (\$1,950,000), of which 3,196,098.97 *pesos* (\$1,598,000) were from import duties, 656,833.56 *pesos* (\$328,000) from export duties, and the rest from miscellaneous receipts. A comparison of the grand total with that of the same period of 1906 shows a decrease against 1907 of 416,499.51 *pesos* (\$208,000).

CUSTOMS SECURITY FOR SERVICE OF LOAN.

The service of the \$5,000,000 loan recently negotiated by MARK JAMESTOWN KELLY as special agent for the Government of Salvador

with the International Loans Company (Limited) of London, will be in the form of a bond issue to that amount secured by a special customs duty of \$3.60 gold upon every 100 kilograms of imported merchandise and an export tax of \$0.40 per quintal upon not less nor more than 500,000 quintals of coffee shipped yearly from the Republic during a period of twenty-one years. The bonds are to bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, and a sinking fund of \$420,000 annually is to be applied to the payment of interest and, cumulatively, to the repayment of the principal moneys.

The *Banco Agrícola Comercial* is the depository for the bonds, and the Salvador Railway Company (Limited), is to represent the trustees for the bondholders, and shall in such capacity receive and remit fortnightly to the London bank charged with the service of the loan the whole of the proceeds of the specified special customs duty and export tax.

The service of the loan is declared free of all charges and incumbrances whatsoever, in accordance with the agreement made on January 14, 1908, between the Salvadorean Government and the International Loans Company, the full text of which is published in the "*Diario Oficial*" for February 25, 1908.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Following is the latest statement, from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Department of Commerce and Labor, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin American countries. The report is for the month of February, 1908, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the eight months ending February, 1908, as compared with the same period of the preceding year. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for February, for example, are not published until April.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Cocoa (<i>Carao; cacao; cacao</i>):				
Central America.....	3,765	1,060	28,271	22,545
Brazil.....	376,452	157,901	1,958,379	2,016,172
Other South America.....	124,840	95,435	1,211,462	1,511,354

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Coffee (<i>Café; café; café</i>):				
Central America.....	1,250,845	711,206	2,473,214	2,115,575
Mexico.....	186,243	349,789	681,677	944,775
Brazil.....	4,027,280	4,101,969	41,109,500	32,500,101
Other South America.....	793,792	896,476	6,031,673	5,843,224
Copper (<i>Cobre; cobre; cuivre</i>):				
Ore (<i>Mineral; miucro; minéral</i>)—				
Mexico.....	457,029	86,729	2,688,783	2,148,276
South America.....	39,543	306,314	482,127	1,150,643
Pigs bars, etc. (<i>Lingotes, barras, etc.; lingados, barras, etc.; en lingots, saumons, etc.</i>)—				
Mexico.....	1,328,109	243,881	9,501,644	6,079,796
Cuba.....	6,907	1,081	51,566	50,652
Peru.....	154,330	363,764	739,440	2,886,237
Other South America.....	563	63,338	972,091	784,893
Cotton, unmanufactured (<i>Algodón en rama; algodón en rama; coton non manufacturé</i>):				
South America.....	77,832	18,379	470,157	356,004
Fibers (<i>Fibras; fibras; fibres</i>):				
Ixtle or Tampico fiber (<i>Irtle; irtle; irtle</i>)—				
Mexico.....	109,693	77,805	963,874	681,212
Sisal grass (<i>Henequen; henequen; henequen</i>)—				
Mexico.....	738,626	1,072,327	10,013,275	9,415,713
Fruits (<i>Frutos; frutas; fruits</i>):				
Bananas (<i>Plátanos; bananas; bananes</i>)—				
Central America.....	293,343	333,633	3,285,008	3,821,088
Cuba.....	14,714	8,814	533,874	351,931
South America.....	26,584	30,182	74,643	271,676
Oranges (<i>Naranjas; aranjass; oranges</i>)—				
Mexico.....	970	1,318	35,587	53,357
Cuba.....	1,035	540	7,354	3,258
Furs and skins (<i>Pieles finas; pelles fines; fourrures et peaux</i>):				
South America.....	4,312	2,430	274,006	128,548
Goatskins (<i>Pieles de cabra; pelles de cubra; peaux de chevres</i>):				
Mexico.....	418,813	202,790	2,048,909	1,230,588
Brazil.....	11,049	72,496	1,172,976	845,247
Other South America.....	116,495	46,060	1,552,394	681,557
Hides of cattle (<i>Cueros vacunos; cueros de gado; cuirs de bétail</i>):				
Mexico.....	163,801	86,648	1,164,768	578,137
Cuba.....	9,718	3,330	205,903	67,319
Brazil.....	28,167	2,625	127,068	77,915
Other South America.....	1,078,893	417,937	6,178,975	3,876,539
India rubber, crude (<i>Goma cruda; barra; goma em bruto; caoutchouc</i>):				
Central America.....	87,063	38,025	532,046	439,668
Mexico.....	306,969	293,437	1,278,442	2,348,484
Brazil.....	4,685,756	2,300,741	21,435,134	12,121,119
Other South America.....	138,481	39,620	1,001,526	837,248
Iron ore (<i>Mineral de hierro; minerio de ferro; mineral de fer</i>):				
Cuba.....	197,148	181,301	1,406,831	1,750,622
Lead ore (<i>Mineral de plomo; miucro de chumbo; mineral de plomb</i>):				
Mexico.....	224,670	396,563	1,737,598	2,527,056
Sugar, not above No. 16 Duteb standard (<i>Azucar inferior al No. 16 del modelo holandés; assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão holandês; pois aulessus du type hollandais No. 16</i>):				
Mexico.....	69,904	579	164,011	884,832
Cuba.....	9,574,917	8,369,732	31,781,018	23,691,341
Brazil.....	86,728		912,381	
Other South America.....	87,331	2,729	1,815,337	472,650
Tobacco (<i>Tabaco; fumo; tabac</i>):				
Leaf (<i>En rama; em rama; non en feuille manufacturée</i>)—				
Cuba.....	1,028,241	1,066,810	10,019,593	8,425,472
Cigars, eigarettes, etc. (<i>Cigarros, cigarrillos, etc.; charutos, cigarros, etc.; cigares, cigarrilles, etc.</i>)—				
Cuba.....	359,517	237,631	3,189,531	3,193,980
Wood, mahogany (<i>Caoba; mogno; acajou</i>):				
Central America.....	92,842	1,184	340,054	479,030
Mexico.....	98,892	8,270	445,439	420,820
Cuba.....	2,859	17,331	112,562	120,395
Wool (<i>Lana; lã; laine</i>):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing).....	686,325	342,570	1,566,083	1,015,794
Class 2 (combing).....	51,780		298,102	278,298
Class 3 (carpet).....	47,198	122	466,619	55,738

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Agricultural Implements (<i>Herramientas agrícolas; instrumentos agrícolas; instruments agricoles</i>):				
Mexico.....	34,913	29,008	282,015	310,897
Cuba.....	2,084	8,274	40,303	89,951
Argentine Republic.....	249,308	202,519	3,157,045	2,977,202
Brazil.....	17,147	55,587	78,331	239,331
Chile.....	14,543	9,741	322,630	322,410
Other South America.....	10,700	27,074	157,844	192,877
Animals (<i>Animales; animaux; animaux</i>):				
Cattle (<i>Ganado; vacuno; gado; bétail</i>)—				
Mexico.....	64,100	35,345	615,302	601,529
Cuba.....	4,796	10,193	317,257	118,231
South America.....		10,644	37,289	37,490
Hogs (<i>Cerdos; porcoss; porcs</i>)—				
Mexico.....	5,688	26,125	151,454	143,551
South America.....	64	193	776	1,015
Horses (<i>Caballos; cavallos; chevaux</i>)—				
Mexico.....	81,621	17,925	327,044	107,687
Sheep (<i>Ovejas; ovelhas; moutons</i>)—				
Mexico.....	1,650	263	58,268	45,985
Books, maps, etc. (<i>Libros, mapas, etc.; livres, mappas, etc.; livres, cartes, etc.</i>):				
Central America.....	2,856	6,343	34,459	59,061
Mexico.....	25,745	19,552	189,033	239,621
Cuba.....	39,569	22,803	232,574	208,553
Argentine Republic.....	4,011		64,572	43,217
Brazil.....	5,564	112,966	64,398	188,846
Chile.....	31,281	7,765	224,490	81,764
Other South America.....	22,208	31,712	80,155	98,530
Breadstuffs (<i>Cereales; cereales; céréales</i>):				
Corn (<i>Maíz; milho; maïs</i>)—				
Central America.....	2,615	2,759	19,613	57,351
Mexico.....	55,394	15,373	762,949	413,982
Cuba.....	136,698	79,935	940,855	791,005
South America.....	1,032	2,441	6,920	21,787
Oats (<i>Avena; aveia; avoine</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,486	1,443	16,146	47,974
Mexico.....	4,837	1,175	38,540	21,337
Cuba.....	30,920	2,536	255,590	167,360
South America.....	905	539	9,567	8,343
Wheat (<i>Trigo; trigo; blé</i>)—				
Central America.....	3,440	1,534	22,903	14,023
Mexico.....	131,098	7,457	559,797	46,539
South America.....	18,278	263,581	317,207	660,385
Wheat flour (<i>Harina de trigo; farinha de trigo; farine de blé</i>)—				
Central America.....	190,218	190,288	1,141,459	1,272,130
Mexico.....	9,284	16,707	81,861	100,505
Cuba.....	233,329	300,233	1,946,757	2,476,674
Brazil.....	90,179	116,159	866,765	1,129,435
Colombia.....	15,406	17,408	108,984	1,138,813
Other South America.....	157,964	169,990	1,418,565	1,169,788
Cars, carriages, etc. (<i>Carros, carruages y otros vehículos; carros, carriagens, etc.; wagons, voitures, etc.</i>):				
Automobiles (<i>Automóviles; automobiles; automobiles</i>)—				
Mexico.....	96,262	13,755	561,335	287,661
South America.....	6,260	4,251	137,641	173,599
Cars, passenger and freight (<i>Wagones para pasaje y carga; carros de pasajeros e carga; wagons de voyageurs et de marchandise</i>)—				
Central America.....	323,150	14,909	983,547	695,569
Mexico.....	167,613	118,887	1,520,941	1,013,349
Cuba.....	77,577	43,012	545,432	612,178
Argentine Republic.....	225,645	172,060	1,511,733	641,825
Chile.....	1,879	329,669	80,823	646,550
Other South America.....	115,808	41,168	397,174	872,951
Cycles and parts of (<i>Bicicletas y accesorios; bicyclos e partes; bicyclettes et leurs parties</i>)—				
Mexico.....	5,229	7,224	64,692	62,462
Cuba.....	3,329	2,077	23,096	28,832
Argentine Republic.....	556	1,531	1,255	10,077
Brazil.....	655	287	6,413	6,113
Other South America.....	1,128	1,315	14,086	9,613
Clocks and watches (<i>Relojes de pared y bolsillo; relogios de parede e de bolso; horloges et montres</i>)—				
Central America.....	918	1,129	10,735	13,265
Mexico.....	3,303	3,067	32,398	36,257
Argentine Republic.....	2,742	14,197	39,518	65,172
Brazil.....	6,023	9,191	62,194	78,762
Chile.....	5,325	2,178	31,617	34,992
Other South America.....	4,253	1,760	28,799	31,761

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Coal (<i>carbón; carvão; charbon</i>):				
Anthracite (<i>antracita; anthracite; anthracite</i>)—				
Mexico.....	80	1,971	4,737	17,000
Cuba.....	10,876	9,847	71,814	122,826
Bituminous (<i>bituminoso; bituminoso; bitumineux</i>)—				
Mexico.....	267,717	146,084	2,040,393	2,025,481
Cuba.....	150,822	158,884	1,242,985	1,476,867
Copper (<i>cobre; cobre; cuivre</i>):				
Ore (<i>minerai; minerio; minerai</i>)—				
Mexico.....	50,591	87,492	572,228	848,556
Ingots, bars, etc. (<i>lingotes, barras, etc.; linguados, barras, etc.; en lingots, saumons, etc.</i>)—				
Mexico.....	868	55	28,590	34,004
Cotton (<i>algodón; algodão; coton</i>):				
Unmanufactured (<i>en rama; en rama; brut</i>)—				
Mexico.....	2,730	47,052	36,413	240,696
Cloths (<i>tejidos; tecidos; tissus de coton</i>)—				
Central America.....	137,496	110,588	1,138,292	989,369
Mexico.....	24,104	19,222	172,750	124,506
Cuba.....	53,184	34,197	714,117	739,426
Argentine Republic.....	13,745	4,629	193,125	68,218
Brazil.....	21,322	19,931	281,719	248,628
Chile.....	73,118	62,047	761,327	439,074
Colombia.....	50,143	73,722	565,731	429,703
Venezuela.....	28,866	19,869	323,358	179,836
Other South America.....	48,277	52,083	365,473	350,619
Wearing apparel (<i>ropa; roupa; vêtements de coton</i>)—				
Central America.....	27,279	28,674	227,197	388,497
Mexico.....	25,749	30,613	169,115	304,936
Cuba.....	18,918	14,848	218,660	212,007
Other South America.....	5,690	7,911	75,576	88,117
Fibers (<i>fibras; fibras; fibres</i>):				
Twine (<i>gramante; barbante; ficelle</i>)—				
Argentine Republic.....	4,501	34,518	1,100,120	1,697,555
Other South America.....	8,455	11,176	190,445	217,238
Fish (<i>pecado; peixe; poisson</i>):				
Salmon (<i>salmón; salmão; saumon</i>)—				
Colombia.....	497	191	2,318	3,366
Other South America.....	72,837	32,211	300,883	376,359
Fruits and nuts (<i>frutas y nueces; fructas e nozes; fruits et noix</i>):				
Central America.....	13,442	21,391	91,276	943,939
Mexico.....	18,452	14,453	201,451	171,042
Cuba.....	25,316	9,278	180,819	177,560
South America.....	14,946	15,245	107,634	122,201
Glucose and grape sugar (<i>glucosas; glucoses; glucoses</i>):				
Argentine Republic.....		15,250	66,470	72,352
Other South America.....	436	19	10,428	8,582
Instruments and apparatus for scientific purposes (<i>instrumentos e apparatus para fines científicos; instruments et appareils scientifiques</i>):				
Electrical appliances, including telegraph and telephone instruments (<i>aparatos eléctricos incluso instrumentos telegráficos y telefónicos; aparelhos eléctricos, incluindo instrumentos telegráficos e telefónicos; instruments électriques y compris les appareils télégraphiques et téléphoniques</i>)—				
Central America.....	21,465	16,856	143,217	150,918
Mexico.....	62,796	44,431	628,818	422,780
Cuba.....	35,953	44,292	377,202	312,585
Argentine Republic.....	9,156	32,488	210,137	167,246
Brazil.....	74,259	96,532	458,928	873,402
Other South America.....	85,217	52,607	440,520	444,266
All other (<i>otros instrumentos; todos os demais instrumentos; instruments divers</i>)—				
Central America.....	5,852	8,001	39,378	61,234
Mexico.....	32,675	22,586	288,073	167,688
Cuba.....	9,726	7,181	95,691	96,460
Argentine Republic.....	8,623	19,968	94,933	138,126
Brazil.....	9,063	7,256	44,155	90,853
Other South America.....	32,469	9,824	123,611	107,814
Iron and steel, and manufactures of (<i>Hierro y acero y sus fabricaciones; ferro e aço e suas manufacturas; fer et acier et ses manufactures</i>):				
Steel rails (<i>Rieles de acero; trilhos de aço; rails d'acier</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,530	4,042	-109,017	601,267
Mexico.....	100,658	39,685	739,855	442,655
South America.....	409,028	140,152	1,971,723	1,145,931

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EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Iron and steel, and manufactures of, etc.—Continued.				
Structural iron and steel (<i>Hierro y acero para construcción; ferro e aço para construção; fer et acier pour la construction</i>)—				
Mexico.....	89,060	64,426	507,414	585,403
Cuba.....	7,611	39,272	188,220	463,067
South America.....	19,345	24,969	308,417	687,567
Central America.....				
Mexico.....	18,104	20,426	141,312	177,220
Cuba.....	60,545	53,075	373,364	785,563
Argentine Republic.....	30,143	16,930	286,369	444,174
Brazil.....	132,056	129,066	921,333	1,103,600
Other South America.....	18,446	16,740	164,264	320,362
Builder's hardware (<i>Materiales de construcción; ferragens; matériaux de construction en fer et en acier</i>)—				
Mexico.....	20,465	23,898	237,377	247,316
Cuba.....	103,496	88,364	708,592	677,261
Argentine Republic.....	39,711	30,030	372,516	373,264
Brazil.....	52,779	62,304	560,061	483,136
Chile.....	33,038	56,701	325,940	444,577
Colombia.....	30,769	14,938	216,219	246,436
Venezuela.....	4,901	12,847	48,390	77,299
Other South America.....	2,663	4,236	42,338	28,320
Electrical machinery (<i>Maquinaria eléctrica; machines électriques; machines électriques</i>)—				
Mexico.....	6,602	19,968	37,600	90,588
Cuba.....	119,970	181,218	781,664	1,060,977
Argentine Republic.....	802	4,118	74,517	61,946
Brazil.....	11,852	29,941	169,779	212,703
Other South America.....	7,306	38,006	282,568	574,965
Metal-working machinery (<i>Maquinaria para labrar metales; maquinismos para trabajar en metal; machines pour travailler les métaux</i>)—				
Mexico.....	33,599	7,674	113,808	126,065
Sewing machines (<i>Maquinas de coser; machines de coudre; machines à coudre</i>)—				
Mexico.....	15,058	8,605	61,653	66,075
South America.....	22,128	30,977	84,584	158,434
Central America.....				
Mexico.....	16,195	4,140	89,183	92,246
Cuba.....	57,103	94,808	530,292	506,390
Argentine Republic.....	24,481	28,823	214,276	163,645
Brazil.....	33,346	45,531	338,192	248,778
Colombia.....	21,753	10,769	296,376	358,871
Other South America.....	6,440	10,084	49,580	62,518
Steam engines and parts of (<i>Locomotoras y sus accesorios; locomotivas e accesorios; locomotifs et leurs parties</i>)—				
Mexico.....	512,475		874,565	92,480
Cuba.....	40,720	240,200	988,696	571,442
Argentine Republic.....	60,375	26,500	684,095	527,577
Brazil.....	8,172	63,590	404,948	169,315
Other South America.....	12,000	118,000	135,880	525,885
Typewriting machines and parts of (<i>Mecanógrafos y sus partes; machines de écrire e accesorios; machine à écrire et leurs parties</i>)—				
Mexico.....	2,491	4,106	29,088	44,050
Cuba.....	25,407	20,500	245,853	221,718
Argentine Republic.....	4,125	3,746	51,183	60,989
Brazil.....	8,240	19,707	81,015	99,079
Colombia.....	4,251	5,269	41,572	71,752
Other South America.....	2,622	870	11,783	10,831
Pipes and fittings (<i>Cañería; tubos, tynur</i>)—				
Mexico.....	18,878	6,003	135,854	147,632
Pipes and fittings (<i>Cañería; tubos, tynur</i>)—				
Mexico.....	84,167	87,802	429,120	370,116
Cuba.....	72,718	74,447	636,041	1,202,839
Argentine Republic.....	58,507	19,530	397,242	757,163
Other South America.....	13,679	24,491	80,499	105,737
Leather and manufactures of (<i>Cuero y sus fabricaciones; couro e suas manufacturas; cuirs et ses manufactures</i>):				
South America.....	4,893	33,730	163,862	228,739
Sole leather (<i>Suela; sola; cuir pour semelles</i>)—				
South America.....			638	208

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Leather and manufactures of, etc.—Continued.				
Upper leather (Cuero de pata; couro de gaseira; cuirs pour tiges de chaussures)—				
Central America.....	18,938	27,687	143,473	182,779
Cuba.....	9,127	8,854	86,041	82,515
Argentine Republic.....	20,320	34,194	163,018	169,793
Brazil.....	6,258	19,341	83,802	115,359
Other South America.....	12,120	21,501	181,703	182,292
Boots and shoes (Uzudo; calzado; chaussures)—				
Central America.....	33,801	69,218	374,306	539,555
Mexico.....	110,474	145,267	1,003,274	1,130,016
Colombia.....	1,832	7,211	30,189	45,328
Other South America.....	17,701	25,470	263,086	334,448
Meat and dairy products (Productos de la ganaderia; productos animales e lacticiuos; viandes e produits de lacteries):				
Beef, canned (Carne de vaca en latas; carne de vacca en lates; bœuf conserve) —				
Central America.....	4,232	2,370	46,014	48,072
Mexico.....	1,610	1,109	19,541	10,478
Cuba.....	1,518	640	12,756	17,332
South America.....	3,136	2,726	29,688	29,513
Beef, salted or pickled (Carne de vaca, salada o adobada; carne de vaca, en salmoura; bœuf salé) —				
Central America.....	18,543	11,679	89,916	120,492
South America.....	20,491	25,709	175,881	170,604
Tallow (Sebo; sebo; suif) —				
Central America.....	16,424	10,434	93,693	89,649
Mexico.....	3,466	7,100	17,508	39,727
Cuba.....	8,133	2,191	12,448	34,791
Chile.....	2,082	367	54,172	35,926
Other South America.....	4,883	4,402	38,178	35,420
Bacon (Tocino; toucinho; lard yumi) —				
Central America.....	2,578	2,944	21,707	27,728
Mexico.....	4,020	2,262	37,889	33,880
Cuba.....	40,367	35,136	393,006	291,000
Brazil.....	7,791	14,796	123,962	147,488
Other South America.....	5,108	1,378	8,552	15,888
Hams (Jamons; presunto; jambons) —				
Central America.....	16,729	16,125	99,288	130,118
Mexico.....	8,437	7,363	75,761	91,734
Cuba.....	45,495	41,607	393,539	414,446
Venezuela.....	2,340	1,834	31,546	31,282
Other South America.....	3,968	4,737	39,822	52,074
Pork (Carne de puerco; carne de porc; porc) —				
Cuba.....	72,606	55,440	459,026	543,416
South America.....	34,231	18,288	170,276	171,811
Lard (Mantea; banha; saindour) —				
Central America.....	52,874	23,931	448,838	331,162
Mexico.....	59,658	90,261	441,774	656,960
Cuba.....	264,008	181,973	1,963,261	1,902,923
Brazil.....	98,734	114,560	663,132	660,808
Chile.....	16,687	10,742	128,442	112,405
Colombia.....	3,688	15,116	32,187	76,833
Venezuela.....	6,818	3,253	160,180	54,348
Other South America.....	42,181	40,479	383,404	454,572
Lard compounds (Compuestos de manteca; compostos de banha; composces de saindour) —				
Mexico.....	32,831	24,133	532,759	347,421
Cuba.....	199,169	138,997	1,096,734	1,175,199
Oleomargarine (Oleomargarina; oleomargarina; oleomargarine) —				
Central America.....	2,957	5,457	23,050	34,233
Mexico.....	1,959	2,790	20,463	14,651
Butter (Mantequilla; manteca; beurre) —				
Central America.....	9,529	13,509	109,692	137,639
Mexico.....	15,127	10,975	96,752	89,980
Cuba.....	6,623	1,313	48,276	25,801
Brazil.....	6,349	1,518	58,668	25,815
Venezuela.....	704	2,068	38,660	36,874
Other South America.....	3,002	6,200	36,882	35,147
Cheese (Queso; queso; fromage) —				
Central America.....	7,772	5,614	54,065	56,134
Mexico.....	3,298	4,674	27,423	37,550
Cuba.....	2,750	1,988	13,702	16,154
Naval stores (Provisiones navales; petrechos navales; fournitures navales):				
Rosin, tar, etc. (Resina, alquitran, etc.; resina, ulcitrao, etc.; resine, goudron, etc.) —				
Cuba.....	6,289	4,352	57,911	66,450
Argentine Republic.....	27,825	97,556	334,343	327,960
Brazil.....	48,142	41,335	366,319	487,632
Other South America.....	22,744	22,061	173,088	174,334

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EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	February—		Eight months ending February—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Naval stores, etc. Continued.				
Turpentine (Aguarrás; aguará; trebenthac) —				
Central America.....	2,047	1,998	26,992	25,052
Cuba.....	6,811	3,420	58,740	54,707
Argentine Republic.....	19,043	27,624	134,337	294,353
Brazil.....	9,425	9,084	104,014	90,204
Chile.....	14,968	912	75,542	77,081
Other South America.....	6,497	4,035	51,093	63,038
Oils, mineral (Aceites minerales; aceites minerales; huiles minerales):				
Crude (Crudos; crus; brutes) —				
Mexico.....	135,174	92,898	779,368	699,602
Cuba.....	29,380	33,968	281,321	324,732
Illuminating, refined (Refinados para alumbrado; para iluminación; d'echerogé) —				
Central America.....	19,196	30,943	173,770	239,611
Cuba.....	56,278	4,371	133,778	94,578
Argentine Republic.....	134,498	177,371	1,230,794	1,408,561
Brazil.....	196,830	240,799	1,749,891	1,933,679
Chile.....	83,713	58,438	370,822	382,049
Other South America.....	113,169	132,224	788,005	874,805
Lubricating, refined (Refinados para la lubricación; para lubrificación; a graissier) —				
Mexico.....	20,391	15,802	186,697	114,215
Cuba.....	37,342	22,733	236,461	186,101
Argentine Republic.....	46,480	56,830	289,527	360,743
Brazil.....	32,377	40,230	243,398	231,715
Chile.....	31,465	32,219	148,677	160,842
Oils, vegetable (Aceites vegetales; óleos vegetales; huiles vegetales):				
Central America.....	4,766	5,630	31,751	32,912
Mexico.....	142,819	107,173	679,199	807,083
Cuba.....	23,102	20,505	130,103	103,433
Argentine Republic.....	2,170	25,643	47,818	129,838
Brazil.....	20,818	17,908	260,993	181,103
Chile.....	5,145	—	44,106	78,876
Other South America.....	23,563	14,318	99,858	131,909
Paper (Papel; pape; papier) —				
Mexico.....	3,909	5,514	37,401	64,369
Cuba.....	14,940	17,124	131,971	178,165
Argentine Republic.....	23,383	10,600	207,027	97,846
Brazil.....	273	774	9,655	5,984
Chile.....	21,063	11,361	112,874	121,187
Other South America.....	8,883	8,010	66,508	67,784
Paraffin (Parafina; paraffine; paraffine) —				
Central America.....	6,974	10,070	54,335	58,428
Mexico.....	66,236	61,319	429,207	427,150
South America.....	7,458	2,357	39,897	28,417
Tobacco (Tabaco; fumo; tabac) —				
Unmanufactured (En rama; en rama; en feuille) —				
Central America.....	1,413	7,654	38,020	40,879
Mexico.....	8,217	13,518	89,872	95,433
Argentine Republic.....	8,000	9,000	35,713	157,206
Colombia.....	63	3,350	10,425	10,246
Other South America.....	6,329	10,356	66,179	65,346
Manufactured (Elaborado; manufacturado; manufacturé) —				
Central America.....	5,762	7,396	54,645	65,848
Wood, unmanufactured (Madera sin labrar; madera no manufacturada; bois brut) —				
Central America.....	48,048	32,431	435,964	437,849
Mexico.....	108,955	73,665	878,113	1,174,541
Cuba.....	21,175	1,580	98,861	18,350
Argentine Republic.....	3,876	71,389	112,170	135,586
Other South America.....	69,318	3,713	262,894	23,022
Lumber (Madera de construcción; madera de construcción; bois de construction) —				
Central America.....	73,282	136,659	820,815	1,021,085
Mexico.....	262,750	74,743	1,440,836	1,641,691
Cuba.....	252,457	122,994	1,458,740	1,187,213
Argentine Republic.....	761,144	246,225	4,523,675	2,327,364
Brazil.....	107,539	79,065	837,514	269,530
Chile.....	109,504	12,500	700,451	798,759
Other South America.....	93,104	220,340	868,422	1,066,995
Furniture (Muebles; mobiliá; meubles):				
Central America.....	28,684	21,954	196,260	243,687
Mexico.....	75,022	75,302	602,614	717,079
Cuba.....	51,708	55,635	353,495	506,508
Argentine Republic.....	27,182	45,182	267,150	416,394
Brazil.....	8,373	8,751	30,707	78,369
Chile.....	7,102	3,314	55,189	73,881
Colombian.....	1,194	1,611	10,636	18,811
Venezuelan.....	1,151	963	15,608	10,617
Other South America.....	13,772	20,523	79,589	113,831

OCEAN MAIL SERVICE TO SOUTH AMERICA.

As an important step intended to link the United States in closer commercial relations with South America it is interesting to note the wording of the following bill which passed the United States Senate on March 20, 1908, and which it is hoped will also pass the House of Representatives:

AN ACT To amend the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, entitled "An Act to provide for ocean mail service between the United States and foreign ports and to promote commerce."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to pay for ocean mail service under the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, in vessels of the second class on routes to South America, to the Philippines, to Japan, to China and to Australasia, four thousand miles or more in length, outward voyage, at a rate per mile not exceeding the rate applicable to vessels of the first class as provided in said Act, and in vessels of the third class on said routes, at a rate per mile not exceeding the rate applicable to vessels of the second class, as provided in said Act: *Provided*, That if no contract is made under the provisions of this Act for a line of ships between a port on the Atlantic coast south of Cape Charles and South American ports, the Postmaster-General shall, provided two or more lines are established from North Atlantic ports, require that one of said lines shall, upon each outward and homeward voyage, touch at at least two ports on the Atlantic coast south of Cape Charles, regard being had in the selection of such ports of call to geographical location and to the volume of the export and import business of the ports so selected: *Provided further*, That the total expenditure for foreign mail service in any one year shall not exceed the estimated revenue therefrom for that year.

Passed the Senate March 20, 1908.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT,

Secretary.

URUGUAY.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT WILLIMAN.

In his message delivered to the Uruguayan Congress on the inauguration of its sessions in February, 1908, President WILLIMAN referred to the peace and order characterizing the last general and presidential elections as a proof of the regularity and stability of the Government institutions.

Satisfaction was expressed with the friendly manner in which the Argentine Republic, Brazil, and Great Britain were represented in the inauguration ceremonies of March, 1907, and also with the cordial reception given the Uruguayan delegates on their visits to the two first-named countries.

Referring to revenues, finances, and trade during the year, the President stated that owing to the labors of the reassessing committee in the capital the property tax in the last six months of the year showed an increase of \$79,459. The stamp tax for the year increased by \$25,000, and the legacy duties by \$173,464. The customs revenue was greater by \$331,612 than in 1906, and the total

trade for the year is estimated as nearly \$2,000,000 in excess of the preceding year.

During 1907, new debts to the amount of \$3,442,445 were contracted by the Government (principally the conversion loan) and redemption to the extent of \$2,579,462 was made. Thus at the close of the year the public debt stood at \$128,138,917, as against \$127,275,933 at the close of 1906. There still remain bonds to the amount of \$8,084,393 to be issued on the conversion loan, while war indemnity claims representing \$5,556,354 are to be dealt with. Owing to the steadily increased traffic on the railways, the amount due for guarantee was reduced to \$658,160, or \$61,427 less than in 1906.

A treasury surplus of at least \$1,800,000 is anticipated for the close of the fiscal year on June 30, 1908, as expenditures to that time are fixed at \$10,652,919, including an extraordinary item of \$410,602, to meet which an anticipated revenue of \$12,453,780 will be available on the basis of the receipts of the preceding year.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1906 AND 1907.

A general estimate of the trade of Uruguay in 1907 fixes the total valuation at \$69,576,143, of which \$34,425,205 are for imports and \$35,150,937 for exports.

The latest statistics issued by the Statistical Office attached to the Montevideo custom-house cover imports and exports of the Republic during the last six months of 1906. The combined valuations amount to \$30,625,958, of which \$17,402,334 represent imports and \$13,223,624 exports.

Added to the \$37,230,981 previously reported for the first half of the year, it is shown that the foreign trade of Uruguay in 1906 was represented by \$67,856,939, of which \$34,454,915 are credited to imports and \$33,402,024 to exports.

These figures indicate an advance of \$6,305,089 over 1905 statistics, when the foreign trade aggregated \$61,551,850, comprising imports worth \$30,777,603 and exports \$30,774,247. It is thus shown that both branches of trade made noteworthy gains, taking the year as a whole, though in the latter half export values decreased by \$6,944,776, as compared with the first six months, a decline which was by no means counterbalanced by the small gain of \$349,753 reported for imports. Compared, however, with the corresponding period of 1905, a gain of over \$2,000,000 is indicated, as from July to December, 1905, the total foreign trade of Uruguay amounted to but \$28,500,000.

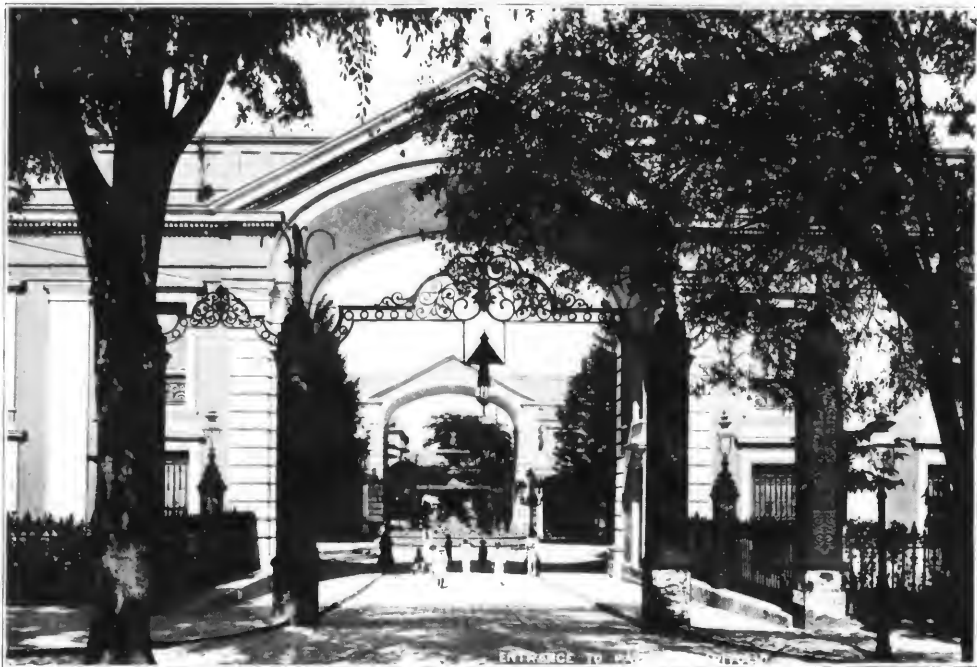
IMPORTS OF WINE, 1901-1907.

The imports of wine from 1901 to 1903, inclusive, aggregated 41,895,426 liters, of which, under the law of July 14, 1900, 19.95 per cent, or 8,360,174 liters, was subject to customs duties amounting to



VIEW OF THE PORT OF LA GUAIRA AND BREAKWATER OWNED AND OPERATED BY A BRITISH COMPANY UNDER A CONCESSION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA.

VISTA DEL PUERTO DE LA GUAIRA Y DEL MUELLE-ROMPEOLAS, PROPIEDAD DE UNA COMPAÑIA INGLESA QUE LO EXPLOTA EN VIRTUD DE UNA CONCESION OBTENIDA DEL GOBIERNO VENEZOLANO.



ENTRANCE TO "PATIO" OF CAPITOL BUILDING IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA.

The edifice covers an area of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres and is a combination of Moorish and Spanish architecture.

ENTRADA AL PATIO DEL CAPITOLIO DE CARACAS, VENEZUELA.

Este edificio ocupa una superficie de media hectárea y su estilo es una combinación de arquitectura española y árabe.

\$73,854.98. From 1904 to 1906, inclusive, the imports of wine consisted of 30,503,028 liters. Under the law of July 17, 1903, 22.66 per cent of this quantity, or 6,913,223 liters, was dutiable, and the customs duties collected thereon amounted to \$125,633.84. The total imports of wine in 1907 were 2,669,456 liters, all of which was subject to customs duties aggregating \$51,216.81. The total imports of wine from 1901 to 1907, inclusive, were 75,067,910 liters, 17,942,853 liters of which were dutiable, and the total customs duties collected amounted to \$250,705.63.

VENEZUELA.

EXPORTS OF CACAO, FIRST HALF OF 1907.

During the first half of 1907 the exports of cacao from the different ports of the Republic aggregated 7,993,080 kilos, valued at 9,692,604.65 bolivars (\$1,928,520.93). The shipments from the ports of La Guaira and Carúpano, respectively, amounted to 4,604,701 and 2,023,027 kilos, and those from all other Venezuelan ports to 1,365,352 kilos. Of the total number of kilos exported, 4,476,882 went to France; 1,134,930 to Spain; 1,088,079 to Great Britain and her colonies; 1,085,102 to North America; 87,681 to Germany; 63,138 to Holland and her colonies; 56,512 to Italy, and 756 to Porto Rico.

EXPLOITATION OF RUBBER AND BALATA GUM.

President CASTRO issued a decree on January 22, 1908, regulating the exploitation of rubber and balata gum in Rio Negro and El Caura. The felling of rubber trees is prohibited, and rubber gathering is confined entirely to the system of incisions. Balata gum may be collected by cutting down the balata trees during the gathering season, if the trees are fully developed, provided two balata trees are planted for each one destroyed. The cutting down of small balata trees under 8 years of age is forbidden, unless fully developed.

RAILWAY RECEIPTS IN 1906.

The gross revenues of the railways of Venezuela in 1906 aggregated 8,983,629 *bolivares*, or approximately \$1,796,725, the freight and passenger receipts being 7,403,163, and 1,580,466 *bolivares*, respectively. The freight carried during the year amounted to 179,185,475 kilós, and the number of passengers transported was 536,553.

ASPHALT CONCESSION.

Under date of January 14, 1908, the Government of Venezuela leased to NARCISO SALDIVIA, his successors or assigns, for a term of twenty-five years, the asphalt beds found in the municipality of

Caño Colorado, District of Monagas, State of Bermudez. In addition to the annual tax of 2 *bolivares* per hectare on the area of the deposits referred to in the lease, the concessionaire agrees to pay the Government 4 *bolivares* per ton of asphalt exported or sold in the country.

PEARL FISHERIES.

In consideration of an annual payment of 25,000 *bolivares*, the Government has granted to LUIS F. HERNANDEZ, for a period of sixteen months, the exclusive right to exploit, or sublet for exploitation, the pearl fisheries of the Margarita Island in the Gulf of Cariaco, and on the coast of Punta de Araya. The exploitation shall be carried on by the dredging system, and shall be discontinued during the months of July, August, and September.

CUSTOMS TARIFF, 1908.

The extra issue of the "Official Gazette" of Caracas of January 13, 1908, contains the following customs tariff of Venezuela, promulgated by President CASTRO two days previously:

ARTICLE 1. Goods of foreign origin which are introduced through the custom-houses of the Republic are divided into the following nine classes:

1. Goods liable to a duty of 5 centimes of the *bolivara* per kilogram.
2. Goods liable to a duty of 10 centimes of the *bolivar* per kilogram.
3. Goods liable to a duty of 25 centimes of the *bolivar* per kilogram.
4. Goods liable to a duty of 75 centimes of the *bolivar* per kilogram.
5. Goods liable to a duty of 1 *bolivar* 25 centimes per kilogram.
6. Goods liable to a duty of 2 *bolivars* 50 centimes per kilogram.
7. Goods liable to a duty of 5 *bolivars* per kilogram.
8. Goods liable to a duty of 10 *bolivars* per kilogram.
9. Goods liable to a duty of 20 *bolivars* per kilogram.

CLASS 1.—*Goods dutiable at the rate of 5 centimes of the bolivar per kilogram.*

1. Advertisements in almanac form.
2. Apparatus and machines for generating steam by means of petroleum residues, naphtha, fire-extinguishing apparatus "Biosca" and the like, also substances for charging the same.
3. Gas or electric-lighting apparatus and machinery.
4. Incubators.
5. Perforators for stone or trees.
6. Fire engines and hydraulic pumps with their respective pipes, valves, and other fittings.
7. Hydrographic and marine charts.
8. Carriages, accessories, and materials exclusively intended for railroads.
9. Axletrees, springs, rims, and boards for carts, carriages, and wheelbarrows to be constructed in the country.
10. Geographical or astronomical globes; maps of all kinds and lithographed or printed topographical plans of all kinds.

^aThe *bolivar*—\$0.193 and is divided into 100 centimes. For weights and measures, Venezuela has adopted the metric system.

11. Rennet.
12. Water filters.
13. Eggs.
14. Native iron or scrap iron for re-smelting.
15. Books, printed, unbound or stitched, not exempted on importation; booklets and writing copy books for primary schools, in leaves or stitched.
16. Wood prepared for shipbuilding and round pieces of pine or pitch pine for masts.
17. Telegraphic apparatus and machinery, machines, reservoirs of galvanized iron, and apparatus not mentioned in other classes, and not exceeding 1,000 kilograms in weight; also ice chests.
18. Steam engines of all kinds with their accessories.
19. Windmills with their accessories.
20. Gold and silver, unwrought.
21. Platinum, unwrought.
22. Living plants of all kinds; herbariums or collections of dry plants other than medicinal.
23. Seeds for sowing which can not be used as food.

When empty common glass bottles are imported in boxes which may be used to carry the same number of filled bottles, the bottles shall pay the respective duty to which they are liable under this tariff.

Should receptacles in which duty-free articles are imported, such as trunks, bags, portfolios, wrappers, or stuff, not have lost their ordinary value, they will be weighed separately and pay the duty applicable to their respective class.

CLASS II.—Goods dutiable at the rate of 10 centimes of the bolivar per kilogram.

24. Sulphuric acid, liquified carbonic acid gas, and ammonia anhydrous gas for the manufacture of beer.
25. Bran of wheat, maize, linseed, oats, barley, and all other cereals: bran oil cake of the same kinds for cattle fodder.
26. Fishhooks and iron wire, galvanized or not, unwrought.
27. Almagra, chalk, ocher, Spanish white, clay, caput mortuum, and all unenumerated earths for building purposes, as well as white cement or estucatina.
28. Mineral or vegetable tar, asphalt, raw petroleum, and bitumens of all kinds, except that for paving purposes.
29. Hoops of iron or wood for casks, barrels, and sieves, and iron hooks to secure them to the cases or barrels.
30. Mineral waters.
31. Rice in the grain, plus a surcharge of 10 per cent.
32. Oats in the grain.
33. Iron bars (tools).
34. Common bottles of ordinary black or white glass, for bottling liquors, aerated waters and sterilized milk, and square bottles of similar glass, and jars generally used for importing gin, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
35. Slabs and tiles of baked clay, marble, jasper, wood, or any other material for pavements, not exceeding 60 centimeters; roofing tiles of baked clay, slates, and common unwrought stone.
36. Boats and lighters, whole or in detached pieces; also oars and sails for the same.
37. Hydraulic lime, common lime, and all other similar materials for building purposes not elsewhere mentioned.
38. Parings and wastes of skins, also dried intestines, employed in the manufacture of sausages.

39. Hemp or tow, in the mass or twisted, for calking; tarred tow and cotton wastes for cleaning machines.
40. Conduits or pipes of iron or lead, also elbows and joints.
41. Cardboard in the paste and filtering paper used in breweries and malted or toasted barley for manufacturing beer.
42. Waterproof cardboard for roofing and other purposes.
43. Carts and wagons, handcarts and fire ladders.
44. Straw or cardboard envelopes for bottles.
45. Barley, unhulled, and rye in the grain.
46. Coaches, chaises, gigs, omnibuses, phaetons, and all kinds of vehicle not otherwise mentioned.
47. Bark of oak and other trees used in tanning and bone ash.
48. Waterproof lining for partitions.
49. Empty demijohns or square bottles.
50. Flour of barley, chick-peas, Du Barry's Revalenta, and any flour not otherwise mentioned.
51. "Heratol," a substance used to purify acetylene gas.
52. Tools and implements, such as hammers, ship mauls, hatchets, capstans, forges, bellows of all kinds, cranes, "*moltjous*," large screws for blacksmiths, bickens, anvils, and all other similar tools and implements.
53. Ice imported into ports where ice factories have, with permission of the Government, been established and are in operation.
54. Rough, black iron, round or square, in plates or blocks, and iron in rough black plates or sheets for the manufacture of boilers and tanks.
55. Bricks, even of fire clay, and bath bricks.
56. Firewood and charcoal, in pieces.
57. Common wood, such as planks, beams, and joists, of pitch pine or any other wood, neither planed, tongued, nor grooved, less than 25 centimeters in thickness.
58. Maize in the grain, plus a surcharge of 10 per cent.
59. Apples, grapes, pears, and all other fresh fruit.
60. Machinery, reservoirs, and baths of galvanized iron, and apparatus not mentioned in Class I, the total weight of which does not exceed 1,000 kilograms.
Provided that when machines are imported with extra pieces, which taken separately are subject to a higher duty, the whole will be dutiable as machines when such pieces arrive in the same packages; machines or apparatus for killing *bachacos* as well as the substance employed in loading said machines or apparatus.
61. Mills, large and small, not mentioned in Class I.
62. Music, manuscript, in loose sheets, copy-book form, or half-bound.
63. Manioc.
64. Wrapping paper made of straw or wood pulp, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
65. Straw, or dried nonmedicinal grasses, such as hay and other similar grasses or fodder for animal food.
66. Pitch, common, white, black, or yellow, as well as black or yellow tar, salifer powders and sulphate of alumina.
67. Logwood, guaiacum, Brazil wood, mulberry wood, red sandalwood, and other similar woods, in shavings.
68. Coco mats for working auriferous sands.
69. Slates for roofing and for billiard tables.
70. Iron or steel posts for electric installations.
71. Slates, with or without frames, slate books and pencils.
72. Pine resins, and all other nonmedicinal resins.

73. Wheels for carriages, carts, and wagons, iron axle boxes for same, steel wheels fitted on steel axles, and cast iron wheels, with their rubber tires the diameter of which does not exceed 30 centimeters, axles and supports for carts to be used in the treatment of coffee, cacao, and other agricultural uses, provided said carts are constructed in the country.
74. Epsom salts, Glauber salts or sulphate of soda, and silicates of soda and of aluminum.
75. Sardines pressed in oil, in tomatoes, or in any other form, with or without truffles.
76. Sienna and black earths for cleaning purposes.
77. Granite tombstones, or of any other material except marmol, which belongs to Class III.
78. Wooden lathes for roofing (teja-mani).
79. Wheat in the grain, plus a surcharge of 20 per cent.
80. Chalk, white, in sticks or powder, and marble and glass powder.
81. Gypsum in pieces or powder, and for casting.

CLASS III.—*Goods dutiable at the rate of 25 centimes of the bolivar per kilogram.*

82. Olive oil and imitations thereof, and cotton-seed oil.
83. Kerosene, colza and bone oils, and so-called "*esperma de cristal*" oil for machines.
84. Stearic and oleic acids; stearine pure, unwrought, and stearine mixed with paraffin, known as trade stearine.
85. Acetic acid, hydrochloric or muriatic acid, boric acid and borax, also fatty acids and carbolic acid.
86. Steel, bronze, brass, spelter, copper, tin, pure or alloyed, lead, nickel, and zinc in lumps or rough, in bars, cubes, parings, or whether in perforated or cut out sheets or not.
87. Nitric acid or aquafortis, and impure fomic acid.
88. Aerated waters and lemonades, and orange blossom water.
89. Spirits of turpentine.
90. Knitting needles of steel, wood, bone, caoutchouc, or other similar materials.
91. Raw cotton, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
92. Spike lavender.
93. Alum, not calcined or in lumps, chrome alum, and impure or denatured fomic acid for tanning hides.
94. English yellow or chromate of lead, minium, litharge, mineral manganese, white lead or carbonate of lead, and asbestine.
95. Stuffed animals, cardboard and wooden fans with advertisements printed thereon or adhering thereto.
96. Telephonic apparatus and adjuncts, such as commutators, pins, cranks, carbons, and covered copper wire for telephones. Lamps and parts thereof for electric light installations.
97. Harness and horse collars for use in connection with carriages, calashes, coupés, omnibuses, and phaetons, and for all kinds of cars, wagons, and carts.
98. Ground rice, arroco root, crushed maize, sulú, tapioca, zagú, and toasted oats and oatmeal.
99. Muscovado, and burnt or granulated sugar used in the manufacture of beer.
100. Sulphur, flowers or sticks of.
101. Scales, and iron balances, with their weights.
102. Excelsior ("*barba de palo*") and vegetable fibers similar to esparto.
103. Barrels, pipes, and hogsheds, set up or knocked down, and staves reported separately.
104. Pottery, glazed or not, in any form, not otherwise mentioned.
105. Zinc white and white bole.

106. Canes, reeds, rushes, palm, straw not otherwise mentioned, unwrought osier, and clover stalks ("la espiga de trébol") for the manufacture of brooms.
107. Bullets, large and small shot.
108. Bromide of cyanogen.
109. Cables, cordage, and twine.
110. Bowls for tobacco pipes, cigar holders, and tobacco pipes, of common clay or faience, not combined with any other materials.
111. Calcimine, calcarium, lithite, and edmore.
112. Cannon of all kinds.
113. Haricots of all kinds, chick-peas, lentiles, and beans, plus a surcharge of 10 per cent.
114. Cloth, unbleached or coarse; cloth called "coleta," unbleached, No. 3; common packing cloth, generally employed for coffee and cocoa sacks and for packing, unbleached, the color of which, naturally dark, has not been changed by a preparation intended to bleach it, even when with colored stripes and checks.
115. Charcoal in powder, animal charcoal, and lampblack, and turf in blocks.
116. Meat, salted in brine or smoked, ham and gammon, not in boxes; bacon and tongues, smoked or salted, with the exception of jerked meat ("tasajo"), commonly called Montevideo, the importation of which is prohibited.
117. Packing cloth lined with paper; fine pasteboard or thick office paper, for visiting cards and other purposes, including waterproof paper, for copying presses.
118. Chloride of lime and cyanide of potassium and of sodium.
119. Sieves and strainers of iron wire and of wood.
120. Hair grass and similar vegetable fibers.
121. Wax, shoemakers'.
122. Beer, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
123. Creoline and disinfectants, liquid or in powder.
124. Copper, old and scrap.
125. Portable cooking ranges of iron or other metal.
126. Alimentary preserves, shrimps, oysters, and lobsters.
127. Hearses, including the lanterns ("vidrios"), feathers, plumes, and all other accessories thereto, even when they are separately liable to higher duties, provided they be imported together with the hearses, in the same or in other packages.
128. Chalk, white or red, in lumps or powder.
129. Crucibles of all kinds.
130. Chlorate of calcium for the manufacture of ice.
131. Preserves in vinegar, other than olives and capers, which belong to Class IV.
132. Juniper berries.
133. Emery, in lumps or powder.
134. Esparto, raw.
135. Fuses and quick matches for miners, and greasing tow for machines.
136. Copper scupper nails.
137. Fountains or basins, of iron, marble, or any other material, and statues, busts, vases, and urns of marble, alabaster, granite, or of all other similar stones.
138. Biscuits of all kinds, without confections.
139. Fluid gas ("gas fluido"); licorice.
140. Gum arabic, in the gum or in powder.
141. Wheat flour and broken wheat, plus a surcharge of 5 per cent.
142. Manufactures of iron: Wire gauze for mattresses; anchors and chains for vessels, safes, mortars, furniture, copying presses, and machines for stamping paper; nails, tacks, hobnails, rivets and scupper nails; buildings not erected or separate parts thereof, such as balconies, doors, balustrades, gratings, columns, roofs,

even when imported separately: statues, urns, flower vases, busts, and all other similar ornaments for houses and gardens; weights for scales, flatirons, posts for fences; hooks, with or without rings, cylinders or *calvegas*, stoves, boilers, "*budares*," kettles, broilers, pots, frying pans, roasters, and other household utensils, tinned or not, enameled or not, with the exception of similar articles of sheet iron or tin plate, which pay duty according to Class IV. Galvanized iron nails and washers, as well as water-closet apparatus of iron, and disinfectants, are included in this same class.

143. Tin plate, unmanufactured, and thin sheets of tin used for lining trunks; also embossed copper sheets.
144. Bones, horns, and hoofs, raw.
145. Cotton Holland cloth, blue.
146. Instruments for arts and trades, with or without handle.
147. Children's toys of all kinds and of whatever material, including balls ("*metras*"), except gum for manufacturing Chinese balls, which shall be dutiable as manufactures of rubber.
148. Sterilized fruit syrup, without alcohol, and cider.
149. Luccine or fecule for starching, and unprepared vegetables.
150. Books, printed and bound, except those comprised in Class VIII, printed pamphlets, and chalk for blackboards, provided the thickness of the former does not exceed 16 millimeters.
151. Emery on linen or paper.
152. Linseed or linseed meal and colza seed.
153. Earthenware, common, and faience, glazed or not, and heavy, or thick English earthenware.
154. Flax, raw.
155. Walnut wood.
156. Wood, fine, for musical instruments, furniture, etc.
157. Wood in sheets and laths, for veneering.
158. Wood, sawn, planed or dovetailed.
159. Lard and butter, plus a surcharge of 10 per cent.
160. Ore of iron, copper, and tin; black lead and asbestos.
161. Rough marble, unwrought or polished, and marble tombstones or monuments, the tiles or marble slabs for paving graveyards, and which are included in Class IV, not being considered parts of same.
162. Potatoes of all kinds and sizes, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
163. Paper of all kinds not otherwise mentioned, serpentines or paper ribbons; white or colored *confetti* used in carnival games, and white tissue paper in sheets not exceeding 49 centimeters in length by 36 centimeters in width, used by press copy-book manufacturers.
164. Paste, called "*Brightina de Ronde*."
165. Fish, pressed, salted, or smoked, not in tins.
166. Lithographic stones, pumice stone, stones of all kinds and of all forms for grinding or whetting, fireproof stones for blast furnaces, filtering, and other similar stones.
167. Colors, common, prepared in oil.
168. Pianos, even silent.
169. Sago flour, or in the grain.
170. Saltpeter and salt of niter, common or calcined potash.
171. Leeches.
172. Stearine prepared for the manufacture of candles.
173. Soda, common, calcined, or caustic.

- 174. Carbonate of soda, crystallized.
- 175. Sulphate of iron or green copperas.
- 176. Sulphate of copper or bluestone.
- 177. Juniper berries.
- 178. Gauze of iron wire, not otherwise mentioned, and spring wire mattresses.
- 179. Common unbleached cloth for filters.
- 180. Electric bells, and parts thereof.
- 181. Turpentine, common, of Venice; logwood paste and extract.
- 182. Poison for preserving skins.
- 183. Glass and crystal in unsilvered sheets, white or colored, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
- 184. Vinegar, common and empyreumatic, and brandy made from the residues of pressed grapes.
- 185. Wines of all kinds, in pipes, casks, or barrels, except medicinal wines; also red wine in large or small bottles, and "Saint Raphael" wine.
- 186. Coffee winnowers ("*ventiladores*").
- 187. Sumac, powdered or in a crude state.

CLASS IV.—*Goods dutiable at the rate of 75 centims of the bolivar per kilogram.*

- 188. Linseed oil.
- 189. Fish oil (other than cod-liver oil), sesame and almond oil.
- 190. Palm oil, siccative or liquid oil for painters.
- 191. Olives and capers of all kinds.
- 192. Oil and vinegar cruets, decanter and cruet stands, other than those having any part of gold or silver, which come under Class VIII, and those of German silver, or gilt or silvered, which are comprised in Class VI.
- 193. Articles of all kinds of steel, iron, copper, brass, tin, tin plate, bell metal, bronze, lead, pewter, zinc, aluminum, and nickel, manufactured in any form, not elsewhere mentioned, whether polished, japanned, tinned, or bronzed or not; and furnaces for the manufacture of sugar.
- 194. Metallic wire, manufactured in frames for wigs, racks for clothes, cages for birds; also in frames for parasols, umbrellas, and hats, or similar apparatus, and copper wire. Gymnastic and mechanical apparatus for rooms, made of rope or rubber, such as horizontal and parallel bars, rope ladders, rings, springboards, dumb-bells, indian clubs, boxing gloves, base, lawn tennis, foot, cricket, and polo balls, rowing machines and parts thereof, and skates of all kinds.
- 195. Almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, peanuts, chestnuts, and all other dried fruits in shells, not specified.
- 196. Stills and all similar apparatus, and bamboo and paper fans with advertisements printed thereon or attached thereto.
- 197. Siegert's bitters.
- 198. Sesame, canary seed, and millet.
- 199. Aniseed, caraway seed, Ceylon and Chinese cinnamon ("*canelón*"), garlic, onions, cummin, cloves, origan, pepper, and other kinds of spices, for seasoning or condimenting food, and tomato paste.
- 200. Chandeliers, globes, tulips, candelabra, candlesticks, beacons, street lamps, suspensions, lamps, lanterns, candle shades ("*guardabrisas*"), and Argand lamps, except such as are ornamented with gold or silver, which are included in Class VIII, and except those of German silver, and those gilt or silvered, which are taxed according to Class VI. Accessories thereof imported, with the above-mentioned articles, will be dutiable according to the class to which they belong.
- 201. Christmas trees.

202. Jet, unmanufactured, and sugar, white or refined.
203. Scales, Roman balances and dynamometers of copper, or in which copper predominates, including weights, even of iron, when imported together with the scales, and automatic scales that operate when a coin is put into them.
204. Wooden pails, buckets, or tubs.
205. Billiard-table cushions and straps or belts of coarse oilcloth for flywheels of steam engines.
206. Bagatelle tables with all their accessories.
207. Narrow bands of cloth and rubber for belting to be adapted to low-power machines, and bands of sole leather, single or not, for fly wheels of steam motors.
208. Felts for hats, not fulled, hair for hats, paper wrappers, leather bands, crowns, plush, peaks for caps and kepis, silk or cotton ribbons in pieces up to 80 centimeters, inclusive, in length, and other articles exclusively used in the manufacture of hats, such as oilcloth prepared with gum lac dissolved in alcohol, employed for the manufacture of silk hats, and solutions of said gum in alcohol, also woolen or silk cords of 80 centimeters in length, employed in said manufacture.
209. Shoe blacking and creams and bituminous oil employed for blackening and softening harness.
210. Billiard tables with all their accessories, including the balls and covers, when imported together.
211. Lees ("borra") of oil, residue of lard and of all other fatty substances, also Armenian bole.
212. Boxes of wood, even imported in pieces, i. e., in boards for making same, water-closet apparatus of faience with fittings of metal, and other accessories.
213. Baskets, large or small, hand baskets, small carriages for children, and other articles of osier and wickerwork, including children's carriages, whatever the material from which made; canvas covered with paper, for the manufacture of envelopes, and tissue coated with sulphate of copper.
214. Pasteboard manufactured or prepared for boxes, large and small, or in any other form, excepting for toys, masks, and playing cards. Blank visiting cards of any size are likewise included in Class IV.
215. Barley, husked or ground, and "*cebadilla*."
216. Capsules for bottles.
217. Brushes for the teeth, hair, clothes, and shoes, and common horse brushes and those of horn or whalebone for scribbling.
218. Wax, vegetable, black or yellow, not prepared.
219. Bristles and horsehair and tissues of horsehair for strengthening men's clothing.
220. Wooden horses or merry-go-rounds, or roundabouts.
221. Glue, common, in lumps or liquid, and collodion for photographers.
222. Linen, unbleached, and cloth called "*coleta*," unbleached, No. 2; common linen similar to that comprised in No. 114 of Class III, but which has been more or less bleached, including chintz ("*cotonia*").
223. Pointed knives, common, with or without sheaths; knives with handles of wood or other common material, for fishermen; large knives and steel machetes, for farming, and, generally, all those employed in arts and trades.
224. Lacquers and varnishes of all kinds.
225. Caoutchouc made into tubes or pipes, of more than 1 centimeter in diameter, and into sheets or bands for machine belting; also washers or rings of caoutchouc with tissue core.
226. Oil-cloth for floors, packing and roofing, also machine packing.
227. Mirrors of all kinds, framed or not, and plate glass, silvered.
228. Spermaceti and paraffin.

229. "*Espuma de mar*," substance employed for making bread, and baking powder.
230. Esparto and cane mats for floors.
231. Small table and dish mats of colored pita.
232. Meat extract. Fish scales for carnival games.
233. Figures, ornaments, and articles of all kinds, used in putting up confectionery, also gilt paper bags, finished or partly finished, imported for the above purpose. Should the receptacles referred to be covered with silk or velvet or ornamented with flowers or other articles liable to higher duties, they shall come under Class VI as fancy articles.
234. Door mats not otherwise mentioned.
235. Dried fruit.
236. Fruits in their juice, or in brandy, sirup.
237. Saddletrees, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
238. Artificial flowers of porcelain.
239. Matches of all kinds except those with stars or Bengala.
240. Gasoline, benzine, and naphtha.
241. Gelatine of all kinds, and biscuits with sugar.
242. Potato, maize, and rye flour.
243. Buckles covered with leather.
244. Shoemakers' thread and hempen ropes for reins, with core of tow.
245. Coarse thread of hemp or pita, and fishing twine of these materials.
246. Rope yarn.
247. Tin plate and sheet iron, manufactured into articles not specified, and iron utensils for domestic use when they have lids or covers of tin plate or sheet iron.
248. Iron buckles for harness makers, whether tinned, nickeled, or bronzed.
249. Incense.
250. Surgical, dental, and anatomical instruments.
251. Soap for tailors.
252. Sirups of all kinds, other than medicinal; confectionery of all kinds, sugar candy and flavored rice flour employed for sweets.
253. Sealing wax, in cakes or sticks.
254. Coarse and half-fine sailcloth of hemp or cotton, unbleached, and light unbleached, cloth of linen and cotton called "*Sanitas*."
255. Milk, condensed.
256. Lithographed draft books, and crayons and charcoal pencils for drawing.
257. Fine porcelain and imitations thereof, not specified.
258. Hops, raw wool, and prepared vegetables.
259. Wood manufactured into articles not otherwise mentioned.
260. Malt.
261. "*Manigrafos*."
262. Iron and wooden furniture.
263. Marble, jasper, alabaster, granite, and other similar stones, wrought or polished, in articles not otherwise mentioned.
264. Wicks and twists for lamps, and lamp-chimney cleaners.
265. Mustard, in the grain or in powder.
266. Furniture of common wood, osier, straw, or cane.
267. Organs and accessories thereof imported separately.
268. Ostein ("*ostéina*") and oleomargarine.
269. Straw prepared for hats.
270. Wood in strips and paste for making matches.
271. Wooden sieves with bottoms of linen tissue.

272. Paste or mastic for polishing, and that used for the tips of billiard cues.
273. Wall paper and albuminized paper.
274. Composition imitating porcelain, marble, granite, or any other fine stone, in all kinds of articles, excepting toys.
275. Pianolas, and parts thereof, even though imported separately.
276. Flints, touchstones, polishing and similar stones, not mentioned in other classes.
277. Hides neither tanned nor prepared.
278. Wooden shovels.
279. Solders.
280. Leather tips for billiard cues.
281. Cheese of all kinds.
282. Spare parts of machines other than agricultural.
283. Sacks, empty, of canvas, of cloth called "*coleta*," unbleached linen, and other similar fabrics.
284. Sausages, hams in tins, fish in tins, mortadella, mushrooms, dried or in sauce; lacteous flour and all other comestibles, prepared or not, not mentioned in foregoing classes, such as Buitoni's agglutinated paste and phosphatine.
285. Sauces of all kinds and pickles in mustard.
286. Tallow, raw, rendered or pressed, and ordinary fats of all kinds for making soap, as well as grease for machines not included in other classes.
287. Siphons and apparatus for aërated waters.
288. Sole leather, dyed or not, not worked, and hempen soles for shoes.
289. Piano stools of whatever material.
290. Tale in sheets or powder.
291. Horsehair fishing lines.
292. Meat covers of wire gauze.
293. Stoppers with heads of metal, glass, crystal, or porcelain, and tin and cork stoppers used by breweries, when bearing the name of the factory or mercantile house using them.
294. Tissues of cotton, hemp, esparto or flax, for floor coverings, even when mixed with a small quantity of wool, and horsehair tissues for covering furniture.
295. Canvas prepared for oil painting, and stumps for drawing.
296. Tissues, common, of hemp, flax, or cotton, for manufacturing or covering furniture, and tissues in bands or any other form, and cotton dishcloths for domestic use, and straw platis for packing.
297. Wooden heels, shoed or not with copper or iron.
298. Strips of stuff or tinned paper ("*de papel estañado*"), for shoemakers, of 1 centimeter in width by 12 centimeters in length.
299. Bootjacks and corkscrews.
300. Chalk, in sticks, lumps, or other form, for billiards.
301. Blinds, Venetian, etc., for doors and windows.
302. Firecrackers called "*triquitragues*," primers for squibbs, and jumping jacks.
303. Caoutchouc tubes and hose of more than 1 centimeter in diameter, and bands for machinery, also narrow bands of cloth and rubber for low-power machines.
304. Sails of coarse and other cloth or of twilled cloth ("*colonia*"), for vessels.
305. Candles.
306. Velocipedes and bicycles, and parts thereof.
307. Glass and crystal, manufactured into any articles not elsewhere mentioned.
308. White wines of all kinds, when imported in demijohns or bottles (except medicinal wines), and port wine in large and small bottles, even though it is red wine it belongs to this same class.
309. Articles of gypsum of all kinds, excepting toys for children.

CLASS V.—Goods dutiable at the rate of 1 bolivar 25 centimes per kilogram.

310. Oil: Cod liver, spurge, and other medicinal oils, and other unenumerated oils.
311. Oils and soaps, perfumed.
312. Accessories and cylinders for phonographs.
313. Arsenic.
314. Tartaric acid, in powder.
315. Liquid ammonia.
316. Toilet waters and hair wash, such as "*florilina*" and the like, also waters for cleaning metals.
317. Spirits of all kinds: brandy or cognac and their essences, absinthe, Hollands and their essences up to 22° Cartier; above 22° the duty shall be proportional. Bitters not otherwise specified, such as the bitter *clivir* of coca, are included in this class.
318. Almonds, peeled.
319. Apparatus for measuring hats.
320. Photographic apparatus and accessories intended for their manufacture, if not included in other classes.
321. Shapes of sized stuff for hats, bonnets, and caps.
322. Rings covered with leather.
323. Strops and fine stones for sharpening razors, and razor paste.
324. Asphaltum for engravers.
325. Saffron.
326. Quicksilver.
327. Trunks, traveling sacks, bags, valises, and portmanteaus of all kinds, and wooden or cardboard trunks suitable for keeping candies, handkerchiefs, etc.
328. Skins for carrying wine, and wallets and small bags of oilcloth for grain samples.
329. Buttons of all kinds, excepting those of silk, silver, or gold.
330. Bandages, bougies or probes, trusses, lint, strainers or filters, sucking bottles and nipples, breast pumps, cupping glasses, anodyne necklaces, spatulas, lances, retorts, clysterpumps, syringes of all kinds, and siphons not otherwise mentioned.
331. "*Bramante*," "*brin*," dril, domestic cloth, "*liencillo*," "*varandol*" or Irish linen, unbleached, of linen or cotton, used in the manufacture of hammocks, and all other similar unbleached tissues, including those with colored stripes or patterns, provided that the ground be unbleached, and Holland of black or blue thread, and linen and cotton ticking, bleached or colored.
332. Brushes and paint brushes of all kinds.
333. Hat cases of leather.
334. Printed or lithographed circulars.
335. Almanacs of all kinds.
336. Camera obscura or camera lucida, for drawing or photography, and other similar apparatus.
337. Cotton canvas for embroidering, and canvas of unbleached thread similar to the ordinary tulle used for mosquito nets.
338. Capsules, sacks or bags of paper, of all kinds and sizes, with or without inscriptions, for apothecaries.
339. Toroise shell, crude.
340. Advertisements, large and small, and loose sheets, printed or lithographed.
341. Homespun linen, white linen called "*coleta*," "*lienzo de rosa*," camel-hair cloth, cotton cretonne and linen cretonne, called unbleached German dowlas Nos. 9, 10, and 11, lining ("*chhueta*"), striped or checked, colored or not, and all other similar tissues, not mentioned in preceding classes.

342. Sieves of copper wire, leather, wood, or horse hair.
343. White wax, pure or mixed, not wrought, and mineral wax.
344. Bristles for shoemakers.
345. Isinglass and liquid glue for shoemakers.
346. Colors and paints, not otherwise mentioned, such as azure blue, ultramarine, and "kalsomine," earths of different colors and paints prepared with oil to be used for enamel.
347. Cork, in sheets, stoppers, and in any other shape.
348. Boot and shoe laces, and common plaits of cotton for sandals, also cord tapes of cotton, twisted or not according to the purpose for which intended, containing ten ends or more.
349. Amethysts, and cubebs.
350. Penknives, razors, scissors, and "chambetas;" table knives and forks, except those with handles plated with gold or silver, which are dutiable according to Class VIII; and those with handles of German silver, silvered or gilt, which are comprised in Class VI.
351. Cords, single or wound with thread, for musical instruments.
352. Beer, concentrated or peptonized.
353. Sassafras and all medicinal barks.
354. Drugs, medicines, and chemical products not specified, and any other article for medicinal use, such as bicarbonate of soda, wine of "buoy," chinchona wine of Bisteri, cardamon seeds and plants, patented medicines and drugs duly classified by the Board of Examination and Classification of Secret Medicines.
355. Cotton drills, white or colored, cotton drill called "casinette," white cotton flannel and cotton "batán" and bleached or unbleached plushy cloth used for bath wraps and towels.
356. Dynamite.
357. Oilcloth of all kinds, other than that used for floors, packing, and roofing, comprised in Class IV.
358. Cotton buckram.
359. Brooms, large and small, and horsehair brooms.
360. Essences and extracts of all kinds not otherwise mentioned, including tobacco extract.
361. Sponges.
362. Stereoscopes, cosmoramas, dioramas, panoramas, magic lanterns, phonographs, graphophones, and other similar apparatus, and parts thereof.
363. Paper lanterns, paper collars, fronts and cuffs, including those lined with stuff, and manufactured paper not otherwise mentioned.
364. Foils, masks, breastplates, and fencing gloves.
365. Photographs.
366. Cotton blankets.
367. Gum lac, copal, and all kinds of gums and resins not otherwise mentioned.
368. Horsehair gloves and fencing gloves.
369. Glycerine.
370. Ordinary sewing thread, untwisted thread for embroidering and untwisted thread of one end for weaving.
371. Loadstone.
372. Figures and statuettes, other than those of gold or silver, and mechanical manikins of life size.
373. Musical instruments and boxes, and all accessories thereof, excepting organs and pianos.
374. Soap, white, marbled, called Castile or Marselles.
375. Soap, common, perfumed, or in powder, and rock salt for animals.

376. Sets of chessmen, draughts, dominoes, roulette, and similar games; playing cards of all sorts.
377. Pictures and engravings on paper.
378. Pencils of all kinds, except slate pencils; note books and portfolios, india-rubber erasers; seals and stamps for letters, ink and ink powder, paper knives, pencil cases, sealing wax and wafers, sand, steel pens, penholders, inkstands, and all stationery, except articles with any part of gold or silver, and envelopes are not included in this number.
379. Blank books and booklets, books containing gold or silver leaf, whether real or imitation, for gilding or silvering; bronze in powder and books for bronzing.
380. Liqueur stands, empty, or containing a liqueur.
381. "Liençillo," "brin," and domestic tissues, of linen or cotton, unbleached or colored, and similar linen or cotton tissues used in manufacturing hammocks.
382. Iron filings.
383. Striped tissues, "arabias" and ginghams of linen or cotton, common, i. e., such as have only 13 strands in the warp or woof of each square of 5 millimeters.
384. Wooden battens, moldings, and cornices, painted, varnished, gilt or silvered, and wooden curtain-loop holders.
385. Colored cotton duck, and plaits of common linen, cotton or woolen tissue of a width of from 7 to 15 centimeters for girths and surcingles, also light unbleached cloth having more than 10 strands in the warp or woof of each square of 5 millimeters.
386. Smeet liqueurs, such as cherry cordial, creams of vanilla, cocoa, anise, and the like.
387. Madapolam, Brittany, domestic, Nansouck "*matrimonio*," Irish, cretonne, "*elefanta*," "*liencillo*," "*simpatico*," "*saraje*," Hollands, and other white cotton tissues similar to the foregoing; and "*platilla*" cotton fabric, white or colored, for lining of sleeves of dresses.
388. Frames of any material, with or without glasses, prints, portraits, pictures, and engravings.
389. Masks of all kinds.
390. Maizena.
391. Macaroni "*tallarines*," vermicelli, and all other similar alimentary paste.
392. Measures of leather, tissue, or paper, with or without cases.
393. Medicines and chemical products not specially mentioned, patent or secret medicines that have been duly examined by the Examination and Classification Board of Secret Medicines, and medicinal cotton.
394. Furniture of fine wood, such as palissander, mahogany, rosewood, walnut, and that with backs and seats, upholstered with wool, horsehair, cotton, or silk, furniture of common gilt wood, and coffins of all kinds, and "*paravanes*."
395. Gallnuts, nutmegs, and mace.
396. Shades of metal, paper, or tissues.
397. Gum pastilles of all kinds.
398. Perfumery of all kinds, and perfumed booklets of scented paper, and perfumers and alomizers, without gold or silver trimmings, with or without rubber parts.
399. Parchment and imitations of the same in articles not otherwise mentioned; cloth only used for bookbinding, and waterproof tissue of caoutchouc and cotton used for winter blankets, and cotton felt for lithographic machines.
400. Aerometers and liquor gauges, and alcoholometers.
401. Paintings, chromos, drawings, and portraits on canvas, wood paper, stone, or other materials, lithographed advertisements applied on cardboard, and christening cards with colored landscapes or figures.
402. Silk paper and headed letter paper even when intended for private use.

403. Rice powder for toilet, and calcined caraco of Persia.
404. Bottle and glass stands, and canteen bottles "Thermos."
405. Gun and blasting powder.
406. Automatic scales when provided with music boxes or machines for playing games
407. Empty sacks, of canvas, "lieucillo," or other similar cloth.
408. Tobacco cut for cigarettes, subject further to a surtax of 2 *bolivars* per kilogram
409. Tannin.
410. Large cards, printed or lithographed.
411. Tea and vanilla.
412. Indian ink, for marking, hair dyes, and all other kinds of ink not otherwise mentioned.
413. Rubber tubes of less than 1 centimeter in diameter, with irrigators; without irrigators, they shall pay duty according to Class VI.
414. Candles of spermaceti, paraffin, composition, or stearine, and twisted wicks for the same.
415. Warandol, unbleached of linen or cotton, even with colored stripes or flowers, also that with a lead-gray or light-yellow ground.
416. Tinder boxes and flints or wicks for tinder boxes.

CLASS VI.

Goods dutiable at the rate of 2 bolivars 50 centimes per kilogram.

417. Bubles and beads of glass, porcelain, steel, wood, or of any other materials excepting gold and silver; coffin ornaments; fancy articles of glass or porcelain, mounted in gilt or silvered metal; artificial plants of caoutchouc, paper or tissue, representing palms, begonias, and large leaves, and sweet-meat boxes covered with silk or velvet or ornamented with flowers or other articles liable to higher duties than those levied under Class IV.
418. Fans of all kinds, not specified in the foregoing classes, of silk, thread, feathers, gauze, paper, etc.
419. Steel hoops for crinolines or bustles and corsets covered or not with tissue.
420. Diapers, drills, Brittany cloth, unbleached cloth ("*bramante*"), dowlas, excepting unbleached German dowlas Nos. 9, 10, and 11, specified in Class V; damasks, white or colored drills, "*estopilla*," "*estreppe*," "*florete*," "*garantido*," "*platilla*," calico, white or dyed dowlas ("*warandol*"), and all similar tissues of linen, or cotton mixed with linen.
421. Pins, needles, hooks and eyes, clasps, hairpins; hooks for clothes and shoes, buckles for hats, wai coats, trousers, and shoes, except those of gold or silver, zinc and copper clasps for shoes.
422. Carpets in the piece and rugs.
423. Vests, scarfs, bonnets, socks, drawers, trousers, stockings, and slip bodices of cotton, knitted, and like tissues. Camisoles with collars and cuffs, attached or made to adapt separate collars and cuffs, shall be liable in addition to a surtax of 50 per cent on this duty.
424. Spectacles, opera glasses, telescopes, eyeglasses, magnifying glasses, and microscopes, except those mounted in gold and silver, but including glasses and lenses for spectacles, imported separately.
425. Whalebone and its imitations.
426. Basil and tanned skins not manufactured, except the white or dyed leather specified in Class IV.
427. Barometers, hygrometers, chronometers, thermometers, sextants, octants, and similar instruments, and compasses of all kinds.

428. Canes, whips, and defensive articles, with the exception of sword sticks or sticks containing a mechanism for firing, which are included in Class VII.
429. Baize or ratteen in pieces or plaids, and blankets made of these materials; also tissue of baize and caoutchouc for coverings ("cobijas").
430. Pipe bowls, cigar holders and pipes, of amber, porcelain, and any lighter material, other than gold and silver, except similar articles mentioned in Class III.
431. Shaving boxes with accessories, work and traveling cases.
432. Waterproof coats.
433. Shells even made up into ornaments.
434. Pocketbooks, tobacco pouches, cardcases, purses, cigar cases, spectacle cases, match boxes, albums, neither covered with velvet, gilt, nor silvered, and all other similar articles, except those having any part of gold or silver.
435. Wax, manufactured into articles of all kinds, except as toys.
436. Belts or rubber girdles.
437. Counterpanes, sheets, plaids, hammocks, table covers, of linen or cotton.
438. Elastic for shoes.
439. Coral in articles of all kinds, except when set in gold or silver.
440. Funeral wreaths and other like articles.
441. Thin cord of white or colored linen or cotton, twisted or not, of less than 10 ends, also twisted thread in the shape of thin cord, such as binding or sail thread, which can not, on account of its elasticity, be assimilated to cord and can be used in the manufacture of hand or machine made tissues.
442. Crinolines, bustles, and similar articles, and caoutchouc tape, covered or not, used inside of ladies' clothing.
443. Knives and forks with handles of German or white metal, or silvered or gilt.
444. Mattresses, pillows, and cushions, except those of silk; down for stuffing them, and the metallic tissue used for bed bottoms.
445. Cotton cords for hammocks.
446. Damasks "*coqui*," bombazine, quilted "*bordon*," ticking, diapers "*mahón*," nankeen, light nankeen "*estrep*," quilting "*tangep*," or rubbered lawn, of cotton, and all other cloths similar to those mentioned in this number but not included in other classes.
447. Thimbles, except those of gold or silver; artificial teeth and eyes.
448. Shirts, petticoats, dressing and morning gowns, and blouses of cotton, made up or cut out, and cotton stuffs shaped for shirts, with embroidered bands.
449. Articles of German or white metal or its imitations, such as trays, dishes, bits, muzzles, spurs, stirrups, hinges, buckles, chandeliers, lamps, etc.
450. Articles of iron or of other metals, gilt or silvered, with the exception of office requisites, which will always be included in Class V, even when gilt or silvered.
451. Yarns, worsted, raw, and goats' hair.
452. Cases containing small articles of steel, copper, or other metals, for embroidering, cleaning the teeth or nails, drawing, and painting.
453. Brooms and brushes of palm, rushes, or other vegetable fibers.
454. Labels and prospectuses, printed or lithographed, not being affixed to any article.
455. Felt in pieces, for saddlecloths, and woolen felt tissues for mangling machines.
456. Bedspreads of wool, pure or mixed with cotton, white or with ground of one or more colors, and blankets or bedspreads of wool, pure or mixed with cotton, also of color, as well as dark bedspreads of goat's hair.
457. Tissues for slippers, excepting of silk.
458. Elastic for shoes.
459. Gutta-percha, manufactured or not, and rubber galoshes.
460. Imitation gold or silver thread, purl, spangles, tinsel, leaf, foil, galloons, trimmings, and other articles of imitation gold or silver, for embroidering or sewing.

461. Bone, ivory, mother-of-pearl, real and imitation jet, real and imitation tortoise shell, caoutchouc, india rubber, sheets of celluloid, horn, and talc, manufactured into articles of all kinds not otherwise mentioned, with the exception of toys made from these materials, which are comprised in Class III, and of articles combined with gold or silver, which are included in Class VIII.
462. Tablecloths, towels, and napkins of all kinds.
463. Tissue called "*matrimonio*," of linen, pure or mixed with cotton.
464. Hands, keys, springs, spirals, and other parts of watch and clock movements, excepting those of gold or silver.
465. Rice powder puffs.
466. Wicks ("*pabito*"), and cotton spun for wicks.
467. Cotton handkerchiefs.
468. Paper, gilt or silvered, paper stamped in relief, and colored paper for artificial flowers.
469. Umbrellas, sunshades, and parasols, of wool, linen, or cotton.
470. Imitation pearls and stones, not set, or set in any metal except gold or silver.
471. White metal or German silver, in articles of all kinds not otherwise enumerated.
472. Goose quills, prepared as toothpicks.
473. Feather dusters.
474. Imitation jewelry.
475. Table or wall clocks, alarm clocks, water clocks, hourglasses, and the like, with the exception of watches, and tower clocks imported by the Federal Government, which come under other classes.
476. Rosaries of wood or glass.
477. Envelopes, cards, etc.
478. Hats, caps, helmets, and the headdress called "*pavitas*," of straw or its imitations, not trimmed, plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
479. Patent leather, not manufactured.
480. Tobacco in carrots ("*hueva*"), twisted tobacco for chewing.
481. Dowlas (warandol), white, of linen, pure or mixed with cotton.
482. Chintz, percales, mainsook, sateen, poplin, cretonnes, calicoes, brilliants, malvinas, Japanese cloth, lustrings, and any other similar colored cotton fabrics; fine cotton fabrics, striped, which have more than 13 threads in the warp in a square of 5 millimeters, cotton merino, and colored cotton flannel.

CLASS VII.—*Goods dutiable at the rate of 5 bolivars per kilogram.*

483. Mantles and opera cloaks of wool, pure or mixed with cotton.
484. Undershirts of wool, pure or mixed with cotton, and undershirts, shirt guards, and drawers, made of twisted cotton, commonly called Scotch thread.
485. Magnesium wire.
486. Sword sticks and sticks with a mechanism for firing.
487. Purses of linen or cotton.
488. Stockings, socks, fringes, tassels, lace, ribbons, bands, tapes, trimmings, plushes, caps, waistbands, bows, epaulets, list shoes, and gloves of wool, pure or mixed with cotton.
489. Boots and shoes, only cut out or without soles, other than leather and rugs of sheepskin.
490. Leather tips for shoes.
491. Rugs, carpets, and all other articles of crochet, except those of silk.
492. Chasubles, viaticum cases, altar cloths, copes, dalmaticas, stoles, maniples, communion cloths, bands, and other ecclesiastical vestments and church ornaments.
493. Elastic ribbons of linen, cotton, or wool, combined with rubber.

494. Curtains, hangings, and mosquito nets, of linen or cotton.
495. Lace, embroidered bands, blondes, insertions, ribbons, edgings, epaulets, tassels, cords, fringes, socks, scarfs, braids, gloves, and trimmings, of wool or cotton.
496. Swords, sabers, daggers, fine hunting knives, blunderbusses, pistols, revolvers, guns, muskets, rifles, war guns, carbines, and other firearms, for infantry and artillery, including projectiles, capsules, percussion caps, nipples, gun locks, cartridges, loaded or empty, and everything relating to side or firearms, also compressed air guns for target shooting.
497. Pyrotechnic or Bengal lights.
498. Fire-works.
499. Horse cloths and saddle cloths of all kinds.
500. Socks of linen, or of linen mixed with cotton, and socks of Scotch twisted yarn.
501. Shot bags, powder flasks, cap boxes, and game bags.
502. Muslins and batistes of linen, pure or mixed with cotton, unbleached or colored, in pieces or cut out for dresses.
503. Muslins, crape, rengeu, *baraje*, granadines, organdy, zephyr, clarin, *dulce sueño*, tarlatan, Holland batiste, cotton batiste, white or figured, smooth, worked, or embroidered, in bolts or pieces for dresses, *etaminas*, and any other similar fabrics not included in other classes.
504. Cotton velvet, "*panilla*," cotton plush, and imitation velvet, in pieces or ribbons.
505. Common or fancy woolen cloth, cassimere, cassinette, muslin, satin, knitted goods, flannel, "*lanilla*," bombazine, alpaca, crape, merino, serge, lasting, damask, and all other tissues of wool, pure or mixed with cotton, not mentioned in other classes, unless made up into wearing apparel, which would bring them under Class IX.
506. Shawls, large and small, foulards and scarfs, of muslin, lawn, knitted goods, or other fine cotton tissues; tissues of ramie, even mixed with cotton.
507. Handkerchiefs, shawls, large and small, foulards, tablecloths, of wool, pure or mixed with cotton, neither ornamented nor embroidered with silk.
508. Umbrellas, sunshades, and parasols of silk, pure or mixed with wool or cotton.
509. Skins, tanned, manufactured in any shape, not mentioned in other classes.
510. Guipure or tulle, of cotton or pita; elastic mourning tissues for hats.
511. Saddles, headpieces, gun cases and pistol holsters, reins, girths, cruppers, and sheepskin horse covers of all kinds.
512. Tobacco, raw, and tobacco stalks.
513. Tobacco, manufactured, except cigarettes, the importation of which is prohibited, and chewing tobacco, which belongs to Class VI.
514. Bootjacks.

CLASS VIII.—*Goods dutiable at the rate of 10 bolivars per kilogram.*

515. Ornaments and nets for headdress of all kinds.
516. Human hair and its imitations, wrought or not.
517. Shirts of cotton, without any part of linen, shirts of wool or linen, and those of cotton with parts of linen, trousers, jackets, blouses, waistcoats, drawers, coats, overcoats, vests, and all other ready-made clothes, of linen or cotton, for men, not mentioned in other classes.
518. Collars, shirt fronts and cuffs, of linen or cotton, for men and women.
519. Hammocks, netted, of all kinds.
520. Cravats of cotton, hair, or wool.
521. Braces, corsets, belts, slip bodices, and garters, of all kinds.
522. Shirts, dressing or morning gowns, petticoats, pillow slips, and blouses of linen, or of linen mixed with cotton, excepting cambrie or clarin of linen, pure or mixed with cotton, which are comprised in Class IX.

523. Flowers and fruits, artificial, not otherwise mentioned, and materials for making flowers, with the exception of colored paper comprised in Class VI.
524. Leather gloves, with the exception of boxing gloves, which are comprised in Class V.
525. Dutch batiste, light tissue ("clarin"), knitted goods, zephyr, lawn, tarlatan, muslin, and all other fine tissues of linen, pure or mixed with cotton, made up into articles such as frills, ruches, infants' caps, skirts, cuffs, chemisettes, and other similar articles and adornments not mentioned in other classes.
526. Precious stones, pearls, and jewelry; articles wholly or partly of gold or silver; watches of any material; empty watch, jewelry, and like cases, even imported separately.
527. Books and albums, bound in velvet, silk, mother-of-pearl, tortoise shell, ivory, russia leather, or with gilt or silvered fillets or ornaments.
528. Handkerchiefs of linen, pure or mixed with cotton.
529. Feathers for hats and bonnets and other similar uses, and hearse plumes imported separately from the hearsees.
530. Silk, pure or mixed with other materials, and tissues of other materials mixed with silk.
531. Cloths or tissues of all kinds, mixed or embroidered with real or imitation gold or silver, with the exception of church ornaments and ecclesiastical vestments comprised in Class VII.
532. Stuffs and tissues of wool mixed with cotton, made up as mosquito nets, hangings, curtains, and other articles not elsewhere mentioned.

CLASS IX.—*Goods dutiable at the rate of 20 bolívars per kilogram.*

533. Boots and shoes and tanned skins cut out and prepared.
534. Common or fancy cloth, cassimere, satin, knitted goods, flannel, alpine, alpaca, "cambron," serge, cubica, and damask of wool, pure or mixed with cotton, made up as men's clothing.
535. Bookbindings, imported separately, and removable book covers.
536. Hats, bonnets, and caps, trimmed, for women and children.
537. Hats of black silk plush, with high crowns, and similar hats of any material, including opera hats, hats simply cut out, hats of fulled felt, and all other kinds of hats, wholly or partially finished, excepting those of straw or their imitation, if untrimmed, otherwise they pay in accordance with class 6 plus a surcharge of 25 per cent.
538. Tarlatan, silk, wool, batiste of Holland, light tissue ("clarin"), zephyr, lawn, muslin, and all other tissues of linen or cotton, made up into ladies' wearing apparel.
539. Men's woolen clothing.

ART. 2. All customs duties shall be levied on the gross weight.

ART. 3. The following articles are exempt from duty:

1. Articles imported by order of the Government.
2. Live animals, with the exception of leeches.
3. Personal effects of ministers and diplomatic agents of the Republic imported by them on their return to Venezuela.
4. Baggage brought by passengers, with the exception of articles that have not been used, and of furniture, which, if used, will pay the duties leviable thereon under the present law, subject to a proportionate allowance for the wear and tear. The duty leviable on unused articles imported together with baggage shall be increased by 20 per cent, and if they come from the West Indies they shall pay 30 per cent additional.
5. Ice imported through ports of entry where no ice factories have under permission from the Government been established, or if existing are not in operation; coal and arc electric-light carbons, acetylene gas, and trisulphite of lime.

6. Products of Colombia imported across the frontier of that country, provided reciprocity exists.

7. Samples of tissues in small strips in quantities not exceeding 25 kilograms in weight, and of wall paper not exceeding 50 centimeters in length, or of all other articles whenever they are imported in such dimension and in such condition as to be unsalable.

8. Legal gold coin.

9. Iron boiler plates, bottoms or boilers, gratings, rollers, and apparatus for crushing cane, also axles and frames for the same.

10. Plows and plowshares, hoes, spades, "*chicuras*" and "*chicuronas*," weeding hooks, hatchets, shovels, picks, "*tascas*," and cutlasses, with or without wooden handles, and machetes for lopping.

11. Barbed iron wire for fences, or as defined by ordinances of June 13, 1894, and August 24, 1906, and manufactured wire fences for fowls and domestic animals, including hooks for fastening the same.

12. Calcium carbide.

13. Wood ashes, residues of pressed grapes, guano, and all other vegetable mineral, animal or artificial substances used as fertilizers and not included in any other class.

14. Roman cement and cement called "*tilestonite*" for roofing purposes.

15. Printed books treating of sciences, arts, and trades, imported in parts.

16. Alcohol heating apparatus, including steam motors; lamps made especially for alcohol, and which do not operate with any other fuel, as well as the parts thereof that are not adaptable to other kinds of lamps; alcohol wicks or burners for producing the flame, and parts thereof, such as covers or incandescent tissues; talc and glass chimneys for the exclusive use of these lamps, cotton wicks for same, and small torches or *arcuscas* for lighting them, during a period of two years from April 18, inclusive, 1907.

17. Ordinary used bags imported from abroad for exporting divi-divi and cotton seed, the importers proving that they have brought them for that purpose.

18. Printing presses and typographical accessories, such as type, spaces, prepared ink, including lithographer's ink and white, unsized printing paper, also paper paste for manufacturing stereotype plates and alloy of lead and aluminum employed for stereotype printing.

19. Machinery for use in agriculture, mining, weaving, sawmills, and foundries, not otherwise mentioned, also spare parts for the purpose of repairing sugar mills and agricultural machinery.

20. Logs of fir or pitch pine, exceeding 0.25 meter in thickness, fit for sawing into planks, boards, etc.

21. Bridges with their chains, floors, and other accessories, intended for public use or agricultural purposes.

22. Clocks for public use.

ART. 4. The importation of the following articles is prohibited:

1. Coconut oil.

2. Starch.

3. Indigo.

4. Cocoa.

5. Coffee.

6. Molasses, sugar-cane sirup, and honey.

7. Salted jerked meat ("*tasajo*"), commonly called Monteideo.

8. Salt, coarse or ground.

9. Sarsaparilla roots.

10. Silver, nickel, or copper money.

11. Coining apparatus, unless imported for the Government mint.

12. Cigarette paper and paper rolls for cigarettes, unless imported by the Federal Government.

13. Paper or any other kind of cigarettes, as well as machines for manufacturing the same, and cigarette boxes, unless imported by the *Fábrica Nacional de Cigarillos* within the term specified in its contract with the Federal Government.

SOLE PARAGRAPH. Should the President deem it expedient to authorize importation, through the custom-houses of the Republic, of any prohibited article, it shall fix the duty to be levied on such article, reporting to Congress at its first session.

ART. 5. For the importation through the custom-houses of the Republic of firearms, powder, dynamite, ammunition, coarse and fine shot, caps, primers, flints, saltpeter, and any other explosive material not mentioned in the present law, the consent of the Federal Government is necessary.

SOLE PARAGRAPH. Arms of precision and all war articles exclusively intended for parks of artillery can only be imported by the National Government.

ART. 6. For all articles mentioned in the tariff the material from which they are made will not be considered, the class under which placed being solely taken into account. Hence, trusses, syringes, clyster pumps, toys, masks, spectacles, portfolios, card cases, and all other articles mentioned pay the duty of the class to which they belong, whatever be the material from which manufactured, except when they are partially made of gold or silver, in which case they are comprised in Class VIII.

ART. 7. Packages containing samples of tissues in small pieces or samples of wall paper, weighing more than 25 kilograms, shall, for the weight exceeding 25 kilograms, pay the duty stipulated in Class III.

ART. 8. When goods or manufactures subject to import duties are imported, same being unknown in the country or not specified in the tariff nor in the latest decisions of the Ministry of Finance, the importers shall state this fact in their manifests and address a petition to the Government, accompanied by a sample of the goods or products to permit the proper denomination or classification thereof.

ART. 9. Machines, tools, and other mining apparatus only enjoy the exemption from import duties but once for each mining company, and the duplicate parts imported to replace those which originally entered duty free shall not enjoy this exemption.

ART. 10. No goods entitled to free entry under existing contracts or laws shall be cleared except with the previous permission of the Minister of Finance.

ART. 11. Unused foreign articles which passengers import with their luggage shall, in addition to the duties leviable thereon under the tariff, be liable to a surtax of 20 per cent.

ART. 12. Should unfitted articles be imported in one sole package or in different packages they shall be liable to the duties applicable thereto when imported in a fitted condition.

ART. 13. The Executive Power is authorized to increase to an amount of 25 per cent the import duties on merchandise from such foreign countries as have not in their treaties with Venezuela granted this country the most-favored-nation treatment.

SOLE PARAGRAPH. The Executive Power is further authorized to increase, decrease, or abolish any of the duties provided for in the present tariff should unforeseen circumstances render such changes necessary, subject to duly reporting to Congress at its next sitting any measures adopted in that direction.

ART. 14. The law dated August 14, 1905, together with all legislative enactments inconsistent with the present law, are hereby repealed.

CHANGES IN CUSTOMS CLASSIFICATIONS.

United States Minister W. W. Russell reports from Caracas the following changes in the Venezuelan tariff since January 18, 1908:

Imported matches will be classified in the fifth class (1.25 bolivars per kilo). This does not alter the classification which the present tariff established for matches of "estrellitas" or for red lights.

Raw material remains in the fourth class (0.75 *bolivar* per kilo).

Ordinary black or clear glass bottles for bottling liquors, gaseous waters, and sterilized milk, and the quadrangular flasks of the same ordinary glass for bottling gin, imported from abroad, are classified in the second class (0.10 *bolivar* per kilo), with an additional 25 per cent.

Under date of March 14, 1908, President Castro issued a decree providing that rubber-tired wheels for carriages, cars, and carts, the diameter of which exceeds 30 centimeters, not mentioned in the Import Tariff Law, shall be appraised under class 4 thereof.





EL PRESIDENTE LEYENDO SU DISCURSO EN LAS CEREMONIAS OFICIALES DE LA INAUGURACIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL TRANSCONTINENTAL DE GUATEMALA EL 19 DE ENERO DE 1908.

Reading of address by the President at the formal ceremonies on the opening of the new Guatemalan railway on January 19, 1908.

NOMBRES DE LAS PERSONAS QUE APARECEN EN EL GRABADO.

1. Lcdo. Juan Barrios M. Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.
2. General Luis Melina. Ministro de la Guerra.
3. Lcdo. Joaquín Méndez. Ministro de Fomento.
4. General Ovalle. Jefe del Estado Mayor del Presidente.
5. Lcdo. Arturo Ubico. Presidente de la Asamblea Legislativa.
6. Lcdo. Manuel Estrada Cabrera. Presidente de la República.
7. Lcdo. Manuel Cabra. Presidente del Tribunal de Justicia.
8. Coronel Mendoza, de Estado Mayor del Presidente.
9. Lcdo. Ángel María Bucanegra. Ministro de Instrucción.
10. Lcdo. Guillermo Aguirre. Ministro de Hacienda.
11. Lcdo. José María Reyna Andrade. Ministro de Gobierno y Justicia.

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El 1º de abril se firmó el contrato celebrado entre el Director de la Oficina Internacional y "The Norcross Brothers Company," de Worcester, Estado de Massachusetts, para la construcción del nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, el cual ha de terminarse dentro de quince meses á contar de la fecha en que se firmó el contrato, ó sea para el 1º de julio de 1909. Con arreglo á los planos y descripciones revisados, se construirá un edificio cuya parte exterior ha de ser enteramente de mármol en vez de estuco, como se intentó hacerla originalmente. Este importante cambio en el acabamiento ha podido lograrse, en gran manera, gracias al actual estado del precio de los materiales de construcción. En la actualidad se construyen tan pocos edificios y los contratistas se muestran tan deseosos de conseguir trabajos, que las propuestas que se hicieron representaban probablemente un 20 por ciento menos de lo que hubieran sido hace seis ú ocho meses, y este ahorro se ha aplicado á la compra del mármol que se requiere, en vez del estuco, para las paredes exteriores. "The Norcross Brothers Company" es una de las razones sociales más antiguas de los Estados Unidos, y es la que llevó á cabo los cambios que se hicieron hace algunos años en la Casa Blanca, y además fueron los contratistas principales para la construcción del edificio de la gran Biblioteca Pública de Nueva York que ya está casi terminado. La opinión general que se ha emitido en cuanto á los planos, tales como los arquitectos Señores KELSEY Y CRET, de Filadelfia, Estado de Pensilvania, se los entregaron á los contratistas, es que, según dichos planos, se ha de construir no sólo uno de los edificios más hermosos que jamás se han levantado en Washington, sino que ha de ser un palacio del cual podrán con razón enorgullecerse todas las Repúblicas Americanas. En el momento en que se escribe este artículo ya los contratistas han

Por más que la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas pone escrupuloso cuidado para obtener el mayor grado de corrección en sus publicaciones, no asume responsabilidad alguna por los errores ó inexactitudes que pudieran deslizarse.

adelantado bastante en los trabajos preliminares, y en la actualidad el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional espera colocar la piedra angular, con las ceremonias del caso, el 11 de Mayo; participarán en el acto el Presidente ROOSEVELT, Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, el Embajador del Brasil, y el Secretario de Estado Mr. ROOT.

LA COMISIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

La nueva Comisión Panamericana á la cual se hizo referencia en la última edición del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, ha comenzado ya sus trabajos con el fin de obtener los resultados que se desean. La organización de dicha Comisión se terminó en una reunión que se celebró en el Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos el 17 de marzo de 1908, en la cual el Honorable ELIHT ROOT, Secretario de Estado, fué unánimemente elegido Presidente Honorario. Se eligieron los siguientes funcionarios permanentes: Presidente, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN; Vicepresidente, ANDREW CARNEGIE; Secretario, JOHN BARRETT. La Comisión Ejecutiva se compone de los señores que á continuación se expresan: Doctor L. S. ROWE, CHARLES B. LANDIS, Representante del Congreso; General A. E. BATES y WILLIAM E. CURTIS. El presidente y secretario de la Comisión General son miembros natos de la Comisión Ejecutiva. La primera reunión regular de esta última se celebró el día 7 de abril, y en ella se hicieron los debidos arreglos para los informes que se han de preparar sobre varios asuntos.

LOS CURSOS DE ESTUDIO EN LA UNIVERSIDAD DE HARVARD SOBRE GEOGRAFÍA SUDAMERICANA.

Con motivo del general interés demostrado en los asuntos que se refieren á la América Latina, la Universidad de Harvard ha inaugurado un curso de estudio sobre la geografía de la América del Sur en sus asignaturas para 1907-8. Hace diez años que se anunció una tentativa semejante, pero hasta este año no se habían tomado medidas para llevar á cabo dicho proyecto.

Este curso de estudio, según lo ha bosquejado el Señor ROBERT D. C. WARD, Catedrático de la Universidad de Harvard, trata en general de fisiografía, geografía comercial y climatología de la América del Sur, incluso la América Central y las Antillas, consideradas en conjunto, y de las diferentes divisiones políticas, separadamente. No se usan libros de texto, pero se hace referencia á las obras de consulta y clásicas sobre la América del Sur, así como á varias memorias é informes. Se consagra especial atención á la climatología y á la influencia que los diferentes climas ejercen en la posibilidad de residencia, en las ocupaciones, viajes, transportes, etc.

LA UNIVERSIDAD DE CORNELL Y LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

Correspondiendo á las invitaciones del Señor JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN, Rector de la Universidad de Cornell, situada en Ithaca, Estado de Nueva York, y de los estudiantes argentinos, miembros del Club Cosmopolita, el Director de esta Oficina le hizo una agradable visita á dicha Universidad, en los días 13 y 14 de marzo. En la noche del viernes el Director pronunció un discurso ante los estudiantes, en una reunión presidida por el Rector SCHURMAN, y en la noche siguiente fué huésped de honor en una recepción que le dieron los estudiantes argentinos, en la cual describió á la República Argentina ante un numeroso auditorio. En dicha Universidad hay 46 jóvenes estudiantes de los diferentes países latinoamericanos, á saber: 13 de la República Argentina: 10 de Puerto Rico: 7 de México: 5 del Perú: 4 del Brasil; 2 del Ecuador: 2 de Nicaragua: 1 de Chile: 1 del Uruguay, y 1 de Costa Rica. Como quiera que en la expresada Universidad hay un contingente de 143 estudiantes extranjeros, las cifras que se citan muestran que casi una tercera parte de dichos estudiantes proceden de la América Latina. Correspondiendo á varias peticiones que se le han hecho al Director, en otro lugar de este número del BOLETÍN se reproducen algunos extractos de los discursos que pronunció en la Universidad de Cornell.

EL NUEVO FERROCARRIL TRANSCONTINENTAL.

En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publica una descripción de las ceremonias que se llevaron á cabo en enero de 1908 con motivo de la inauguración del Ferrocarril Transcontinental de Guatemala, junto con algunos extractos del interesante informe presentado por el Mayor General GEORGE W. DAVIS, que fué á Guatemala como Enviado Extraordinario de los Estados Unidos en esta ocasión.

La conexión de Puerto Barrios en el Mar Caribe, y San José en el Pacífico, por una línea que tiene 270 millas de longitud, suministra un tercer ferrocarril transcontinental, habiendo sido el primero el de Panamá y el segundo el de Tehuantepec. No cabe duda de que este nuevo ferrocarril ha de contribuir inmensamente al desarrollo del comercio y la prosperidad de Guatemala, y tanto este último país como su Presidente, el Señor MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA, merecen ser felicitados con motivo de la feliz terminación de tan importante empresa. El Señor MINOR C. KEITH, Sir WILLIAM VAN HORN y el General T. H. HUBBARD, que han cooperado eficazmente con el Gobierno de Guatemala para llevar á cabo la construcción de dicha línea, también merecen ser felicitados con tal motivo.

UNA REUNIÓN PANAMERICANA EN FILADELFA.

La Academia Americana de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales celebró una importante sesión el día 20 de marzo en el Salón de Witherspoon, en la Ciudad de Filadelfia, Estado de Pensilvania. Hallábase presentes en dicha sesión los Ministros en los Estados Unidos de Bolivia, la República Argentina, Perú, Colombia, Uruguay y Chile, y pronunciaron discursos apropiados al acto. El acontecimiento principal de esa reunión fué el discurso que pronunció el Doctor L. S. Rowe, Catedrático de la Universidad de Pensilvania, y el acto de conferir la Universidad Nacional de La Plata, de la República Argentina, al expresado Catedrático, el grado de Doctor en Leyes, y también la insignia de la Cátedra Honoraria que le confirió la Universidad de San Marcos, de Lima, Perú. El Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional, presidió dicha sesión. El auditorio se componía de muchas personas prominentes de Filadelfia y Nueva York.

EL CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL SOBRE LA TUBERCULOSIS.

La primera remiión americana del Congreso Internacional sobre Tuberculosis se efectuará en Wáshington, Distrito de Columbia, en septiembre de 1908, y se espera que á ella concurren delegados oficiales de casi todos los países civilizados.

Los siguientes países de la América Latina han manifestado su intención de tomar parte en dicho Congreso: La República Argentina, Brasil, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Perú, Honduras, Salvador, Venezuela y Cuba.

Á propósito del expresado Congreso, el Instituto Smithsonian, de Wáshington, ha ofrecido un premio de \$1,500 por el mejor tratado que se presente sobre la "Relación que el aire atmosférico tiene con la tuberculosis," el cual se ha de escribir en inglés, francés, alemán, español, ó italiano. También se harán otras adjudicaciones de dinero y medallas por las demostraciones prácticas de trabajos que se hayan hecho para aliviar ó impedir la tuberculosis, acerca de todos los cuales pueden obtenerse los informes que se deseen pidiéndoselos al Dr. CHARLES J. HATFIELD, residente en el No. 2008 Calle Walnut, Filadelfia, Estado de Pensilvania.

DOS NOTABLES FUNCIONES DIPLOMÁTICAS.

Por más que el BOLETÍN por lo general no se interesa en las funciones sociales, hace hoy una excepción respecto de dos banqueros que han dado respectivamente el Embajador del Brasil y el Ministro de la República Argentina, por considerarlos dignos de especial mien-

ción, y, por consiguiente, en otro lugar de este número del BOLETÍN se hace referencia á dichas funciones. Es de notar que los dos banquetes oficiales y semidiplomáticos más grandes y suntuosos que se han dado en Washington durante el invierno que acaba de pasar han sido los que dieron los representantes diplomáticos de dos naciones latinoamericanas. El primero de estos banquetes fué el que dió el Embajador NABUCCO el martes, 10 de marzo, en honor del Presidente y miembros del Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos, y el segundo el que dió el Ministro PORTELA el 17 de marzo, como una expresión de gratitud por el hecho de que recientemente se eligió á la Ciudad de Buenos Aires como el lugar donde se celebrará la próxima Conferencia Panamericana.

EL REGRESO DEL SEÑOR CHARLES M. PEPPER.

El Señor CHARLES M. PEPPER, Representante Especial del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo, que ha viajado extensamente por Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Bolivia, regresará dentro de poco tiempo á los Estados Unidos. Los informes que el Señor PEPPER ha preparado sobre Colombia y el Ecuador son muy valiosos, por cuanto contribuyen notablemente á que se tenga un conocimiento exacto del estado y del progreso de la Costa Occidental del Continente sudamericano, y ya se esperan con ansiedad los informes que ha de presentar acerca del Perú y Bolivia. Hay muy pocos norteamericanos que estén mejor enterados que el Señor PEPPER de los asuntos latinoamericanos, y su obra ha de contribuir mucho al desarrollo del comercio y tráfico entre los Estados Unidos y sus Repúblicas hermanas.

GUÍA PARA LOS VIAJEROS EN LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

El público se asombraría si pudiese examinar los archivos de la correspondencia de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas y viese los centenares de cartas que se reciben anualmente pidiendo informes en cuanto á los itinerarios para ir á los países latinoamericanos y viajar en ellos. Algunas de estas cartas proceden de viajeros cuyo único propósito es visitar estas partes del mundo; otros están interesados en transacciones comerciales y desean introducir sus mercancías en mercados que hace mucho tiempo que descubrieron los avisados fabricantes europeos, al paso que otros han comenzado ya á recibir los beneficios del hecho de extenderse el comercio americano, y por más que sus mercancías ya han empezado á venderse en algunas partes de la América Latina, los fabricantes ignoran aún el lugar preciso donde están situados sus marchantes, así como las vías por las cuales pueden transportarse con mayor facilidad las mercancías.

Á fin de haer frente á esta necesidad, en el BOLETÍN del mes de mayo se publicará un itinerario recopilado de los archivos de la Biblioteca de Colón por un viajero de gran experiencia y que posee un conocimiento práctico del asunto. Dichos informes se publicarán en dos tablas: En la primera se expresará el nombre de todos los puertos y países de la América Latina, las líneas de vapores por las cuales puede llegarse á ellos, la distancia del puerto de salida, el costo del pasaje, y el tiempo aproximado que se requiere para hacer un viaje completo. En la segunda tabla se expresarán los nombres oficiales de las compañías de vapores, la dirección de sus oficinas principales en los Estados Unidos, los puertos de salida y de entrada en la América Latina, la nacionalidad de los buques, los intervalos de la salida, y la índole del transporte, es decir, de pasajeros ó carga ó de ambos.

MENSAJES DE PRESIDENTES LATINOAMERICANOS.

En esta edición del BOLETÍN MENSUAL se reproducen algunos extractos de los mensajes de varios Presidentes de las Repúblicas de la América Latina dirigidos á las asambleas nacionales de sus respectivos Gobiernos en el transcurso del presente año. La sincera aprobación de los esfuerzos unánimes que los Gobiernos de la América Central y los de México y de los Estados Unidos del Norte han hecho por establecer y mantener la paz en todos los ámbitos de los países que tomaron parte en la Conferencia de Wáshington, constituye una nota saliente de los mensajes de los Jefes Ejecutivos del Salvador y de Guatemala. El mismo espíritu de fraternidad se echa de ver en el mensaje del Presidente WILLIMAN, que en febrero completó su primer año como Jefe Ejecutivo de la República del Uruguay. Al inaugurar la sesión del Congreso Mexicano el día 1 de abril, el Presidente Díaz hizo el resumen de costumbre acerca de las condiciones que prevalecieron por todos los ámbitos de la República durante el año anterior.

EL ESTAÑO DE BOLIVIA EN 1907.

La depresión que prevaleció en el mundo comercial á fines de 1907 afectó notablemente el precio del estaño de Bolivia en los mercados extranjeros y disminuyó la producción de este metal. En conformidad con la escala fluctuante que se adoptó como modelo en cuanto al valor del estaño en la colonia inglesa de la Indo-China, en 1907 el valor total de la producción de estaño ascendió á \$15,000,000, ó sean \$3,000,000 menos que en el año anterior, en tanto que hubo una merma de 1,865 toneladas en la producción.

AUMENTO EN EL VALOR DEL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO DEL BRASIL.

En 1907 hubo un aumento de \$54,000,000 en el valor del comercio extranjero del Brasil, comparado con 1906, por cuanto el valor total de dicho comercio en los dos años de referencia ascendió á \$494,000,000 y \$440,000,000, respectivamente. En este aumento de valor están representadas tanto las importaciones como las exportaciones, por más que el valor de las importaciones fué mucho mayor. No se citan aumentos notables en cuanto á los embarques de café y cacao, pero hubo una merma en el valor de la goma, que es el otro producto importante en la lista de exportaciones.

RENTA DE ADUANA DE COSTA RICA.

En 1907 los ingresos que el Gobierno de Costa Rica derivó de la renta de aduana mostraron una constante proporción de aumento. En los nueve meses transcurridos de abril á diciembre el total de los ingresos ascendió á \$300,000, cantidad mayor que la que se recaudó en el mismo período de 1906, habiéndose mantenido un promedio mensual de ingresos de \$210,000, al paso que en el mes de enero de 1908 éstos ascendieron á cerca de \$240,000.

EL VALOR DEL COMERCIO CUBANO.

Los datos estadísticos publicados por el Departamento de Hacienda de Cuba muestran un estado satisfactorio del comercio de la República, puesto que el valor de dicho comercio en el año común de 1907 se ha calculado en \$208,529,972, contra \$201,933,135 en 1906. Tanto en el valor de las importaciones como en el de las exportaciones, hubo un aumento respecto del año anterior. Según las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos, el valor de las importaciones de este último país representa una proporción de aumento de 123.55 por ciento en comparación con 1903, y un aumento de 61.52 por ciento en el valor de las exportaciones á Cuba. La renta de aduana del año de referencia arroja un aumento de \$1,000,000 en comparación con 1906.

INCREMENTO DE LOS MEDIOS DE COMUNICACIÓN DE CHILE.

El espíritu progresista de que se halla animado el Gobierno Chileno bajo la iniciativa del Presidente MONTT, se echa de ver no sólo en los importantes contratos celebrados para la construcción de ferrocarriles y en las mejoras locales, sino también en una compañía de vapores autorizada y subvencionada por el Gobierno, que ha de

prestar servicios entre Valparaíso y Panamá, y á la cual el Gobierno le garantiza \$100,000 anualmente. En el contrato se ha estipulado especialmente que la travesía se ha de hacer en ocho días á lo más, y de esta manera se establecerá una comunicación rápida por la vía del Istmo de Panamá entre las costas oriental y occidental del continente. Las cifras relativas al censo del país muestran que en doce años ha habido un aumento de más de 500,000 habitantes, en tanto que el aumento de los establecimientos industriales ha sido tal que requiere la exportación de productos del país. Se anuncia que en 1907 hubo un aumento de \$2,516,079 en el valor del comercio extranjero, en comparación con el año anterior, haciendo ascender el valor total á \$182,802,896.

EL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO DE LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA EN 1907.

El informe que ha hecho el Señor W. E. PULLIAM —Receptor General de las Aduanas Dominicanas— correspondiente al año de 1907, muestra que el valor total del comercio extranjero de la República en dicho año representa las cifras más altas que jamás se habían obtenido. El valor total tanto de las exportaciones como de las importaciones ascendió á \$12,500,000, es decir, las primeras representaron un valor de \$7,628,356 y las segundas representaron \$4,948,961. El valor de las exportaciones mostró un aumento de \$1,191,968, en comparación con 1906, y hubo un aumento de \$883,524 en el valor de las importaciones. El comercio de importación del país se limitó á las más urgentes y verdaderas necesidades, lo cual explica el pequeño aumento proporcional que hubo en este ramo del comercio, pero el aumento que hubo en la recaudación de la renta de aduana hizo posible efectuar un depósito de \$1,543,421.20 en el Banco Nacional de la Ciudad de Nueva York, con el fin de liquidar la deuda nacional. De estas transacciones que se efectuaron en el año de referencia, resultó un saldo neto de \$1,135,974 á favor de este depósito.

La nueva Constitución, promulgada en febrero y que comenzará á regir el 2 de abril de 1908, fija en seis años el período del cargo de Presidente de la República y suprime el cargo de Vice-Presidente.

PROGRESO DEL FERROCARRIL DE GUAYAQUIL Y QUITO.

Á propósito del contrato celebrado para la construcción de un ferrocarril autorizado por el Gobierno del Ecuador, es grato llamar la atención hacia el informe que el Señor WILLIAMS C. FOX, Ministro de los Estados Unidos en aquella República, le ha enviado á esta Oficina, en el cual se hace constar que para el 1º de junio el Ferrocarril de Guayaquil y Quito habrá llegado á la capital. El primer

tren de pasajeros entró en la población de Tambillo el día 1° de marzo, y los contratistas han prometido terminar rápidamente la línea hasta Quito, puesto que ya se han concluido los tramos más difíciles.

EL PRESIDENTE DÁVILA TOMA POSESIÓN DE SU CARGO.

El Señor MIGUEL R. DÁVILA, que desde el 1° de abril del año anterior había desempeñado las funciones de Presidente Provisional de Honduras, el día 1° de marzo de 1908 tomó posesión de su cargo de Presidente Constitucional de la República, y con este carácter pronunció un discurso oficial ante la Asamblea Nacional, en el cual hace un bosquejo de su política y de los fines que se propone obtener. Las noticias particulares que se han recibido de dicho país indican que su estado económico en general es satisfactorio, por más que el valor del comercio extranjero en el último año económico es un tanto menor que el que se anunció en 1905-6, puesto que sólo ascendió a \$4,343,926.65, en comparación con \$5,389,353 en 1905-6.

LA UNIFICACIÓN DE FERROCARRILES MEXICANOS Y EL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO.

Al firmarse las actas de incorporación el 28 de marzo de 1908, la Compañía Unida del Ferrocarril Mexicano adquirió una existencia legal completa con un capital de \$230,000,000 en oro y bonos, acciones y propiedades que representan \$615,000,000. En el BOLETÍN MENSUAL correspondiente al mes de agosto de 1907 se publicó la Ley de Consolidación de Ferrocarriles del Gobierno Mexicano del 6 de julio de 1907, en la cual se expresan los derechos que los accionistas tienen en la corporación y los intereses que el Gobierno tiene en ella. El hecho de que el Gobierno posee 1,150,023 acciones de dicha compañía, de un total de 2,300,000 acciones, significa que el Gobierno tiene prácticamente el dominio de las operaciones de dicha empresa ferroviaria. Las empresas interesadas comprenden las líneas principales, las ramales y las acciones de los Ferrocarriles Central Mexicano y Nacional de México.

Las cifras que se publicaron recientemente acerca del valor del comercio extranjero en el semestre transcurrido de julio á diciembre de 1907, ponen de relieve la prosperidad de la República, por cuanto muestran que hubo un aumento de \$7,615,945 en el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron en el año de referencia, en comparación con el período correspondiente de 1906, y que hubo un aumento de \$4,951,468 en el valor de las exportaciones, lo cual arroja un aumento total de \$12,567,413 en el valor de ambos ramos del comercio, en el

expresado semestre. Según los datos estadísticos publicados anteriormente, el valor del comercio extranjero de la República en el año común de 1907 ascendió á \$213,440,000, es decir, \$93,950,000 valor de importaciones y \$119,490,000 de exportaciones.

CONCESIONES HECHAS POR EL GOBIERNO DE NICARAGUA.

Con el fin de desarrollar los recursos naturales de la República, el Gobierno de Nicaragua hizo recientemente algunas valiosas concesiones á capitalistas extranjeros, de las cuales concesiones se publica una lista en este número del BOLETIN MENSUAL.

VALOR TOTAL DEL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO DEL URUGUAY.

El Presidente WILLIMAN, en su mensaje al Congreso Nacional calcula que en 1907 el valor total del comercio extranjero ascendió á \$69,576,143, ó sea un aumento de \$1,719,204 en comparación con el año anterior. Es digno de mención que este aumento se atribuye enteramente al valor de las exportaciones, puesto que el valor de las importaciones no sufrió prácticamente ninguna alteración. Tomando por base los ingresos fiscales correspondientes á 1907, se espera que para el 30 de junio de 1908 habrá un sobrante de \$1,800,000 en el Tesoro Nacional.

EL ARANCEL DE ADUANA DE VENEZUELA.

En este número del BOLETÍN se publica el arancel de aduana de Venezuela que fué promulgado en enero del corriente año, debiendo advertirse que el texto inglés se tradujo de la "Gaceta Oficial" de la República, habiéndose efectuado los cambios que se le han anunciado á esta Oficina desde la fecha de la publicación de aquél.

EXTRACTOS DE LOS DISCURSOS PRONUNCIADOS
POR EL DIRECTOR EN LA UNIVERSIDAD DE
CORNELL.

Son tantas las peticiones que al Director se le han hecho para que cite las palabras exactas de algunas partes de los discursos que pronunció en la Universidad de Cornell, situada en Ithaca, Estado de Nueva York, el viernes 13 de marzo ante los estudiantes, y el sábado 14 de marzo ante el Club Cosmopolita, que se ha creído conveniente reproducirlas á continuación.

Los siguientes son algunos trozos escogidos del primer discurso:

* * * * *

Permítinme hacer constar, sin exageración ni infundado entusiasmo, mi firme creencia de que los próximos diez años van á ser una década sudamericana: que entonces el mundo entero estudiará y admirará á la América del Sur como admira actualmente al Japón y las naciones orientales, y que en la América del Sur se ha de contemplar un progreso material, económico, intelectual y político que ha de rivalizar con el progreso de los Estados Unidos. Si no fuera por la lamentable ignorancia que prevalece por todos los ámbitos de los Estados Unidos en cuanto á los pueblos, instituciones, recursos y naciones del Hemisferio Occidental, nada tendría de sorprendente este aserto. Los que hemos viajado desde Panamá hasta Patagonia, y desde el Brasil hasta Bolivia, estamos perfectamente enterados de que este gran movimiento de avance ha comenzado ya, y que la América del Sur ha entrado en una nueva era de espléndida actividad y de influencia universal.

* * * * *

Espero que pronto llegue el día en que no sólo en todas las universidades y colegios de los Estados Unidos, sino en las escuelas preparatorias, academias, escuelas superiores, y todas las escuelas primarias, se estudien la historia y geografía de la América del Sur con el mismo ahínco que se estudian la historia y geografía de los países europeos. También espero que pronto llegue el día en que el castellano y el portugués se estudien en nuestras principales instituciones docentes, con el mismo interés que se estudian en la actualidad el francés y el alemán. Además, ojalá no diste mucho el día en que el viajero americano, que en la actualidad busca recreo y descanso en una excursión á Europa ó á los países del Oriente se convenza de que vale la pena de ir á la América del Sur. Si todas estas esperanzas se realizan, toda la palabrería en cuanto á la desconfianza entre los Estados Unidos y sus Repúblicas hermanas latinoamericanas desaparecerá por completo, y entonces la gran obra iniciada por el Señor ELMU ROOT, el gran Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, recibirá su merecida recompensa. Entonces la palabra Pan América no será una voz meramente descriptiva y vana, sino que representará una gran verdad, á saber, que toda la América está unida no sólo en pro de su propio bienestar, sino en pro del bienestar del mundo civilizado.

Los siguientes son algunos trozos entresacados del segundo discurso:

Es en verdad un gran honor, á la vez que un gran placer, ser huésped esta noche de los estudiantes argentinos de la Universidad de Cornell, que figura entre las más avanzadas instituciones docentes del Hemisferio Occidental. También es un motivo adicional de especial complacencia el hecho de que yo soy portador de un mensaje especial y sincero del amigo de la América del Sur, el Señor ELMU ROOT, el gran Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos. Al despedirme de él el jueves, le dije que esta noche estaría con vosotros, y él me contestó en los siguientes términos:

"Sírvasse saludar cordialmente en mi nombre á los jóvenes de la Argentina que estudian en Cornell. Decídeles que jamás olvidaré la incomparable recepción que me hicieron los estudiantes argentinos ya graduados y los que estaban por graduarse en los colegios de los Estados Unidos que fueron en un vapor especial á encontrarme y darme la bienvenida. Am me parece estar contemplando los estandartes desplegados, el entusiasmo y vehemencia de sus vivas de colegio, incluso el viva especial del Colegio de Hamilton, donde me gradué. Aquella notable recepción llevó á mi mente la convicción de que entre los nacientes ciudadanos de la Argentina y de los Estados Unidos sólo existen diferencias geográficas, y que ambos siempre trabajarán juntos en pro de la permanente fraternidad de la América del Norte y del Sur."

Los sentimientos expresados por el Secretario Root me impulsan á llamar especialmente vuestra atención hacia el hecho de que la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, á cuya reorganización, y aumento de esfera de acción ha contribuido

gradamente el Secretario Root está haciendo todo lo posible, bajo su administración como Director, por ilustrar al pueblo norteamericano, á fin de que se dé cuenta cabal de las grandes posibilidades materiales, económicas y políticas de la América del Sur, y estos esfuerzos han dado por resultado el despertar un gran interés no sólo en los asuntos de nuestra progresiva nación y pueblo, sino también en vuestras Repúblicas y pueblos hermanos latinoamericanos, entre todas las clases sociales de los Estados Unidos, es decir, entre los estadistas, rectores de universidades, banqueros, directores de periódicos y revistas, fabricantes, viajeros, estudiantes y hasta entre los jornaleros. En la actualidad la correspondencia de esta Oficina relativa á la América Latina representa un promedio de 3,000 cartas, que se reciben anualmente, y cada mes se envían cerca de 15,000 piezas de impresos. Durante el pasado año se contestaron más de 2,000 preguntas de todas partes del mundo, acerca de Buenos Aires y la República Argentina, en tanto que el mismo Director en más de 100 discursos pronunciados ante las cámaras de comercio y colegios por todos los ámbitos de los Estados Unidos, se ha esforzado por secundar la buena obra comenzada por el Secretario Root.

COMISIONES PANAMERICANAS.

En conformidad con la convocatoria del Señor ELIOT ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, la Comisión Panamericana de los Estados Unidos celebró su primera reunión el día 17 de marzo, á los 2.30 de la tarde, en el Salón de Recepciones Diplomáticas del Departamento de Estado. Hallábase presente una mayoría de los miembros de la Comisión cuya lista completa comprende los siguientes señores:

ANDREW CARNEGIE, Delegado de los Estados Unidos á la Primera Conferencia Panamericana.

Honorable STEPHEN B. ELKINS, Senador de los Estados Unidos por la Virginia Occidental.

Honorable JAMES B. MCCREARY, Senador de los Estados Unidos por Kentucky.

Honorable CHARLES B. LANDIS, Representante de Indiana en el Congreso.

Honorable JAMES L. SLAYDEX, Representante de Texas en el Congreso.

Honorable ROBERT BACON, Subsecretario de Estado.

Mayor-General ALFRED E. BATES, del Ejército de los Estados Unidos, retirado.

Honorable WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, Presidente de la delegación de los Estados Unidos á la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana.

Doctor BENJAMIN IDE WHEELER, Rector de la Universidad de California.

Doctor EDMUND J. JAMES, Rector de la Universidad de Illinois.

Doctor L. S. ROWE, de la Universidad de Pennsylvania.

Doctor PAUL S. HEINSCH, de la Universidad de Wisconsin.

Señor WILLIAM E. CURTIS, Jefe de Despacho de la Primera Conferencia Panamericana.

Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas.

El Secretario ROOT declaró abierta la sesión y explicó el fin con el cual se creaba la Comisión y la importancia de los trabajos que dicha Comisión está llamada á hacer. El expresado Secretario leyó la resolución de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana -

que recomienda se creen secciones especiales dependientes de los Ministerios de Relaciones Exteriores y determinar las funciones de ellas:

Recomendar á los Gobiernos representados en ella que nombren una Comisión dependiente del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y compuesta, si fueré posible, de personas que hubieren sido delegados á alguna Conferencia Internacional Americana á fin de que:

I. Gestione la aprobación de las resoluciones adoptadas por las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas.

II. Suministre á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas todos los datos que ella necesite para la preparación de sus trabajos, y

III. Ejercer las demás atribuciones que los respectivos Gobiernos tuvieren por conveniente conferírle.

Cuando el Señor ROOT terminó sus observaciones, se llevó á cabo la organización de la Comisión, como sigue:

Presidente Honorario ELIOT ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos.

Presidente, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, Presidente de la delegación de los Estados Unidos á la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana.

Vicepresidente, ANDREW CARNEGIE, Delegado de los Estados Unidos á la Primera Conferencia Panamericana.

Secretario, JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas.

Se acordó que el Presidente nombrara una Comisión Ejecutiva compuesta de cuatro miembros, con el Presidente y Secretario de la Comisión General como miembros natos. El Presidente después nombró á los siguientes señores: Doctor L. S. ROWE, Presidente; Honorable CHARLES B. LANDIS; Mayor General ALFRED E. BATES, y Señor WILLIAM E. CURTIS.

El Presidente de la Comisión ya le ha dirigido una carta al Secretario de Estado anunciándole la organización de la Comisión y suplicándole que ponga á esta última en comunicación con comisiones semejantes en las otras Repúblicas Americanas, por medio de notas dirigidas á los Ministros de los Estados Unidos en las diferentes capitales de la América latina, y se espera que dentro de poco tiempo cada una de estas veinte Repúblicas habrá creado comisiones análogas que trabajarán en cooperación con la de los Estados Unidos.

LA COMISIÓN PANAMERICANA DEL PERÚ.

El Ministro del Perú en Washington le ha informado á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, que el Gobierno Peruano ha nombrado á las personas que á continuación se expresan para que presten servicios en la Comisión Panamericana en cumplimiento de la cuarta resolución de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana de Río de Janeiro:

Señor ALBERTO ELMORE, Delegado á la Segunda Conferencia Panamericana.

Señor EUGENIO LARRABURE, Delegado á la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana.

Señor VÍCTOR EGUIGUREN, ex-Ministro del Perú en los Estados Unidos.

Señor MANUEL ÁLVAREZ CALDERÓN, ex-Ministro del Perú en los Estados Unidos.

Señor ALEJANDRO GARLAND, Delegado á la Exposición de San Luis.

LA ACADEMIA AMERICANA DE CIENCIAS POLÍTICAS Y SOCIALES CELEBRA UNA SESIÓN PANAMERICANA.

La sesión que la Academia Americana de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales celebró el 20 de marzo de 1908, en el Salón Witherspoon, de Filadelfia, puede considerarse como una sesión prácticamente panamericana por el hecho de haberse hallado presente un grupo representativo del Cuerpo Diplomático de la América del Sur y por la índole especial de las deliberaciones, habiendo actuado como presidente el Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. En dicha ocasión, la Universidad Nacional de la Plata, República Argentina, le confirió formalmente al Doctor L. S. ROWE, de la Universidad de Pennsylvania, el grado honorario de Doctor en Leyes, y la Universidad de San Marcos, de Lima, que es la institución más antigua de su clase en el continente americano, también confirió la insignia de Catedrático Honorario de Derecho.

Los Señores DON EPIFANIO PORTELA, Ministro de la República Argentina; DON FELIPE PARDO, Ministro del Perú en los Estados Unidos; DON ANÍBAL CRUZ, Ministro de Chile; DON ENRIQUE CORTES, Ministro de Colombia; DON IGNACIO CALDERÓN, Ministro de Bolivia; DON MELIÁN LAFINUR, Ministro del Uruguay, y el Doctor LEO S. ROWE, pronunciaron discursos. Este último caballero pronunció la oración principal de la velada, habiendo sido presentado por el Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional. Al presentar al Doctor ROWE, el Señor BARRETT dijo que, á su juicio, en la

próxima década se efectuaría un maravilloso progreso encaminado á que se logre una cabal inteligencia y conocimiento íntimo entre los varios países del Nuevo Mundo. La era inaugurada por las visitas del Secretario Root á la América del Sur y á México, dará por resultado que se rompan las barreras del idioma y de las diferencias de las costumbres y tradiciones que, en combinación con los deficientes medios de transporte, trato limitado y cierta medida de desconfianza, hasta ahora habían impedido el completo desarrollo de una mutua simpatía y buena inteligencia.

Al pronosticar la futura grandeza de los países latinoamericanos, el Doctor Rowe los consideró verdaderas potencias políticas con las cuales tenían que contar las naciones del orbe. Su progreso moral é intelectual se ha mantenido á la altura de su energía comercial é industrial, y el orador exhortó á los Estados Unidos á que se apercibiesen de la necesidad de fomentar mayor comunidad en la cuestión de enseñanza, si la confraternidad es realmente el fin que se persigue. El Doctor ROWE citó la opinión trascendental y sabia, desde el punto de vista del estadista, que Alemania había formado de la situación, mostrándose siempre dispuesta á suministrarle á la América del Sur hombres de ciencia para sus universidades, maestros para sus escuelas y especialistas para resolver los problemas administrativos, técnicos y sanitarios que han dado por resultado que se ejerza una influencia benéfica en la opinión pública.

El Ministro Argentino, al hacer una breve reseña de las relaciones entre los Estados Unidos y las Repúblicas situadas hacia el sur, se refirió á la necesidad vital de que se aprecien cumplida y mutuamente las condiciones existentes, y deploró el concepto erróneo ó mala inteligencia en cuanto á las costumbres y usos ordinarios que prevalecen en comunidades que se hallan muy distantes unas de otras, las cuales, si bien es verdad que son inevitablemente diferentes, no es menos cierto que no deben por eso condenarse necesariamente.

Análogos conceptos expresó el Ministro del Perú, que le confió á los hombres de ciencia la tarea de establecer una mejor inteligencia acerca de los elementos existentes, á fin de poder distinguir los que deben fomentarse de los que deben reprimirse.

El Ministro de Chile escogió por tema la final identidad de los intereses americanos, y expresó que la diversidad de razas, las diferencias de condiciones climatológicas y el deseo legítimo—aunque precipitado—de obtener un completo desarrollo nacional, habían sido los obstáculos que se habían presentado en el progreso hacia la obtención de una completa unidad internacional.

El Ministro de Colombia consideró la cooperación de los Estados Unidos desde un punto de vista moral y espiritual, más bien que desde un punto de vista material, en la gran obra de unir íntimamente los países de América en pro de su bienestar común, en tanto que los

Ministros del Paraguay y Bolivia se mostraron de acuerdo con sus colegas en colocar los fundamentos del progreso continental sobre una unidad continental de intereses sociales.

NOTABLE BANQUETE EN LA EMBAJADA BRASILEÑA.

El día 9 de marzo el Embajador del Brasil dió á los miembros del Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos un banquete tan notable y único en su especie, que el *BOLETÍN* ha creído pertinente reproducir, en parte, una descripción de dicho acontecimiento tal como la publicó el periódico intitulado el "Washington Post" en su edición del 10 de marzo:

Uno de los banquetes más interesantes de la estación lo dieron anoche en la Embajada Brasileña el Embajador y Madama XABICO, en honor de los miembros del Tribunal Supremo. En dicho banquete no sólo se rindió homenaje á los jueces que en la actualidad son miembros del Tribunal Supremo, sino que también se recordaron los eminentes juriconsultos que presidieron las deliberaciones de dicho tribunal desde su institución.

Sobre un fondo verde se ostentaban los colores de la bandera del Brasil, y más arriba de las decoraciones de cada una de las ocho mesas en que se sirvió la comida, aparecían, escritos con letras de oro, los nombres de los Presidentes del Tribunal Supremo, desde el erudito John Jay y sus sucesores, Rutledge, Ellsworth, Marshall, Taney, Chase y Waite, hasta Fuller.

El salón de baile estaba convertido en un verdadero bosque. El apartamento, propiamente dicho, así como el cielo raso y las paredes estaban cubiertos por una gran profusión de pencas de gigantescas palmeras, entre las cuales se ostentaban algunas de las que crecen en las vastas llanuras del Brasil que formaban arcos en toda la longitud del espacioso salón, constituyendo así, con ramas de pino y esmilíceas, un paisaje de incomparable belleza. Una celosía á la rústica, cubierta con esmilíceas, perfilaba la puerta y servía de marco al cuadro selvático que se destacaba á cierta distancia. Aquí y allá, en medio de una arboleda de palmeras, se dispusieron las mesas circulares, en cada una de las cuales se ostentaba un ramillete de primorosas flores, cuyos colores formaban un conjunto deslumbrador.

Los huéspedes de esa noche se sentaron en grupos de diez, y toda la concurrencia se componía de ochenta personas. En una mesa presidía el anfitrión, y en las otras Madama XABICO, el Secretario de Estado, el Presidente del Tribunal Supremo, los Embajadores de Italia, Francia, Inglaterra y el Japón ocupaban los puestos de honor.

No se pronunciaron discursos, pero el Secretario de Estado, á instancias del Embajador XABICO, hizo un brindis muy apropiado al acto, de la manera siguiente:

"El servicio más inestimable que América le ha prestado á la ciencia política ha sido la defensa de la constitucionalidad de las leyes por parte de la magistratura nacional. El mantenimiento del prestigio del Tribunal Supremo muestra el predominio del espíritu jurídico sobre el de la fuerza arbitraria."²

LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA ANFITRIÓN DE TODA LA AMÉRICA.

El día 17 de marzo el Ministro de la Argentina dió un banquete Panamericano de tal magnitud é importancia, que el BOLETÍN ha juzgado oportuno reproducir á continuación, en parte, la descripción que de dicho banquete publicó el periódico "The Washington Post" en el número correspondiente al miércoles 18 de marzo, junto con algunos párrafos de los discursos que en dicha ocasión se pronunciaron:

* * * * *

Uno de los banquetes notables de la estación lo dieron el Ministro de la Argentina y la Señora DE PORTELLA, que obsequiaron á 120 huéspedes en el salón de baile de Rauscher. El banquete fué dado por orden del Gobierno Argentino en testimonio de gratitud por haberse elegido recientemente la República Argentina como la nación en la cual se celebrará el próximo Congreso Panamericano en 1910. Entre los concurrentes se hallaban el Secretario de Estado, la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores del Senado, la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores de la Cámara de Representantes, la Comisión Panamericana que fué nombrada recientemente por el Secretario con el fin de fomentar las relaciones comerciales entre los países americanos, los Ministros de toda la América Latina, y el Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE. Las decoraciones de flores fueron bellísimas y entre éstas resplandecían en luz eléctricas las banderas de los Estados y de todos los países latinoamericanos. En el extremo principal del salón, frente á los invitados, y á medida que entraban, se ostentaban grandes representaciones de luz eléctrica de las banderas de los Estados Unidos y de la Argentina, y entre ellas el escudo de armas de ambos países.

En el curso del banquete, el Ministro de la Argentina pronunció el siguiente discurso:

"Señor Secretario de Estado, mis distinguidos colegas: He recibido el honroso cargo de mi Gobierno de ofrecerles esta fiesta para agradecerles en su nombre y en el del pueblo argentino la insigne honra que habéis discernido á nuestro país designando á la Ciudad de Buenos Aires y el año de 1910, centenario de la Independencia Argentina, para la celebración de la Cuarta Conferencia Panamericana.

"Considera, desde luego, la República Argentina una particular fortuna la oportunidad que con vuestro amistoso acto le ofrecéis, de poder presentar á la América reunida en su capital el balance de sus progresos después de un siglo de vida independiente y de demostrarle, á la par, que si por causas que son del dominio del historiador y del sociólogo, sus comienzos han sido tormentosos y difíciles, no ha habido en su marcha saltos atrás, pues tales no son el retroceso impuesto por las curvas del camino. En nombre de mi Gobierno, pues, os ofrezco la hospitalidad de la nación, la que hará cuanto esté en sus medios para que el nuevo Congreso Internacional llene cumplidamente sus nobles fines, de preparar nuevos sillares para el ya adelantado edificio de la solidaridad continental bajo las serenas inspiraciones del derecho y la justicia.

"Desearíamos que presidiérais personalmente la nueva Conferencia, Señor Secretario de Estado; pero si esto no fuese posible, haríamos votos para que vuestro gran espíritu guie sus trabajos, que según vuestras altas palabras miran más 'to the future than to the present,' para que se continúe 'the right impulse,' de modo que la obra realizada pueda ir como la de los congresos que la han precedido, 'among all the millions of people in the American Continents long after its final adjournment, long after our lives, with incalculable benefit to all our beloved countries,' y que al término de sus tareas podamos todos sentir, según la noble y llena expresión del Embajador

XABUCCO, distinguido Presidente de la Tercera Conferencia, que 'in their hearts the American Republics form already a great political unit in the world.'

"Señoras y Señores: Al Honorable Secretario de Estado, y por los jefes de las naciones tan dignamente representadas en esta ocasión.

"Sea nuestro brindis para el Jefe de la Nación como un homenaje á la majestad del cargo y un tributo, á la par, de mi parte sinceramente caluroso, hacia el insigne ciudadano que lo ejerce.

"Las naciones de América han admirado siempre á los Estados Unidos. Rotos los lazos que las ligaban á la corona de España, á los Estados Unidos volvieron la mente por las instituciones políticas que debían reemplazar el extinto régimen. La República Argentina ha modelado su Gobierno propio sobre el incomparable patrón del de su gran hermana y marcha desde entonces tras sus huellas. 'El Federalista' es el evangelio constitucional de nuestras universidades. En los debates políticos de nuestros Congresos rara vez deja de citarse la autoridad de los grandes maestros americanos de la ciencia constitucional. Los nombres de sus parlamentaristas son familiares á los nuestros. Las sentencias de la Suprema Corte Federal contribuyen á menudo á agrandar la jurisprudencia de la nuestra. Nuestro Presidente SARMENTO trasplantó á la Argentina los métodos de la educación primaria de los Estados Unidos y en nuestras escuelas se enseña á venerar como á las más altas representaciones del civismo en la democracia contemporánea, los nombres de Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Hamilton, y Lincoln, todos los próceres, en fin, que han hecho esta gran patria. Algunos han dado su nombre á nacientes ciudades nuestras. Hemos, pues, admirado siempre á los Estados Unidos, las prodigiosas energías de su pueblo, todas sus conquistas morales para levantar el nivel de la humanidad, y tengo por cierto que éste es un sentimiento común en toda nuestra América. Pero la admiración no implica necesariamente cariño. Es natural el respeto hacia las naciones fuertes; pero no es común el que se las ame al propio tiempo. Hoy las naciones de América, además de admirar, aman á los Estados Unidos, y la consagración de esta admiración por el cariño, es la obra de THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"Señoras y Señores, por el Presidente de los Estados Unidos."

Al suplicársele al Embajador del Brasil en los Estados Unidos, que pronunciase un discurso, hizo constar el hecho de que él y el Señor PORTELA habían comenzado juntos su carrera diplomática en Washington hace treinta años, y dijo que entre los muchos acontecimientos que habían tenido lugar durante ese tiempo ninguno le había proporcionado mayor satisfacción al Brasil que el notable impulso que se le había dado á los asuntos argentinos, por virtud de lo cual la República se había convertido en una de las naciones más prósperas y progresistas del mundo. El Embajador agregó que tenía la convicción de que en 1910 en el Salón de la Conferencia de Buenos Aires resonarían las mismas expresiones de absoluta confianza en el porvenir de toda la América que se hicieron oír de una manera muy notable en el Palacio de Monroe, en Río de Janeiro en 1906. Manifestó que hacía fervientes votos porque el Ministro Argentino y su Gobierno lograsen que la Conferencia de Buenos Aires llegase á obtener el éxito más grande de las Convenciones Panamericanas.

INAUGURACIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL TRANSCONTINENTAL DE GUATEMALA.

La inauguración en enero de 1908 del ferrocarril que atraviesa al hermoso país de Guatemala y une los puertos del Pacífico con otros del Atlántico, es decir, el primero que, dentro del territorio de la América Central, pondrá en completa comunicación los dos océanos, constituye un acontecimiento de trascendentales consecuencias para el país y para las empresas mercantiles que están interesadas en el comercio y desarrollo de dicha progresista República.

El antedicho acontecimiento se llevó á cabo poco tiempo después de haberse firmado los tratados que se celebraron en Wáshington, é inmediatamente después de dicha inauguración se anunció la ratificación de esos tratados por los poderes legislativos de los Estados Centroamericanos, lo cual constituye para toda la América Latina un feliz pronóstico de futura y prolongada paz y armonía, así como de los grandes esfuerzos que se harán por obtener una nueva iniciativa y desarrollo industriales que han de rivalizar con los resultados que hasta ahora se han obtenido en la América del Norte ó del Sur.

La línea de ferrocarril sin interrupción, desde Puerto Barrios, la cual pasa por San José, y se ha puesto en operación en toda su longitud, tiene como 270 millas de extensión, de las cuales más de 200 millas—distribuídas en dos secciones—hace muchos años que están operando. La construcción del tramo que separa las secciones del Atlántico y del Pacífico—obra de gran magnitud—la comenzó un sindicato cuyos funcionarios principales fueron los Señores MINOR C. KEITH, SIR WILLIAM VAN HORN y el General T. H. HUBBARD, habiendo costado la terminación de la obra cerca de \$4,500,000.

No era posible que la terminación de este ferrocarril enteramente dentro del territorio guatemalteco—acontecimiento importantísimo—que tanto ha de influir en los destinos de la República—se dejase pasar sin las debidas ceremonias de inauguración, para las cuales el culto Gobierno del Presidente ESTRADA CABRERA había hecho oportunamente los preparativos necesarios, á fin de conmemorar dignamente dicho acontecimiento. En la expresada fiesta tomaron parte delegaciones de todas las Provincias de la República, así como todas las clases sociales, habiéndose demostrado el más profundo y sincero entusiasmo.

Sabido es que la iniciación de la Conferencia de Paz que se efectuó recientemente en Wáshington se debió—en gran manera—á las medidas que, á fines del año pasado, y á instancias del Presidente ROOSEVELT, tomó el Señor ELIHU ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos. La visita que este hábil y previsora estadista hizo á las principales capitales de la América del Sur y México, llevaron a su

mente la convicción de que del mejor conocimiento y libre trato con los hombres verdaderamente representativos de los Estados Centroamericanos en la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana, surgirían las bases y se establecerían los fundamentos de una inteligencia fraternal y armonía perdurable entre las Repúblicas contratantes que en épocas pasadas con frecuencia habían hecho la tentativa de llevar á cabo sus demandas entre sí por medio de la fuerza armada y de la guerra desoladora.

Es evidente que el Gobierno de Guatemala desde luego reconoció la vital importancia de estas medidas, así como el desinterés del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos en el asunto, puesto que el objeto de este último país fué crear y establecer una verdadera simpatía y vínculo de unión entre estas potencias que un tiempo constituyeron una federación centroamericana, renovando sinceramente estos esfuerzos para obtener este laudable fin. Nada más propio, pues, que la más vieja y poderosa República de las tres Américas — que había cooperado con México para efectuar la reunión de la Conferencia de Paz— fuese invitada para que enviase un representante especial que concurriese á las ceremonias que se habían preparado á fin de conmemorar la realización de esta gran conquista pacífica del humano esfuerzo, á saber, el establecimiento de un ferrocarril de primera clase que atraviesa los matorrales, las llanuras y montañas del antiguo reino de Guatemala, convertido hoy en la moderna y progresista República que lleva ese nombre.

Como quiera que el Presidente de dicha República invitó cordialmente por la vía diplomática de costumbre al Presidente de los Estados Unidos, este último aceptó también cordialmente la invitación, y mandó á Guatemala como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario Especial al Mayor General GEORGE W. DAVIS del Ejército de los Estados Unidos, retirado.

Dicho Enviado Extraordinario llegó el 15 de enero á Puerto Barrios, que es la estación terminal del norte del nuevo ferrocarril, y allí lo recibió una delegación compuesta de representantes personales del Presidente, el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, el Ministro de Fomento y de la Guerra, y entonces fué escoltado hasta un tren que estaba ya listo para transportarle.

Al llegar el 16 de julio á la capital, fué recibido por una numerosa delegación compuesta del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, el de Fomento, el de la Guerra, el Alcalde Municipal de la Ciudad, un destacamento de soldados, una banda de música, etc. Una de las mansiones más hermosas de la ciudad, junto con todo el servicio doméstico, provisiones y enseres necesarios, se pusieron á la disposición del Enviado Extraordinario, y á dicha morada fué escoltado por el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, que le dió la más cordial bienvenida á nombre del Presidente de la República. Cinco ayu-

dantes del ejército fueron puestos á las órdenes del Enviado Extraordinario.

El día 17 dicho Enviado Extraordinario presentó sus credenciales y fué recibido oficialmente. En el salón principal del Palacio Nacional se efectuó una recepción de carácter sumamente formal y solemne, á la cual concurrieron los altos funcionarios del Gobierno, tanto civiles como militares.

Las ceremonias de inauguración se extendieron desde el 19 hasta el 29 de enero, y descritas á grandes rasgos fueron como sigue:

La inauguración oficial del ferrocarril, encaje del último clavo y ceremonia de consagración de un monumento erigido para conmemorar la inauguración del expresado ferrocarril, efectuándose las ceremonias formales de la inauguración en presencia de un numeroso concurso en el que se hallaban representadas todas las clases sociales, consistiendo de una gran parada de 7,000 soldados que marcharon por las principales calles y avenidas, hasta una distancia de 8 millas, que el Enviado Americano presencié, al lado del Presidente de la República, el desfile de 3,000 indios que habian venido de las provincias cercanas para tomar parte en estos festejos, y también una procesión en la cual los indios portaban hachones; una fiesta al aire libre dada por las sociedades agrícolas en un suburbio cercano; una gran parada y ejercicios de 2,000 soldados y de los endetes de la Academia Militar; la colocación de la piedra angular de un monumento para conmemorar los servicios del ejército en la inauguración del ferrocarril; una procesión de 7,000 niños de escuela; una merienda que se dió á estos niños junto con el regalo de un juguete á cada uno de ellos; carreras de caballos y ejercicios militares; una excursión á la Antigua que en otros tiempos fué capital de Guatemala, situada á una distancia de 75 millas y que en 1773 fué destruída por un terremoto; un banquete de 150 cubiertos dado por el Presidente á los representantes diplomáticos en Guatemala; una reunión y comida dada por el Representante Americano al Presidente de Guatemala, su Gabinete y otros funcionarios civiles y militares y á varios particulares. Luego se efectuó una excursión bajo los auspicios del Gobierno, á fin de que el Enviado Extraordinario pudiese visitar algunas de las ciudades principales, habiéndosele proporcionado una escolta oficial, trenes y guardias especiales para otras excursiones adicionales. Dicha excursión duró desde el 1^o hasta el 9 de febrero. Un distinguido residente de Quezaltenango dió un espléndido banquete, al cual concurrió el Enviado Americano.

Fué tal la sinceridad de las infinitas demostraciones de complacencia por parte del Presidente de la República, los funcionarios del Gobierno y el pueblo en general, al recibir y festejar al Representante de los Estados Unidos, portador de un mensaje de felicitación del Presidente ROOSEVELT, que se ha creído oportuno hacer especial

mención de algunos de los incidentes principales de la visita del Enviado Extraordinario Americano. Al Representante Americano se le dió la preferencia en todas las funciones y ceremonias oficiales. En todas las poblaciones, pueblos ó aldeas que el Enviado Americano visitó durante su estancia, así como en las excursiones, fué objeto de especiales demostraciones de respeto y consideración, debiendo añadirse que en dichas manifestaciones tomaron parte tanto los ricos como los pobres. En cada Departamento, ciudad, población ó aldea, los principales funcionarios civiles y militares, junto con delegaciones de prominentes vecinos, recibieron al Enviado Extraordinario á su llegada, lo escoltaron y lo acompañaron en el momento de su partida, y en todos los casos le dispensaron las más finas y corteses atenciones.

A continuación se reproducen algunos extractos que el Departamento de Estado ha tenido la bondad de proporcionar á esta Oficina, tomados del informe que ha hecho el General Davis, el precitado representante de los Estados Unidos en el cual describe algunas fases del desarrollo del país, sus recursos, medios de transporte, etc.:

El ferrocarril que se acaba de inaugurar, que se ha de conocer por el Ferrocarril del Norte de Guatemala, se extiende desde Puerto Barrios hasta la capital, es decir, una distancia de 194 millas. Dicho ferrocarril tiene una entreeva de 36 pulgadas, construído con rieles de 60 libras de peso, y con puentes y arnazones de acero en toda su extensión, estando provisto de suficiente material rodante moderno para los transportes que en la actualidad está llamado á hacer.

Los primeros trabajos de construcción de dicho ferrocarril se comenzaron en 1871, y en los quince años siguientes se completó la línea—de cierta manera—hasta "El Rancho," ó sea una distancia de 134 millas. El máximo del ancho de entreeva en esta sección de la línea, que sólo se refiere á la travesía de una cuesta pequeña, es $4\frac{1}{2}$ por ciento, pero se reducirá á un 2 por ciento.

Habrá como tres años que una compañía americana, de la cual el Señor MINOR C. KEITH es presidente, emprendió la obra de concluir el ferrocarril. Sir WILLIAM VAN HORN, que es muy conocido en Cuba, en los Estados Unidos y en el Canadá como persona muy prominente y entendida en empresas ferroviarias, se asoció al Presidente KEITH, y es uno de los principales accionistas. El Señor KEITH es presidente de la Compañía de Ferrocarril y vicepresidente de la "United Fruit Company," corporación americana que el año pasado exportó á los Estados Unidos y á Europa 40,000,000 de racimos de bananos procedentes de la América Central y del Sur, así como de Jamaica.

Hace tres años que era casi imposible que por la parte del ferrocarril á la cual se ha hecho referencia antes, y que se extiende desde Puerto Barrios hasta "El Rancho," corrieran ni los trenes menos pesados. La vía jamás se había balastrado; los travesaños del ferrocarril se habían podrido casi por completo, y únicamente las locomotoras y carros de menos peso podían pasar por la vía, y esto con la mayor dificultad. Un puente grande que atravesaba el río Motagua se lo habían llevado las corrientes y, en una palabra, la línea era enteramente inútil para los fines del transporte. Por virtud de una concesión del Gobierno, á la compañía americana se le traspasó la absoluta servidumbre de paso, incluso los chuchos ó cambiavías, las vías y todo el material. La compañía se propuso concluir el ferrocarril y proveerlo de todos los elementos modernos, á fin de que mediante su construcción se obtuviesen todos los resultados que el Gobierno deseaba. Además de los terrenos que comprende la servidumbre de paso y las estaciones terminales, á dicha compañía se le cedieron, como una subvención, 165,000 acres de terrenos,

cerca de la estación terminal del norte, que son propicios para el cultivo de bananos. El Gobierno también ha garantizado—por un período de quince años, á contar desde la fecha de la inauguración del ferrocarril—un producto líquido de un 5 por ciento sobre el capital invertido en dicha línea. La expresada concesión autoriza á la compañía para cobrar precios más altos que los que la administración de dicha línea—en obsequio de sus propios intereses—llegará realmente á cobrar. La compañía tiene elementos muy valiosos en las estaciones terminales, no sólo en la costa oriental sino en la capital y en las estaciones intermedias.

Desde Puerto Barrios hacia el interior del país, hasta una distancia de 60 millas, el terreno es un poco más alto que el nivel del mar, y se presta admirablemente para el cultivo de los bananos, así como para la crianza de ganado y la industria de madera, por cuanto los bosques que allí se encuentran contienen grandes cantidades de maderas valiosas que con el tiempo han de venderse en los mercados. En cuanto al resto de esta distancia, que asciende como á 135 millas, el terreno es seco y estéril. Son muy contadas las poblaciones y aldeas que están situadas á lo largo de la línea del ferrocarril, y las que hay tienen muy pocos habitantes. La mayor de estas poblaciones es Zacapa, que tiene como 5,000 habitantes y está situada en el valle de Motagua, río de considerables proporciones, cuyas aguas con el tiempo acaso se distribuyan en las áridas llanuras adyacentes, cuyo terreno resulta sumamente fértil con la simple ayuda de un riego limitado. Hay millares de acres de esta clase de terreno que podrían regarse con facilidad y que son muy propicios para el cultivo de bananos y de la caña de azúcar.

A Zacapa llega un río tributario que procede del este, cuya fuente se encuentra cerca de la frontera del Salvador. Ya se ha hecho un reconocimiento preliminar para la construcción de una línea ramal que se desea que llegue hasta un distrito productor de café muy extenso y fértil que hay en el Salvador, y se cree que con este fin la compañía americana que preside el Señor KEITH ha obtenido una concesión de los Gobiernos de Guatemala y el Salvador. El Señor KEITH estuvo presente en Guatemala durante la mayor parte de mi visita, y me manifestó que tanto él como sus socios pronto pensaban emprender la construcción de esta vía ramal hasta Santa Ana, en el Salvador, y no dejarla de mano hasta concluirla. Dícese que las dificultades físicas que será necesario vencer al construir esta línea serán mucho menores que las que se vencieron en la línea principal que se extiende hasta la capital.

En cuanto á los negocios é industrias en los cuales este ferrocarril ha de influir considerablemente, cumple hacer constar lo siguiente: Guatemala produce anualmente un promedio de 600,000 á 700,000 sacos de café de 100 libras cada uno. Este café se cultiva principalmente en las pendientes de las montañas de la Sierra Madre en la costa del Pacífico, y anteriormente se exportaba de los puertos del Pacífico de la República, es decir, de San José, Champerico y Ocós. La compañía de ferrocarril está segura de que una parte considerable de este café—que constituye el producto de exportación principal de la República—será enviado á los mercados por le vía de Puerto Barrios, puesto que la distancia desde este punto á los mercados de café en los Estados Unidos y Europa, sólo representa como una cuarta parte de la distancia que dicho producto tenía que recorrer anteriormente por la vía del Estrecho de Magallanes, y en lo sucesivo no se ha de invertir para entregar el café en los puertos de destino más de una cuarta parte del tiempo que se necesitaba para enviar los cargamentos del mismo alrededor de la extremidad sur de la América del Sur.

El distrito productor de café de la costa occidental, al cual se ha hecho referencia antes, lo atraviesan ahora los ferrocarriles Central y Occidental, el primero de los cuales pone en comunicación á Guatemala con el Puerto de Mar de San José, y además una línea ramal del mismo ferrocarril se extiende como 60 millas hacia el Oeste en toda la extensión de dicho distrito productor de café. El puerto del Ferrocarril Occidental es Champerico, y estas dos líneas de transporte entroncan en Mazatenango y

constituyen un eslabón de lo que con el tiempo llegará á ser el Ferrocarril Intercontinental ó Panamericano, que se extiende desde México hasta el Istmo de Panamá, y más allá. La cosecha del presente año en Guatemala es mucho menor de lo que hasta ahora ha sido, y una parte considerable de ella ya se ha embarcado para un mercado extranjero, pero á pesar de esto, el Ferrocarril del Norte ha conseguido el transporte de 50,000 sacos de esta cosecha, y los está transportando por la vía de Puerto Barrios. Una vez que se termine la línea ramal desde Zacapa hasta Santa Ana, en el Salvador, los dueños del Ferrocarril del Norte esperan transportar una gran parte de toda la cosecha de la República por los ferrocarriles, vía de Puerto Barrios. Americano es el capital invertido en los ferrocarriles de la costa del Sur de la República— que se acaban de mencionar— y americanos son los que manejan y dirigen dichas empresas y, hasta donde pude averiguar, parece existir una comunidad de intereses en las tres líneas, que algunos creen que con el tiempo se convertirán en un solo sistema de ferrocarriles que, desde el punto de vista de los negocios, estará en combinación con los ferrocarriles de conexión de México.

El ferrocarril que entronca las líneas principales de México ya está casi concluido hasta la frontera guatemalteca, y dentro de seis meses quedará terminado hasta dicho punto, que dista como 35 millas del punto oriental más cercano del Ferrocarril Occidental. El Señor ADOLFO MAYER, presidente del Ferrocarril Occidental, me dijo que tan luego como el Gobierno lo aprobase estaría dispuesto á construir este eslabón de conexión cuya terminación pondría á la ciudad de Guatemala en comunicación por ferrocarril con los sistemas de ferrocarriles de México y de los Estados Unidos. Parece casi cierto que dentro de un corto período será posible ir por ferrocarril desde los Estados Unidos hasta la capital del Salvador. En las 60 millas de la parte baja del Ferrocarril del Norte, en la región propicia para el cultivo de bananos, hay ya 8,000 acres cultivadas, área que se extenderá rápidamente á medida que las necesidades de los mercados lo requieran, y el tráfico que este cultivo ha de traer consigo junto con el transporte de las valiosas maderas que tanto abundan en los bosques adyacentes, constituirán una importante fuente de ingresos para la compañía ferroviaria.

El incremento que ha tomado el negocio de bananos en el mundo entero, y sobre todo el consumo de esta fruta en los Estados Unidos, ha sido fenomenal. La "United Fruit Company" que es una compañía americana, en la actualidad tiene más de 100 vapores empleados en este negocio. Como antes se ha indicado, el año pasado esta compañía llevó á los diferentes mercados 40,000,000 de racimos, al paso que otras empresas transportaron de 12,000,000 á 15,000,000 de racimos adicionales, y el desarrollo de este comercio en la última década ha aumentado rápidamente. En los dos ó tres últimos años se ha creado un gran negocio de bananos, entre los puertos del Mar Caribe y Europa, y el éxito de esta industria, en cuanto atañe al incremento del comercio europeo, ha sido tan grande que justifica el abrigar la esperanza de los que se ocupan en el negocio de frutas tropicales, de que el desarrollo del negocio de bananos con Europa ha de ser igual ó mayor que el que hasta ahora se ha hecho con los Estados Unidos. Si esta fundada esperanza llega á realizarse, en vez de 100 vapores que en la actualidad se emplean en el negocio de bananos en los puertos del Mar Caribe, es lógico suponer que en diez años habrá 300 ó 400 vapores, y todos los terrenos propicios para el cultivo de esta fruta en las costas del Mar Caribe, al este del Orinoco, se cultivarán y utilizarán con este fin.

Con excepción de unas cuantas empresas de minas de poca importancia en Guatemala, no existen otras de importancia en esta República, pero todo el mundo sabe que existen grandes depósitos de oro, plata y de minerales de cobre y de plomo en las montañas, á lo largo de las fronteras de Honduras y del Salvador, los cuales no se han explotado por falta de medios adecuados de transporte. Los directores del ferrocarril están seguros de que se descubrirán muchos y ricos depósitos de minerales tan luego como haya los medios de transporte que pronto se han de facilitar.

BOLIVIA.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE ESTAÑO EN 1907.

El Señor Don IGNACIO CALDERÓN, Ministro de Bolivia en los Estados Unidos, se ha servido facilitar á la Oficina el informe del Inspector General de Aduanas sobre la producción y explotación de estaño durante el año de 1907.

La producción de estaño exportada en el año de que trata el informe llegó á 601,690 quintales y 89 libras, ó sean 27,677,780.94 kilogramos de barrilla con ley media del 60 por ciento, que reducida á estaño puro da 16,606,688.56 kilogramos, con valor comercial de 29,892,003.41 bolivianos. La producción de 1906 fué de 638,555 quintales y 18 libras, ó 29,373,538.31 kilogramos con valor comercial de 29,892,003.41 bolivianos.

El estaño exportado en 1907 dió al fisco por derechos un rendimiento de 1,403,571.23 bolivianos, suma recaudada en las siguientes aduanas y oficinas de recaudación:

	Bolivianos.
Oruro.....	671,032.51
Uyuni.....	320,261.82
Tupiza.....	9,719.00
La Paz.....	70,479.39
Potosí.....	307,275.98
Colquechaca.....	24,802.53

Con relación al año de 1906, el Departamento de Potosí aumentó su producción en un 4.08 por ciento, y el de La Paz en 3½ por ciento, en tanto que la producción de Cochabamba fué más del doble en comparación con la de 1906. En cambio, el Departamento de Oruro sufrió una disminución de 20.44 por ciento en su producción, comparada con la que obtuvo el año 1906, debido, principalmente, á la prudente medida que tomaron algunas empresas mineras de disminuir sus gastos de explotación para equiparar de alguna manera la baja constante del artículo en Europa.

Comparando las cifras de los años 1906 y 1907, resulta que existen las diferencias siguientes á favor de 1906: 5,356,242.27 bolivianos en el valor comercial; 160,237.69 bolivianos en el valor de los derechos, y 1,695,757.37 kilogramos en el peso de la producción.

INGRESOS BOLIVIANOS EN ARICA, CHILE, DURANTE 1907.

La agencia aduanera de la República de Bolivia en Arica, Chile, percibió durante el año de 1907 una renta total de 154,570.15 bolivianos, suma que, comparada con la de 60,058.49 bolivianos, á que ascendieron los ingresos recaudados en 1906, acusa un aumento de 94,511.66 bolivianos á favor de 1907.

INAUGURACIÓN DE LA BOLSA DE VALORES.

El día 1° de febrero de 1908 se inauguró en La Paz, Bolivia, la Bolsa de Valores, constituida en forma de sociedad anónima con un capital suscrito de 70,000 bolivianos, siendo el autorizado de 100,000 bolivianos. Esta institución es la primera de su género que se crea en la República, y no sólo se dedicará á las operaciones usuales de bolsa, sino que también promoverá la formación de compañías industriales, dará colocación dentro y fuera del país á los empréstitos que necesiten la República ó los municipios, constituirá jurados arbitrales que resuelvan cuestiones comerciales, y se dedicará á funciones que tiendan á fomentar el desarrollo del comercio y la industria en la República.

PROGRESO FERROVIARIO EN LA REPÚBLICA.

El Señor PHILIP W. HENRY, Presidente de la "South American Construction Company," encargada de operar la "Bolivia Railway Company" y de construir las líneas de ferrocarril bolivianas comprendidas en el contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno y los Señores SPEYER Y COMPAÑÍA, y el Banco Nacional de la Ciudad de Nueva York, dice que los trabajos progresan con una rapidez enteramente satisfactoria.

El expresado Presidente dice que de las 127 millas que hay entre Viacha y Oruro, á fines de febrero de 1908 se habían construído 75 millas de vía. En octubre de 1907 se inauguró el servicio del ferrocarril entre Viacha y Ayoayo, ó sea una distancia de 36 millas, y en diciembre del mismo año se inauguró el servicio de ferrocarril entre Viacha y Patacamayo, ó sean 50 millas más. Se espera que para el 1° de julio de 1908 quedará terminada la línea de ferrocarril entre Viacha y Oruro.

Se han presentado dificultades para recibir el material de construcción, habiendo sido necesario desembarcar las mercancías en el puerto peruano de Mollendo, desde el cual el transporte de aquéllas se efectuó por la vía del Ferrocarril del Sur del Perú, el Lago Titicaca, y el Ferrocarril de Guaqui y La Paz.

El costo total de la sección de la línea de Oruro á Viacha se calcula en \$4,000,000, es decir, \$32,000 por milla, incluyendo el material rodante, los equipos de talleres, toda clase de elementos en las estaciones terminales, y los gastos de ingenieros y de oficinas, habiéndose calculado que el gasto total de toda la línea ascendería á \$27,000,000. Además, se cree que esta suma sea insuficiente para llevar á cabo las operaciones que se han proyectado. Como quiera que si la sección del Potosí se construye en conformidad con el plan original, quedará paralela al Ferrocarril de Antofagasta y Oruro, es probable que se haga un arreglo acerca del tráfico y operación de la sección de Oruro

y Myuni de la línea de Antofagasta, y evitar así la construcción de un ferrocarril paralelo.

La línea de Antofagasta se extiende desde la Costa hasta Oruro, es decir, una extensión total de 575 millas, y su operación ha sido tan lucrativa que jamás se ha necesitado el pago de la garantía del Gobierno, que consiste de un 5 por ciento sobre \$3,750,000.

El Señor CHARLES M. PEPPER anuncia, desde La Paz, que hay probabilidades de que se construya la línea de Arica y la Paz en conformidad con el tratado que Chile y Bolivia celebraron en octubre de 1904, habiéndose hecho un contrato en noviembre de 1907 con el Banco Deutsches de Berlin.

Se ha provisto lo conducente para la prolongación de 55 millas que el Gobierno Argentino ha de construir en el Ferrocarril del Sur de Bolivia, es decir, desde Quiaca á Tupiza, y ya se ha embarcado el material, con este fin, por la vía de Rosario.

El Señor PEPPER dice, además, que los métodos de construcción de ferrocarriles empleados en los Estados Unidos han dado muy buenos resultados, por el hecho de que la superconstrucción es sólida y adecuada, y que la línea de Viacha y Oruro ha de servir de modelo para toda la línea del ferrocarril.

BRASIL.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1907.

Según muestran las cifras que publicó la "Revista Brasileña" del 12 de febrero de 1908, el valor del comercio extranjero en el año de 1907 ascendió á 1,575,643:953\$, ó sea como \$494,000,000, incluyendo las importaciones de moneda. Se anunció que en 1907 el valor del comercio ascendió á \$440,000,000, incluso el metálico, de manera que se obtuvo un aumento de \$54,000,000 en los doce meses de 1907 en comparación con el año anterior.

En este valor total las importaciones representaron \$202,000,000, contra más de \$165,000,000 en 1906, en tanto que las exportaciones representaron \$270,000,000 en comparación con \$265,000,000 en los doce meses anteriores. En la lista de las importaciones el dinero acuñado y los billetes de banco representaron \$22,000,000 en 1907 y \$14,000,000 en 1906.

Los seis artículos principales de exportación fueron los siguientes: El café, que representó un valor de \$142,000,000; la goma, \$64,000,000; el cacao, \$10,000,000; el algodón, \$8,000,000; la hierba mate, \$8,000,000, y el tabaco, \$6,000,000.

El valor de las exportaciones de café muestra un aumento de \$7,000,000 en comparación con 1906; el de las exportaciones de goma muestra una disminución de \$6,000,000; el de las de cacao muestra

un aumento de \$3,500,000; el de las de algodón no mostró ningún cambio, en tanto que el de las de hierba mate, mostró una merma de \$1,000,000.

PROPAGANDA Á FAVOR DEL CAFE DE SÃO PAULO.

El Gobernador del Estado de São Paulo ha secundado la acción del Gobierno Federal del Brasil, creando una junta administrativa agregada al Departamento de Agricultura, Comercio y Obras Públicas de São Paulo, que se encargará de hacer un estudio de los centros consumidores de café del mundo y proponer medidas encaminadas á fomentar nuevos mercados y á conseguir los ya existentes.

Para ayudar la propaganda á favor del café se harán concesiones á individuos particulares ó á compañías que anunciarán y recomendarán el uso y venta del café de dicho Estado, pero se estipula que los derechos de una propaganda semejante por parte del Gobierno Federal serán completamente reconocidos y respetados.

LA CONTRIBUCIÓN IMPUESTA Á LOS AGENTES VIAJEROS EN PARÁ.

El Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Pará anunció el 11 de febrero de 1908 que la contribución impuesta á los agentes viajeros comerciales por el consejo municipal de la ciudad ha sido rebujada y estará vigente hasta el 31 de diciembre de 1908, inclusive. La nueva contribución, junto con la proporción que se cobra por hospitales, sellos y otros derechos, asciende á \$117.74, y quienquiera que trate de eximirse de su pago estará sujeto á una multa de consideración así como á la confiscación de las muestras que traiga.

COLOMBIA.

REDUCCIÓN DEL PRESUPUESTO DE GASTOS DE 1908.

En sesión del Consejo de Ministros celebrada el 5 de marzo de 1908 el Gobierno de la República acordó introducir importantes economías en el presupuesto de gastos para el año de 1908, y, como resultado de las cuales, ha sido reducido de \$16,244,384.20 á \$14,237,997.08, realizándose así una economía total de \$2,006,315.12.

COSTA RICA.

RENTA DE ADUANA EN NUEVE MESES DE 1907.

Del mes de abril al de diciembre, inclusive, de 1907, la renta de aduana de la República ascendió á 3,815,223.71 colones, en comparación con 3,214,234.24 colones en el mismo período en 1906. La

expresada renta por cada aduana en los referidos nueve meses de 1907 fué como sigue: La aduana principal, 2,294,453.14 colones; la aduana de Puerto Limón, 1,128,263.95 colones, y la de Puntareñas, 392,506.62 colones. La renta recandada en todas las aduanas de la República en enero de 1908 ascendía á 478,053.74 colones.

CUBA.

EL COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN EL AÑO ECONÓMICO DE 1906-7 Y EN EL ORDINARIO DE 1907.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de Cuba del 12 de marzo de 1907 publica unos estados compilados por la Sección de Estadística General del Departamento de Hacienda, relativos al comercio exterior de la República durante el año fiscal de 1906-7 y el ordinario de 1907, y en los cuales se indican los países que participaron en el mencionado comercio. Dánse también las cifras correspondientes á los ejercicios anteriores, por vía de comparación.

El valor exacto de las mercancías importadas y exportadas durante los años fiscales de 1905-6 y 1906-7 fueron como se expresa en el siguiente cuadro, excluyéndose la moneda:

Países.	Importación.		Exportación.	
	Año fiscal 1905-6.	Año fiscal 1906-7.	Año fiscal 1905-6.	Año fiscal 1906-7.
Estados Unidos.....	\$48,830,629	\$48,192,672	\$88,981,407	\$98,141,012
Alemania.....	6,593,215	6,433,969	4,309,794	3,130,757
España.....	10,647,860	8,286,973	768,686	413,305
Francia.....	5,564,301	5,781,692	1,580,047	1,002,329
Reino Unido.....	14,187,900	13,639,130	5,869,376	4,456,223
Los demás países de América.....	12,833,135	9,500,962	2,508,415	2,211,504
Los demás países de Europa.....	3,970,012	3,434,585	806,529	821,672
Todos los demás países.....	968,540	1,398,906	675,061	598,135
Total.....	104,395,592	96,698,889	105,199,315	110,764,937

Las importaciones y exportaciones de moneda durante los años que se expresan fueron como sigue:

Países.	Importación.		Exportación.	
	Año fiscal 1905-6.	Año fiscal 1906-7.	Año fiscal 1905-6.	Año fiscal 1906-7.
Estados Unidos.....	\$553,698	\$7,470	\$1,215,472	\$3,773,000
España.....	279,360	18,614	842,083	238,255
Francia.....	1,276,434	639,222	.....	36,654
Todos los demás países.....	260	.....	9,343	.....
Total.....	2,109,752	665,306	2,066,898	4,047,909

En el siguiente cuadro se indican los valores aproximados de las mercancías importadas y exportadas durante el año ordinario de

1907, en comparación con los del año anterior. Las importaciones y exportaciones de moneda se hallan expresadas en cuadro aparte:

Países.	Importación.		Exportación.	
	Año 1906.	Año 1907.	Año 1906.	Año 1907.
Estados Unidos.....	\$47,602,345	\$51,309,288	\$88,175,451	\$90,774,645
España.....	9,017,099	9,478,615	676,623	484,876
Alemania.....	6,403,793	7,592,326	3,671,198	3,218,794
Francia.....	5,572,799	6,044,765	1,513,129	1,361,974
Reino Unido.....	14,081,023	15,322,981	5,899,734	4,506,458
Los demás países de América.....	10,985,927	9,277,095	2,367,074	2,495,284
Los demás países de Europa.....	3,376,016	3,494,052	768,655	739,015
Todos los demás países.....	979,597	1,831,363	742,672	487,991
Total.....	98,018,599	104,460,935	103,914,536	104,069,037

Durante 1906 y 1907 las importaciones y exportaciones de moneda fueron como se detalla á continuación:

Países.	Importación.		Exportación.	
	Año 1906.	Año 1907.	Año 1906.	Año 1907.
Estados Unidos.....	\$6,800	\$137,765	\$4,464,112	\$9,779,240
España.....	250,030	20,387	485,779	157,882
Francia.....	1,264,232	599,121	36,654	2,480,644
Países de América.....	•	•	8,586	1,915
Total.....	1,521,062	757,273	4,995,131	12,419,681

COMERCIO CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EN 1903 Y EN 1907.

Las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos muestran que desde 1903 el valor de las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á Cuba ha aumentado 123½ por ciento, en tanto que el de las importaciones que se hicieron de dicha Isla durante el mismo período aumentó 61½ por ciento. El valor total de las mercancías que se exportaron de los Estados Unidos á Cuba en el año común de 1907, ascendió á \$52,500,000, contra \$23,500,000 en 1903, ó sea un promedio de \$25,000,000 en los cinco años anteriores que terminaron en 1903. En 1907 el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron de Cuba ascendió á \$92,500,000, contra \$57,250,000 en 1903, ó sea un promedio anual de \$43,000,000 en los cinco años anteriores que terminaron en 1903.

Este aumento en el valor de las importaciones ocurre mayormente en el azúcar, tabaco en rama, tabacos ó cigarros, bananos y cobre. En cuanto á las exportaciones, el aumento ocurre en una gran variedad de artículos, pero sobre todo en los artefactos ó artículos de hierro ó acero, carros y carruajes, géneros de algodón, calzado de todas clases, madera, carbón de piedra, café, carnes, huevos, y substancias alimenticias de todas clases.

Las importaciones de azúcar procedentes de la Isla, que en 1903 ascendieron á poco menos de 2,000,000,000 de libras, en 1907 llegaron

á más de 3,000,000,000 de libras, y el valor de las de 1903 ascendió á \$37,500,000, en tanto que el de las de 1907 ascendió á \$67,000,000. El tabaco en rama muestra una disminución en la cantidad, pero muestra un aumento en el valor, es decir, en 1903 se importaron 21,500,000 libras, valuadas en \$10,000,000, en tanto que en 1907 se importaron 16,333,000 libras de tabaco en rama, valuadas en \$12,000,000; los cigarros ó tabacos elaborados muestran un pequeño aumento, puesto que el valor de los que se importaron en 1903 ascendió á \$3,000,000, en tanto que el valor de los que se importaron en 1907 ascendió á \$4,000,000; el valor del cobre en lingotes y en barras, que en 1903 sólo ascendió á \$50,000, en 1907 llegó á \$133,000. Los principales artículos que representan un valor de \$92,500,000, importados á los Estados Unidos de la Isla de Cuba, fueron los siguientes: Azúcar, \$67,000,000; tabaco en rama, \$12,000,000; cigarros ó tabacos elaborados, \$4,000,000; mineral de hierro, \$2,500,000; frutas, \$1,333,000; de los cuales los bananos representaron \$1,000,000; las maderas de construcción representaron un poco más de \$1,000,000; el mineral de cobre representó cerca de \$500,000, en tanto que el cacao representó como \$250,000.

Los principales artículos exportados á Cuba, que representaron un valor de \$52,500,000, consistieron de artículos ó artefactos de hierro y acero cuyo valor en 1907 ascendió á cerca de \$9,000,000, contra \$3,500,000, aproximadamente, en 1903; el calzado de todas clases que representó un valor de \$2,500,000, contra \$750,000 en 1903; la manteca cuyo valor ascendió á \$3,000,000, contra \$1,500,000 en 1903; los compuestos de manteca, cuyo valor en 1903 ascendió á un poco más de \$1,500,000; los huevos cuyo valor ascendió á \$1,000,000, contra \$141,000 en 1903; la harina cuyo valor ascendió á \$3,500,000, contra \$2,000,000 en 1903; el maíz cuyo valor ascendió á \$1,500,000, contra un poco más de \$500,000 en 1903; el carbón de piedra cuyo valor ascendió á \$2,250,000, contra \$1,250,000 en 1903; los tubos y guarniciones ó accesorios cuyo valor ascendió á más de \$1,000,000; la leche condensada cuyo valor ascendió á cerca de \$1,000,000; las legumbres cuyo valor ascendió \$1,500,000; la madera cuyo valor ascendió á \$2,333,000; el café (que es un producto de Puerto Rico, que en la actualidad es un distrito aduanero de los Estados Unidos y que, por consiguiente, se clasifica como una exportación de dicho distrito) representó un valor de \$1,500,000.

Las siguientes tablas muestran los principales artículos que constituyeron el comercio de los Estados Unidos con Cuba en los años comunes de 1903 y 1907, respectivamente:

Valor de los principales artículos importados de Cuba á los Estados Unidos y exportados de este último país á Cuba, en los años comunes

de 1903 y 1907, respectivamente, en el orden de la importancia de los artículos, en 1907.

IMPORTACIONES HECHAS DE CUBA.

Artículos.	1903.	1907.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Azúcar cuyo color no exceda del núm. 16, modelo holandés.....	37,583,296	67,197,188
Tabaco en rama, excepto la capa.....	10,157,975	12,137,601
Tabacos elaborados, cigarrillos y cherotes.....	2,977,924	4,017,229
Mineral de hierro.....	1,501,480	2,522,710
Maderas de construcción.....	(a)	1,123,504
Bananos.....	1,085,563	1,094,888
Mielos.....	1,108,289	669,433
Mineral de cobre, nate y rignol.....	(a)	421,983
Todos los demás artículos.....	603,794	3,305,131
Valor total de importaciones.....	57,228,291	92,429,267
Proporción de aumento.....		61.52

PRODUCTOS EXPORTADOS A CUBA.

Artículos.	1903.	1907.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Harina de trigo.....	2,068,083	3,526,549
Manteca.....	1,408,673	3,051,646
Maquinaria, excepto locomotoras.....	(a)	2,619,237
Calzado de todas clases.....	744,119	2,412,335
Artículos de hierro y acero, sin contar los especilados.....	(a)	2,374,216
Talones, fallas, tablillas, viquetas, etc.....	980,468	2,340,880
Carbón bituminoso.....	1,277,471	2,212,211
Compuestos de manteca.....	1,515,757	1,989,873
Café verde.....	214,521	1,628,019
Maíz.....	624,783	1,547,526
Legumbres.....	481,565	1,467,401
Tubos y sus accesorios ó guarniciones.....	(a)	1,111,693
Huevos.....	141,244	1,072,964
Lienzos ó géneros de algodón.....	271,582	1,063,914
Leche.....	277,745	629,209
Substancias químicas, drogas y tintes, excepto medicinas.....	(a)	907,919
Carros de pasajeros y de carga y sus accesorios.....	(d)	845,229
Rieles de acero para ferrocarriles.....	(a)	814,151
Carne de cerdo, salada ó adobada.....	273,638	808,687
Abonos, sin incluir los fosfatos crudos.....	(a)	767,650
Muebles de madera.....	334,848	737,928
Máquinas de vapor (locomotoras).....	127,845	710,166
Papel y sus artefactos.....	250,343	673,868
Artículos ó artefactos de madera, excepto tablas y muebles.....	(a)	648,145
Jamones.....	576,767	636,968
Alambres.....	(a)	622,230
Aceite mineral refinado.....	230,541	613,069
Artículos de algodón, excepto géneros de algodón.....	236,403	611,949
Artículos de ferreteria para constructores de edificios, sierras ó instrumentos.....	365,325	611,350
Tecido.....	322,383	572,758
Instrumentos y aparatos para fines científicos.....	216,258	563,717
Carros y carruajes, excepto de pasajeros y carga.....	(a)	550,673
Medicinas de patente.....	(a)	465,359
Todos los demás artículos.....	9,432,004	10,320,172
Valor total de exportaciones de productos domésticos.....	22,373,692	51,851,121
Valor total de exportaciones de artículos extranjeros.....	1,130,725	61,692,728
Valor total de todas las exportaciones.....	23,504,417	52,543,849
Proporción de aumento.....		123.55

a No se expresaron separadamente en 1903.

La proporción de las importaciones que Cuba ha hecho de los Estados Unidos y de sus importaciones á este último país, ha aumentado un poco desde 1903, que fué el último año anterior al del actual Tratado de Reciprocidad con dicha Isla. En 1903 la proporción de las importaciones que Cuba hizo de los Estados Unidos ascendió á 41.2 por ciento, y en 1906, que es el último año acerca del cual han

podido obtenerse datos estadísticos relativos á Cuba, dicha proporción ascendió á 46.8 por ciento. La proporción de las exportaciones que Cuba hizo á los Estados Unidos en 1903 ascendió á 80.1 por ciento, y en 1906 ascendió á 84.6 por ciento.

RATIFICACIÓN DE LA CONVENCIÓN RELATIVA Á LAS RECLAMACIONES PECUNIARIAS.

Con fecha 24 de marzo de 1908, la Legación de Cuba en Washington, le notificó á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas que el Gobernador Provisional de Cuba, por un decreto de 17 de marzo de 1908, aprobó y ratificó la Convención relativa á las Reclamaciones Pecuniarias firmada por los Delegados de Cuba y de otros países en Río de Janeiro el 13 de agosto de 1906.

RENTA DE ADUANA DE 1905 Á 1907.

La renta de aduana de la República, en los años de 1905, 1906 y 1907, ascendió á \$25,258,005.44, \$25,090,084.05 y \$26,311,596.85, respectivamente, ó sea un total de \$76,659,686.34 en los años referidos.

CENSO GANADERO.

Según los datos estadísticos recopilados por la Oficina de Estadística de la República de Cuba, el día 30 de junio de 1907, en la Isla había 2,584,877 cabezas de ganado vacuno, 413,937 caballos, 50,637 mulos y 2,810 asnos.

LA COMISIÓN CONSULTIVA Y SU OBRA.

El Doctor FRANCISCO CARRERA Y JUSTIZ, Miembro de la Comisión Consultiva de Cuba, bajo el Gobierno Provisional, ha enviado al BOLETÍN MENSUAL una interesante relación, en la cual se describen las funciones y el personal de dicha Comisión.

El Gobernador Provisional en su informe oficial al Secretario de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos hace el siguiente elogio de la Comisión:

La Comisión ha prestado gran cuidado y atención á su cometido y ha patentizado su competencia, celo, penetración y dominio de la materia. El tiempo invertido en su labor ha sido bien empleado. Hay sobrados motivos para pensar que las leyes que han sido adoptadas de este modo, llegarán á formar una parte importante y de gran fuerza en la legislación permanente de la República.

La intervención de los Estados Unidos en aquel país, ha consagrado preferente atención al trabajo necesario para que sean promulgadas las leyes orgánicas que, como complementarias de la constitución cubana, son indispensables para la marcha normal de la futura República.

Á tales fines fué designada una Comisión Consultiva con encargo de que inmediatamente procediera á redactar un proyecto de ley orgánica de los municipios, otro de ley electoral, otro para la organización del poder judicial y otro de servicio civil, á los cuales habrá de seguir una ley orgánica del poder ejecutivo, otra de las fuerzas armadas y otra de hacienda y contabilidad del Estado.

En virtud de los primeros trabajos y como consecuencia de lo que su desenvolvimiento demandaba, ya han sido presentados á la sanción del Gobernador Provisional

norteamericano, los proyectos de ley electoral orgánica de los municipios, de impuestos municipales, de contabilidad municipal y de organización judicial.

La Comisión está compuesta de tres miembros americanos: Coronel E. H. CROWDER, Presidente, miembro del Cuerpo Jurídico de los Estados Unidos y encargado de la Secretaría de Estado y Justicia en Cuba; Major BLATON WINSHIP y JUEZ OTTO SCHOERICH, y nueve miembros cubanos; Señor RAFAEL MONTORO, Ministro de Cuba en Inglaterra; Profesor FRANCISCO CARRERA y JUSTIZ, Catedrático de la Facultad de Derecho en la Universidad de la Habana; Senador ALFREDO ZAYAS, Presidente del Partido Liberal; Representante á la Cámara, Señor FELIPE GONZALEZ SARRAIN; Señor ERASMO REGIEFEROS, Director de la Revista Jurídica; Señor MANUEL M. CORONADO, periodista; Señor MARIO GARCÍA KOHLY y MIGUEL F. VIONDI, ex-Representantes á la Cámara, y como Secretario, el Señor JUAN GUALBERTO GOMELZ, periodista.

CHILE.

PRESUPUESTO PARA 1908.

Con fecha 11 de febrero de 1908 se promulgó la ley de presupuesto de gastos del Gobierno de Chile para el año de 1908. Los totales ascienden á 157,715,666.41 pesos, moneda corriente, y 65,230,892.10 pesos, oro, que se distribuyen entre los distintos ministerios en la forma siguiente:

Ministerios.	Moneda corriente.	Moneda oro.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Interior.....	33,221,082.80	5,794,999.99
Relaciones Exteriores.....	184,892.50	974,798.33
Culto.....	2,300,725.00	.....
Colonización.....	3,285,720.00	80,333.33
Justicia.....	8,019,060.18	6,665.00
Instrucción Pública.....	21,487,715.64	140,333.32
Hacienda.....	14,332,236.97	18,656,145.96
Guerra.....	20,952,477.03	1,482,020.00
Marina.....	11,620,796.70	9,324,269.03
Industria y Obras Públicas.....	42,310,959.59	28,571,327.14
Total.....	157,715,666.41	65,230,892.10

Las entradas y recursos del Estado han sido calculados para el año de 1908 en la cantidad de 224,000,000 de pesos.

NAVEGACIÓN ENTRE VALPARAÍSO Y PANAMÁ.

El Presidente MONTT, de la República de Chile, con fecha 13 de enero de 1908, presentó al Congreso Nacional un importante proyecto de ley cuyo artículo único es como sigue:

ARTÍCULO ÚNICO. Se autoriza por un año al Presidente de la República para contratar hasta por el término de cinco años, con alguna empresa de navegación, el servicio entre Valparaíso y Panamá en el plazo máximo de ocho días, mediante una subvención que podrá alcanzar hasta 20,000 libras esterlinas anuales.

El servicio de navegación entre Panamá y Valparaíso se efectúa actualmente en el término de veinte días más ó menos.

CENSO DE LA POBLACIÓN DE 1907.

Según el resultado oficial del censo de la población de la República de Chile, levantado en noviembre de 1907, el número total de habitantes asciende á 3,239,009, en comparación con 2,712,145, cifra que arrojó el censo tomado en 1895.

RENTAS ADUANERAS EN ENERO DE 1908.

Las aduanas de la República de Chile recaudaron durante el mes de enero de 1908 una renta total de 9,269,159.11 pesos, cantidad que, comparada con la de 11,808,981.60 percibida en el mismo mes del año anterior, arroja una disminución de 2,539,822.49 pesos.

COMERCIO CON EL BRASIL EN 1907.

Según la memoria del Cónsul General de Chile en Río de Janeiro, las exportaciones de Chile al Brasil consistieron en frejoles, arvejas, lentejas, patatas, garbanzos, nueces, coquitos, y vinos cuyo peso total fué de 1,575,148 kilogramos, cantidad inferior á la de 1906 en 280,477 kilogramos. Chile importó del Brasil 1,016,040 kilogramos de café, con un valor de £37,746 18s. 6d., suma que arroja un aumento de £12,243 11s. 5d.

ACUÑACIÓN DE MONEDA FRACCIONARIA.

Por ley del Congreso Nacional de Chile, promulgada por el Presidente de la República el 9 de diciembre de 1907, se ha autorizado á éste para que haga acuñar hasta la cantidad de 10,000,000 de pesos en monedas de plata de 40, 20, 10 y 5 centavos con ley de 4 décimos de fino. La misma ley autoriza al Presidente para que mande acuñar hasta 1,000,000 de pesos en monedas de níquel de 10 y de 5 centavos.

La ley de referencia prohíbe además la exportación de la moneda fraccionaria de plata, bajo pena de comiso.

BALANCE DE LOS BANCOS EN EL 31 DE DICIEMBRE 1907.

"La Revista Comercial" de Valparaíso, Chile, publica en su número del 22 de febrero de 1908 el balance de los bancos de la República en el día 31 de diciembre de 1907, del cual se ha hecho el resumen que se da más adelante y en el que se hallan comprendidos las veinticuatro instituciones de crédito que aparecen en el balance de referencia y que son: Banco de Chile, Banco de Santiago, Banco de A. Edwards y Compañía, Banco de la República, Banco Español de Chile, Banco Alemán Trasatlántico, Banco de Chile y Alemania, Banco de Talca, Banco de Concepción, Banco de Curicó, Banco de Melipilla, Banco de Ñuble, Banco de Crédito, Banco Popular, Banco de Arauco, Banco de Tacna, Banco Italiano, Banco de la Unión Comercial, Banco Nacional, Banco Mercantil de Tacna, Banco de la Constitución, Banco Anglo-Sudamericano, Banco Comercial de Curicó, Banco de Londres

y Río de la Plata. Según se ve en el balance que se examina, el banco de más importancia es el Banco de Chile que tiene un capital pagado de 30,000,000 de pesos y una existencia en caja de 39,664,405.68 pesos.

Resumen general del balance de los bancos en el 31 de diciembre de 1907:

DEBE.		<i>Pesos.</i>
Capital pagado.....		124,040,525.63
Fondos de reserva y garantía.....		25,765,952.50
Fondos de ahorro y retiro y para dividendos.....		3,491,322.19
Fondos de eventualidades.....		1,236,468.85
Dividendos por pagar.....		278,362.76
Depósitos.....		415,205,924.06
Depositos de bonos y documentos.....		194,795,990.55
Operaciones pendientes.....		5,191,211.94
Otras cuentas.....		34,826,836.06
Ganancias y pérdidas.....		6,530,668.63
Total.....		811,363,263.17

HABER.		
En caja.....		88,745,808.07
Bonos y títulos de crédito.....		14,823,250.82
Bienes raíces, muebles y materiales.....		10,773,369.84
Agencias.....		17,661,641.06
Bonos y documentos en custodia y garantía.....		194,795,990.55
Avances y documentos en cartera.....		478,548,846.71
Otras cuentas.....		6,014,356.12
Total.....		811,363,263.17

PRIMA POR LA EXPORTACION DEL LINO.

El proyecto de ley autorizando al Presidente de la República para que pague primas por la producción y exportación de lino, cuyo texto se publicó en el BOLETÍN del mes de enero de 1908, ha sido aprobado por el Congreso Nacional de Chile y promulgado por el Ejecutivo con fecha 10 de febrero de 1908.

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN 1907.

El siguiente es el resumen anual del comercio de la República Dominicana en el año común de 1907, junto con tablas comparativas de los años de 1905 y 1906, presentado por el Señor W. E. PULLIAM, Receptor General de las Aduanas Dominicanas al Jefe de la Oficina de Asuntos Insulares del Departamento de la Guerra de Washington.



AVENIDA DE PALMERAS EN EL JARDÍN BOTÁNICO DE LA HABANA.

La palma real la más hermosa de las 1,000 variedades, es indígena de Cuba.

PALM AVENUE, IN THE BOTANICAL GARDEN OF HAVANA.

The royal palm, the handsomest of the 1,000 varieties, is indigenous to Cuba.



LA ADUANA DE SANTO DOMINGO.

Esta ciudad fué fundada por el hermano de Colón en 1496, y en ella estuvieron enterrados los restos del gran descubridor.

CUSTOM-HOUSE IN SANTO DOMINGO.

This city was founded by the brother of Columbus in 1496 and was the burial place of the great discoverer.

En las adjuntas tablas de datos estadísticos del comercio dominicano se ha establecido una comparación entre las importaciones y exportaciones que se hicieron en los tres últimos años durante los cuales rigió la Receptoría Americana, que fué inaugurada el 1.º de abril de 1905. Se hacen las siguientes observaciones y comentarios acerca de las condiciones y cambios efectuados en el comercio durante todo el período indicado, y especialmente, por supuesto, del último año, 1907, al cual se refiere principalmente el sumario. Estos tres años, durante los cuales la República ha disfrutado de relativa paz y tranquilidad, proporcionan una buena oportunidad para juzgar del estado de los negocios, tal como lo demuestran las operaciones de la aduana. El adelanto en las industrias resultaba evidente é indicaba las posibilidades en cuanto á lo porvenir.

Por consiguiente, es grato hacer constar que el año de 1907 mostró un comercio total mayor para la República que cualquier otro período correspondiente, y que el aumento que hubo en las cosechas dió por resultado mayores exportaciones, la mayor parte de las cuales rindieron más ganancias á los interesados que las que hasta ahora habían obtenido.

Teniendo presente el hecho de que la estadística siempre resulta árida—desde el punto de vista de la amenidad—y al mismo tiempo el deseo que tienen los interesados de obtener una relación de los hechos de la manera más sucinta posible, se ha hecho la tentativa de presentar los puntos más culminantes expresados en las cifras verdaderas relativas á las importaciones y exportaciones, como un detalle preliminar de las breves observaciones que se hacen debajo de cada uno de los grupos. Por este método los interesados de una ojeada pueden enterarse de la substancia del asunto de que se trata, y resolver después en cuanto á si vale la pena examinar minuciosamente las relaciones que aparecen en las tablas del resumen propiamente dicho, para tener una idea de los detalles relativos á los países de procedencia, los países á los cuales se hicieron las exportaciones, los valores, pesos, etc.

En 1907 el valor total del comercio extranjero de la República Dominicana excedió de \$12,500,000, que son las cifras más altas que el país ha obtenido hasta ahora. En el período de referencia el valor del comercio de exportación es el mayor que se ha obtenido en la historia de dicho comercio, y promete igual prosperidad en lo porvenir, puesto que en 1907 el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á \$7,628,356, en comparación con \$6,896,098 en 1905 y \$6,536,378 en 1906.

En el año de referencia la República compró mercancías en el extranjero por valor de \$4,948,961, ó sean \$2,212,133 más que en 1905, y \$883,524 más que en 1906. Por consecuencia, según se notará, hubo un aumento en la riqueza de la República, por cuanto el valor de las exportaciones excedió en \$2,679,395, al de las importaciones que se hicieron.

La recaudación que se hizo en las aduanas en el año de referencia contribuyó á que la Receptoría Americana pudiese depositar \$1,543,421.20 en "The National City Bank of New York," que es la depositaria designada, en beneficio del Gobierno, suma que se abonó en cuenta al fondo de garantía, con el fin de liquidar la deuda nacional. La gruesa suma que acaba de mencionarse fué trasladada—con excepción de una pequeña cantidad—mediante operaciones de cambio, sin necesidad de exportar moneda efectiva con tal fin. Rebajando \$1,543,421.20 del saldo de \$2,679,395, valor del comercio que se ha depositado y al cual se ha hecho referencia antes, resulta un saldo de \$1,135,974 correspondiente á las transacciones rentísticas del año que acaba de terminar.

A fin de evitar una mala inteligencia, debe hacerse constar aquí—restringiendo así la significacion del párrafo anterior—que el estado financiero del país en 1907 no fué, ni con mucho, satisfactorio. Es evidente que hubo una notable escasez de un medio circulante, y el efecto de la crisis que hubo en los centros monetarios de Europa y de América se sintió en la Isla. Por consecuencia, las importaciones tuvieron que limitarse á las demandas y necesidades verdaderas y urgentes del pueblo.

En 1907 los rasgos más notables del comercio extranjero dominicano fueron un aumento de más de \$1,000,000 en el valor de las exportaciones respecto del valor de las que se hicieron en 1906, y un aumento de \$750,000 en el valor de las importaciones durante el mismo período. El aumento en el valor de las importaciones respecto de 1905 ascendió á \$2,000,000, en tanto que en 1907 hubo un aumento de \$900,000 en el valor de las exportaciones, respecto del valor de las exportaciones de aquel año, á pesar del hecho de que desde 1905 el precio del azúcar sin purgar, que hasta ahora ha sido el principal artículo de exportación, ha sufrido una pérdida de más de \$37 por ciento. El aumento en el valor de las importaciones no puede atribuirse á ninguna causa especial, sino más bien á una animación comercial general en todos los ramos de negocios. El aumento total en el valor de las exportaciones se debió á los subidos precios que obtuvo el cacao en los mercados europeos, así como á los embarques extraordinariamente grandes de tabaco en rama para Alemania.

Por razón de su situación geográfica, los Estados Unidos continuaron recibiendo más de un 50 por ciento de las órdenes de mercancías que se necesitaron para el consumo doméstico, y por más que el valor de las ventas de mercancías norteamericanas á la República Dominicana, que en 1907 ascendió á \$2,656,549, sólo representó un aumento de \$369,026 respecto del año anterior, el aumento respecto de 1905 ascendió á más de \$1,000,000. A pesar del hecho de que los Estados Unidos continuaron siendo la nación que compra más productos dominicanos, desde 1905 se advierte una disminución en el valor de

las compras que la República Dominicana le hace á los Estados Unidos, pues en dicho año el valor de las mercancías que le compró ascendió á \$4,484,271, ó sea \$1,145,073 más que en 1907, disminución que se explica por la baja en el azúcar.

Las ventas y compras de productos que Alemania le hizo á la República Dominicana han aumentado rápidamente desde 1905, pues ambas transacciones muestran un aumento de un 100 por ciento. En la actualidad Alemania ocupa el segundo lugar tanto en las importaciones como en las exportaciones, y por consiguiente, debe considerarse como nación competidora de los Estados Unidos en cuanto al comercio de la República Dominicana. En 1905, 1906 y 1907 Alemania le vendió mercancías por valor de \$441,450, \$824,126 y \$953,963, respectivamente, al paso que el valor de las compras que le hizo á dicha República durante los mismos años ascendió á \$1,261,006, \$2,099,816 y \$2,759,624.

Francia representa el tercer puesto, ó justamente antes de Inglaterra, en cuanto al comercio dominicano. Al hacer un análisis de la estadística se advierte un espléndido aumento en el comercio en 1907, época en que el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á \$1,078,308 contra \$562,416 en 1906, y \$953,065 en 1905. Por otra parte, el valor de las importaciones francesas fué el siguiente: En 1907, \$250,408; en 1906, \$209,500, y en 1905, \$150,304. Francia ha comprado constantemente más productos dominicanos, y le ha suministrado menos mercancías á dicha República, al paso que en cuanto á Inglaterra sucede lo contrario.

En 1907 se exportaron al Reino Unido, para su consumo, mercancías por valor de \$330,787, ó sea como 400 por ciento más que en 1905 y 700 por ciento más que en 1906. Las ventas de mercancías que Inglaterra hizo á dicha República excedieron con mucho á las compras, es decir, en los tres últimos años el valor de dichas ventas ascendió á \$336,684, \$526,827 y \$761,787, respectivamente.

En este comercio sólo figuran de una manera considerable las cuatro naciones precitadas, pero debe hacerse mención, de pasada, que por más que Italia y España en 1907 sólo compraron pequeñas cantidades de productos dominicanos, sin embargo, los embarques que representaron estos productos fueron los primeros que se anotaron, lo cual promete un campo mayor para el exportador dominicano en lo porvenir.

La siguiente tabla condensada muestra únicamente el valor de las importaciones y exportaciones de mercancías en los tres últimos años:

Valor total del comercio extranjero.

[Sin incluir la moneda de oro y plata.^a]

Países.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Aumento en 1905 respecto de 1907.	Aumento en 1906 respecto de 1907.	Proporción solamente en 1907.
Estados Unidos.....	\$6,085,850	\$6,029,313	\$5,975,387	b \$119,469	b \$33,926	47.51
Reino Unido.....	419,484	572,714	1,092,574	643,090	519,860	8.68
Alemania.....	1,702,456	2,923,942	3,713,587	2,011,131	789,645	29.53
Francia.....	1,103,360	771,916	1,328,716	225,347	556,800	10.56
España.....	43,417	93,732	127,777	84,360	34,045	1.02
Italia.....	80,873	50,842	115,520	34,647	64,678	.92
Bélgica.....	4,443	5,189	6,102	1,659	913	.06
Cuba.....	77,234	47,751	36,752	b 40,482	b 10,999	.29
Puerto Rico.....	16,123	32,036	76,118	59,995	43,182	.60
Otros países.....	69,671	73,480	104,784	35,113	31,304	.83
Total.....	9,632,926	10,601,815	12,577,317			100.00

^a Véanse las relaciones en tablas en el resumen propiamente dicho. Debe advertirse que las cifras no son completas. No se anotaron varias transacciones que se hicieron por conducto del correo, en obsequio de la seguridad, conveniencia y economía.

^b Disminución.

ANÁLISIS.

IMPORTACIONES.

Géneros de algodón.

Valor, 1907.....	\$1,218,679
Aumento sobre 1906.....	82,321
Aumento sobre 1905.....	665,905

Los géneros y otros efectos de algodón constituyeron los principales productos entre las importaciones dominicanas, y son los que muestran el mayor aumento en el valor como consecuencia del hecho de que las condiciones generales del país han mejorado mucho. Los géneros de algodón constituyen uno de los artículos de primera necesidad de los hijos del país. El valor, según factura, de los géneros de algodón que se importaron el año pasado, excedió de la cuarta parte del valor total de todas las clases de mercancías que se importaron al país durante dicho período. Se mostró un constante aumento en dicho valor, por más que, sin duda, el valor verdadero de las mercancías era mayor que el que se había indicado en las facturas. Es costumbre entre los importadores menospreciar este ramo de artículo al efectuar su entrada en la República, pues si bien es verdad que el valor no altera la cantidad de derechos de aduana que sobre los mismos puede recaudarse, no es menos cierto que el precio del papel sellado del Gobierno que se requiere para efectuar el debido despacho por las aduanas se rebaja en proporción con la rebaja en el valor declarado. Se advierte un aumento considerable en el valor principalmente de las muselinas y driles respecto de los años anteriores. Más de un 90 por ciento del comercio en géneros

de algodón se hizo con Inglaterra y los Estados Unidos, y en 1907 el primero de estos dos países sobrepujo á los Estados Unidos en este comercio, por más que anteriormente de este último país se importaba la mayor parte de esta clase de géneros.

Artículos de hierro y acero.

Valor, 1907.....	\$437, 707
Aumento sobre 1906.....	63, 507
Aumento sobre 1905.....	133, 548

Como sucedió en años anteriores, los Estados Unidos continuaron recibiendo como un 70 por ciento del comercio de artículos de hierro y acero, habiendo suministrado á la República Dominicana mercancías de esta clase por valor de \$381,081. El alambre de cerea, que entra libre de derechos, según el arancel dominicano, constituyó el artículo más importante en dicho comercio, puesto que la cantidad que se importó este año excedió en 1,000,000 de libras á la que se embarcó en 1906.

Arroz.

Valor, 1907.....	\$172, 145
Aumento sobre 1906.....	101, 477
Aumento sobre 1905.....	270, 816

Libras en 1907.....	20, 572, 976
Aumento sobre 1906.....	1, 698, 860
Aumento sobre 1905.....	10, 555, 964

De 1905 á la fecha, el consumo de esta substancia alimenticia se ha duplicado. Alemania embarcó como un 80 por ciento de este cereal, por más que casi todo se cultivó en la India y Cochinchina. Debido al trasbordo y al almacenaje en puertos alemanes, aparece que este último país suministra una cantidad mayor de arroz que la que realmente produce y embarca directamente. Los Estados Unidos no suministran más que 1,694,393 libras del precitado producto, lo cual acaso sugiere un campo propicio para desarrollar el comercio entre las dos Repúblicas.

Harina de trigo.

Valor, 1907.....	\$325, 386
Aumento sobre 1906.....	74, 905
Aumento sobre 1905.....	115, 563

Barriles en 1907.....	66, 460
Aumento sobre 1906.....	7, 818
Aumento sobre 1905.....	25, 047

Puede decirse, sin exageración, que los Estados Unidos tuvieron exclusivamente el monopolio de este comercio, y por lo general á la República Dominicana se exportó harina de primera clase. Si se tiene en cuenta que la harina como una substancia alimenticia dominicana sigue en importancia al arroz, su constante aumento en la

importación, á pesar del derecho casi prohibitivo que se le impone, debe considerarse como muy notable. El derecho de importación solamente por barril ascendió á \$5.14; los derechos de muelle, papel sellado y derechos municipales ascienden á 50 centavos por barril; el flete de Nueva York en la actualidad asciende á 75 centavos por barril. Si esta cantidad se agrega al precio aproximado de \$4.50, y se incluyó el costo de seguro y el de acarreo que asciende á 11 centavos, resulta que el costo de un barril de harina puesto en Santo Domingo asciende á \$11.

Vinos.

Valor, 1907.....	\$305,581
Aumento sobre 1906.....	89,353
Aumento sobre 1905.....	167,386

Los Estados Unidos suministraron como la mitad del valor de la carne y los productos de lecherías que se consumieron durante el período de referencia, y que ascendió á \$154,235. Alemania obtuvo más de la tercera parte de dicho comercio, que representó un valor de \$116,550. En 1906 Puerto Rico hizo su primera propuesta por este negocio, y durante dicho año embarcó pequeñas cantidades de tasajo. Sin embargo; en 1907 la isla vecina suministró 299,070 libras de tasajo, cuyo valor según factura ascendió á \$19,781. De los Estados Unidos se importaron manteca, jamones y tocino por valor de \$95,000; de Alemania se importaron queso y mantequilla por valor de \$112,000. Debido á las condiciones de embarque y á las compras de dichas substancias alimenticias en el mercado de Hamburgo, una gran cantidad de mantequilla y queso se ha considerado como procedente del Imperio Alemán, habiendo procedido realmente de Flandes. Á causa del derecho prohibitivo que se le impone á las carnes en latas, el consumo de éstas resulta insignificante.

Aceites.

Valor 1907.....	\$268,197
Aumento sobre 1906.....	50,738
Aumento sobre 1905.....	112,263

Los aceites para el alumbrado, lubricación y aceites de semillas de algodón, cuyo valor según factura ascendió á \$239,446, representaron la mayor proporción de los importados. El valor total de los aceites de olivo importados de España ascendió á \$11,957, ó sea un aumento de \$9,944 respecto de 1905.

Artículos de fibras vegetales.

Valor 1907.....	\$170,316
Aumento sobre 1906.....	21,289
Aumento sobre 1905.....	84,595

El notable aumento en el valor de las importaciones de estos artículos se debió principalmente á las considerables importaciones de sacos pesados que se usaron para colocar el azúcar, cacao y café para la exportación. En 1907 se importaron 712,124 sacos á un promedio de precio de factura de \$17 por cada 100 sacos. Al costo original debe añadirse un derecho de importación de \$0.026 por saco, lo cual eleva el precio de cada saco á \$0.196 para los exportadores de los precitados productos del país.

En la actualidad en la República no se recogen las fibras vegetales, por más que la "cabulla," planta fibrosa de la familia de las cactus, crece silvestre y en gran abundancia en muchos distritos. La fibra que se extrae de esta planta se usa con provecho en otros países en la fabricación de sacos y géneros de hacer sacos, y con el aumento de producción de artículos dominicanos que solicitan salida en mercados extranjeros, los datos estadísticos que anteceden sugieren un campo propicio para la fabricación doméstica de envases.

Pescado salado y producto de la pesca.

Valor 1907.....	\$162,234
Aumento sobre 1906.....	30,757
Aumento sobre 1905.....	48,100

Este ramo de negocio lo hacen exclusivamente los Estados Unidos. En 1907 el valor de las ventas de bacalao y areneones ascendió como á \$147,000.

Madera y artículos de madera.

Valor, 1907.....	\$159,087
Aumento sobre 1906.....	48,162
Aumento sobre 1905.....	62,905

La mayor parte de la madera y artículos de madera se importaron de los Estados Unidos, pues en 1907 este último país suministró maderas y artículos de maderas por valor de \$141,731, que se distribuyeron de la manera siguiente: Pino labrado, \$76,148; pino sin labrar, \$17,328; muebles, \$21,689; boeoyes abatidos, \$10,974, y barriles vacíos y otros artículos de madera representaron el resto de dicha cantidad. Alemania le suministró á las fábricas de fósforos dominicanas los palitos ya preparados para hacer los fósforos, así como cajas para la venta al por menor, y en 1907 el valor de estos artículos excedió de \$10,000.

Cuero y artículos de cuero.

Valor, 1907.....	\$139,133
Aumento sobre 1906.....	20,554
Aumento sobre 1905.....	66,169

El valor del calzado de todas elases importado de los Estados Unidos ascendió á \$83,324, y el de los cueros para palas á \$26,525.

El valor de los artículos de esta clase, procedentes de todos los demás países, fué relativamente pequeño. Por ejemplo, Inglaterra suministró artículos de cuero de varias clases por valor de \$8,989; Alemania representó \$5,678; Francia, \$5,060, y España, \$2,209. El hecho de que recientemente se estableció en Santo Domingo, capital de la República Dominicana, una fábrica de calzado que cuenta con toda la maquinaria y elementos modernos necesarios en dicha industria, y que hace un calzado bastante bueno, constituye un síntoma muy alentador. La República produce cueros magníficos, puesto que el ganado vacuno se cría y engorda admirablemente en los abundantes pastos naturales que encuentran en la isla.

Azúcar y confiterías.

Valor 1907.....	\$80,161
Aumento sobre 1906.....	23,203
Aumento sobre 1905.....	53,564

Por una ley del Congreso Nacional promulgada en diciembre de 1904, se le impuso un derecho de medio centavo por libra al azúcar ó cualquier artículo en cuya fabricación el azúcar constituya el ingrediente principal. Antes de dicha ley el impuesto sobre el azúcar de refino era $7\frac{3}{8}$ de centavos por libra y $18\frac{1}{2}$ centavos por libra sobre los productos de las confiterías. El efecto de esta rebaja se advierte fácilmente, comparando las cifras que anteceden y teniendo presente que transcurrieron necesariamente algunos meses después de sancionada la ley, antes de que se recibieran mayores importaciones de esta clase de artículos. Los Estados Unidos suministraron como un 70 por ciento de este ramo del comercio, mayormente azúcares refinados, en tanto que Europa suministró el resto de las órdenes, que consistieron principalmente de dulces y siropes de todas clases.

Substancias químicas, drogas y tinturas.

Valor 1907.....	\$79,260
Aumento sobre 1906.....	14,108
Aumento sobre 1905.....	21,010

Las medicinas denominadas de patente representaron una gran proporción de dichas importaciones. Por ejemplo, se importó una gran cantidad de aceite de hígado de bacalao, por el hecho de haberse permitido la entrada libre de derechos de dicho aceite y de las preparaciones que lo contenían.

Cerveza en botellas.

Valor 1907.....	72,426
Aumento sobre 1906.....	13,415
Aumento sobre 1905.....	33,274
Botellas..... docenas.....	48,127
Aumento sobre 1906..... do.....	8,028
Aumento sobre 1905..... do.....	22,564

La cerveza alemana es la que tiene más aceptación en la República. De la cantidad que arriba se expresa y que en 1907 se recibió de todos los países, Alemania suministró 38,652 docenas de botellas, valuadas en \$59,415.

Sombreros y cachuchas de todas clases.

Valor 1907.....	\$64,381
Aumento sobre 1906.....	37,149
Baja respecto de 1905.....	1,149

Por el resumen que antecede se verá que el comercio de sombreros y cachuchas, que en 1906 sufrió una pérdida tan grande, en comparación con 1905, se restableció casi por completo en 1907. Italia, que representa un papel tan importante en el abastecimiento de esta clase de artículos en el mundo, tuvo como antes el predominio de este comercio con la República, y en 1907 le suministró sombreros de todas clases por valor de \$49,670, en tanto que Francia sólo le vendió sombreros y cachuchas por valor de \$7,677 y los Estados Unidos por valor de \$3,603.

Legumbres.

Valor, 1907.....	\$45,580
Baja respecto de 1906.....	3,858
Aumento sobre 1905.....	16,231

Del valor de las importaciones de productos norteamericanos, en 1907 las legumbres representaron más de \$22,000, y consistieron mayormente de frijoles, papas, y cebollas en su estado natural. En la República Dominicana siempre hay demanda de estos tres productos, pues los agricultores dominicanos le han consagrado muy poca atención al cultivo de ellos, y los mercaderes dependen casi por completo del extranjero para obtener el debido abastecimiento. Tanto el suelo como el clima de la República se adaptan admirablemente para el cultivo de legumbres en general, y si se empleasen las semillas adecuadas y adoptasen los métodos debidos, la República Dominicana podría exportar en vez de importar legumbres.

En 1907 el valor de las legumbres en latas que se importaron ascendió á \$1,188. Según antes se ha anunciado, el derecho que se le impone á dichos comestibles prohíbe que se introduzcan con utilidad, y de esta manera se impide que el pueblo dominicano disfrute de estos importantes comestibles.

Entre los varios grupos que se indican en las tablas adjuntas, sólo se encontrarán tres clases que muestran bajas en el valor ó en la cantidad desde 1906, pero estas clases son de menor importancia, y consisten de cristales y cristalería, gomas, resinas y legumbres en latas.

EXPORTACIONES.

En 1907 las exportaciones principales de productos dominicanos, consideradas desde el punto de vista de su valor declarado, fueron el cacao, azúcar, tabaco, bananos y café. Los artículos que muestran mayores aumentos fueron el cacao y el tabaco, puesto que el primero de éstos ocupó el primer lugar entre las exportaciones, habiendo superado el puesto del azúcar en otros años, en tanto que el tabaco, por más que conservó el tercer puesto en el orden de importancia, muestra un aumento de un 60 por ciento respecto de 1906, y de un 175 por ciento sobre 1905. Este incremento es muy significativo, por cuanto indica que hay muchas posibilidades de éxito en el cultivo y operación de curar el tabaco, á los cuales de aquí en adelante la República debe consagrar la debida atención, puesto que está situada muy cerca de Cuba y posee las ventajas climatológicas que con razón han hecho famosa á esta Isla por su tabaco. De estos cinco productos principales, el único que sufrió una merma en el precio fué el azúcar, pero la cantidad producida fué muy satisfactoria. Casi el único mercado del azúcar dominicano es el de los Estados Unidos, en competencia con otros productos semejantes procedentes de Cuba y Puerto Rico, Islas que disfrutaban de tipos arancelarios especiales.

Cacao (1907).

	País al cual se exportó.		
	Alemania.	Estados Unidos.	Francia.
Libras.....	8,857,442	7,119,693	6,386,620
Valor.....	\$1,187,096	\$936,057	\$895,249

En 1907 se exportaron 22,384,082 libras de cacao. Alemania, los Estados Unidos y Francia compraron prácticamente toda la cosecha, como se verá por las cifras que anteceden. Como sucedió en años anteriores, Alemania fué la nación que más compró, y después siguen los Estados Unidos. Si bien es verdad que los embarques de cacao no fueron tan grandes como en 1905 y en 1906, el hecho es que los agricultores obtuvieron mejores ganancias en la inversión de su capital y en sus labores, debido, en parte, á la calidad del producto, pero sobre todo á los precios que obtuvieron en los mercados. Una prolongada sequía causó una rebaja de 10,000,000 de libras en la producción total. Como es natural, la pérdida parcial de la cosecha de cacao en otros países produjo su efecto en el valor que dicho producto obtuvo en los mercados. El promedio de los precios en 1905 y 1906 fué \$7.67 y \$7.07, respectivamente, contra \$13.35 en 1907. Estas cotizaciones están basadas en el quintal, ó sean 100 libras. Los precios continúan subiendo con una demanda creciente, lo cual estimula

á los cultivadores á aumentar el área de sus cultivos. Si se sostienen los precios en el mercado, los extranjeros deben venir á la República Dominicana y ocuparse en la lucrativa industria del cacao.

Al cacao, así como á los demás productos dominicanos, le hace falta un buen cultivo, y cuando se comprenda por completo este hecho, y se aplique al debido remedio, dicho producto ocupará el puesto que merece entre los países productores de cacao del mundo. Á continuación se cita un comentario pertinente que apareció en una reciente edición del Boletín Comercial Oficial de la Cámara de Comercio de Londres, reproducido de la revista alemana intitulada "Gordian," consagrada á la industria del cacao:

La República Dominicana merece que se le consagre especial atención, puesto que el cacao que produce ha de constituir un factor importante de la producción del mundo en el inmediato porvenir. Durante este último año se ha aumentado el número de fincas dedicadas al cultivo del cacao. Si se tiene en cuenta que en la República Dominicana hay extensas áreas de terrenos propicios para el cultivo del cacao, es lógico suponer que su producción aumentará considerablemente antes de mucho tiempo.

Azúcar.

	1907.	1906.	1905.
Toneladas exportadas.....	54,100	61,700	52,986
Valores.....	\$2,090,679	\$2,392,496	\$3,292,470
Promedio del precio por tonelada.....	\$38.80	\$38.77	\$62.14

En 1907 la industria azucarera fué la que mostró un estado menos favorable de los cuatro grandes productos de exportación dominicanos. En primer lugar, este hecho puede atribuirse al bajo precio de \$39 por tonelada, que ha prevalecido desde 1906, y además, la merma en la producción también ha contribuído á la baja en el precio. El buen precio de \$62.14 por tonelada, que prevaleció en 1905, aumentó naturalmente el valor total de las exportaciones de aquel año, en tanto que la pequeña producción de 7,600 toneladas en 1907, que fueron consignadas en 1906, también afectaron el resultado total. El año pasado los Estados Unidos compraron 45,336 toneladas y el Reino Unido compró 8,464 toneladas.

Tabaco.

	1907.	1906.	1905.	Aumento sobre 1906.	Aumento sobre 1905.
Libras.....	21,802,982	14,965,799	11,510,762	5,837,183	10,292,220
Valor.....	\$1,341,233	\$837,057	\$480,487	\$504,170	\$800,754
Promedio de precio por 100 libras.....	\$6.15	\$5.00	\$4.17		

En 1907 se echó de ver una notable actividad en las exportaciones de tabaco. La producción de tabaco en 1907 aumentó casi un 100 por ciento respecto de 1905, y también de una manera notable respecto

de 1906. Á medida que la producción ha sido mayor, los precios también han subido en proporción con los que se obtuvieron en 1905 y 1906. Según sucedió anteriormente, Alemania representó el único comprador importante de tabaco dominicano, habiendo comprado más de un 95 por ciento de la cantidad exportada.

Bananos.

Racimos:	
1907.....	640,000
1906.....	668,100
1905.....	514,033

Las fincas de cultivo de bananos que la "United Fruit Company" posee en las cercanías de Puerto Plata, en 1907 continuaron produciendo la misma cantidad de fruta que el año anterior, habiéndose notado sólo una pequeña merma. Todos los bananos que se exportaron fueron consignados á los Estados Unidos al precio uniforme de 50 centavos por racimo.

Café. 1907.

Comprado por:	Libros.
Francia.....	1,243,206
Alemania.....	950,747
Estados Unidos.....	811,612

En el año de referencia los embarques de cacao en conjunto ascendieron á \$3,376,970 de libras, cuyo valor, según factura, ascendió á \$252,390. Francia compró más de la tercera parte de la cantidad total, y sus compras de este excelente producto dominicano mostraron un aumento de más de 100 por ciento. En 1907 aparecieron dos nuevos mercados para el café dominicano, á saber, el de Italia y el de España. Á Italia se exportaron 64,327 libras y á España 52,459 libras. Dos terceras partes, aproximadamente, del café exportado á España y á Italia se embarcó en el Puerto de Barahona. Dícese de una manera autorizada que á petición del Vaticano, éste comenzó el año pasado á consumir con regularidad el café de Barahona, habiendo el Arzobispo de Santo Domingo enviado al Vaticano una remesa especial de dicho producto.

ARTÍCULOS DIVERSOS.

Por más que de 91 por ciento del comercio de exportación que hizo la República Dominicana en 1907 está comprendido en los productos hasta a hora enumerados, se advierten aumentos en las ventas al extranjero de muchos productos menores, tales como cueros de cabras y vacunos, miel de abeja, maderas de tinte, guayacán, etc. En la exportación de estos artículos diversos, se notó un aumento de \$40,000 tanto respecto de 1905 como de 1906.

NACIONALIDADES DE LOS BUQUES.

Considerados en conjunto, los buques americanos y alemanes continúan conduciendo á la República Dominicana como un 86 por ciento de todas las importaciones. En 1907 se recibieron cargamentos por valor de \$2,804,605, ó sea un 54 por ciento de todas las importaciones, los cuales vinieron en buques norteamericanos; y \$1,629,715, ó sea un 32 por ciento, vinieron en buques alemanes. Los buques franceses y noruegos no están mayormente representados en este comercio, pero no obstante, mostraron un aumento como de un 100 por ciento en sus negocios de transporte desde 1906. En 1906 se trajeron mercancías por valor de \$272,111 en buques franceses, y en 1907 se trajeron también en buques franceses mercancías por valor de \$426,281, habiéndose recibido cargamentos en buques noruegos, cuyo valor en 1906 ascendió á \$55,421, contra \$102,028 en 1907. Todos los demás cargamentos se distribuyeron entre buques ingleses, cubanos, españoles, dominicanos y holandeses, como puede verse examinando las tablas adjuntas.

Los buques americanos y alemanes transportaron más de dos terceras partes de las exportaciones que se hicieron en 1907, por cuanto cada nacionalidad obtuvo una parte casi igual del comercio de transporte. La parte que transportaron los buques alemanes fué un poco mayor que la que transportaron los buques americanos en 1906, pero en 1907 este orden se invirtió, pues los buques americanos condujeron productos por valor de \$2,596,464, en tanto que los alemanes condujeron mercancías por valor de \$2,538,631. Los buques franceses y noruegos transportaron mercancías por valor de \$895,000, aproximadamente, en tanto que el resto de las mercancías lo transportaron buques ingleses, holandeses, dominicanos y cubanos, habiéndose valuado dicho resto en \$600,959, \$44,430, \$33,722 y \$30,962, durante el año de referencia, en el orden mencionado.

En la sección inglesa del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, en la página 776, se publican las tablas detalladas que comprenden el valor del comercio de importación y exportación de la República.

RATIFICACIÓN DE LAS CONVENCIONES SOBRE PROPIEDAD LITERARIA Y ARTÍSTICA Y SOBRE DERECHO INTERNACIONAL.

El día 15 de junio de 1907, la República Dominicana ratificó la Convención sobre Propiedad Literaria y Artística que la Segunda Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos celebró en la Ciudad de México el 27 de enero de 1902, y la Convención sobre Derecho Internacional, que fué firmada en Río de Janeiro el 23 de agosto de 1906 por los delegados de la Tercera Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos. En la "Gaceta Oficial" de la República correspondiente al 5 y 12 de octubre de 1907, respectivamente, se publicaron los decretos por virtud de los cuales se promulgaron las ratificaciones de estas convenciones.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 818 aparece la última relación en detalle del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de febrero de 1908, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los ocho meses que terminaron en febrero de 1908, comparados con igual período de 1907. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de febrero, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta abril.

SERVICIO DE VAPORES CORREOS QUE HAGAN LA TRAVESÍA Á LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

Como una medida importante encaminada á poner los Estados Unidos en relaciones comerciales más íntimas con la América del Sur, el texto de la siguiente ley, que fué sancionada por el Senado de los Estados Unidos el 20 de marzo de 1908, y que se espera que también sea aprobada por la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos, merece especial atención:

LEY

Que tiene por objeto enmendar la Ley del 3 de marzo de 1901 intitulada "Ley que tiene por objeto suministrar los medios necesarios para establecer un servicio de correo marítimo entre los Estados Unidos y puertos extranjeros y fomentar el comercio."

Se resuelve por el Senado y la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos de América, reunidos en Congreso, Que por la presente se autoriza al Director General de Correos para que pague por el servicio de correo marítimo con arreglo á la Ley de 3 de marzo de 1891, en buques de segunda clase que hagan la travesía á la América del Sur, Filipinas, el Japón, China y Australasia, es decir, una distancia de cuatro mil ó más millas de longitud en el viaje de ida, á un tipo por milla que no exceda del tipo aplicable á los buques de primera clase, según se prescribe en la expresada Ley, y en buques de tercera clase que hagan dicha travesía, á un tipo por milla que no exceda del tipo aplicable á los buques de segunda clase, según se prescribe en dicha Ley: Quedando entendido, Que si no se celebra ningún contrato en conformidad con los preceptos de esta Ley para

el establecimiento de una línea de buques que corran entre un puerto situado en la costa del Atlántico al sur del Cabo Charles y puertos de la América del Sur, el Director General de Correos exigirá, con tal que se establezcan dos ó más líneas desde los puertos del Norte del Atlántico, que uno de dichos buques en cada viaje de ida y vuelta haga escala por lo menos en dos puertos de la costa del Atlántico al sur del Cabo Charles, teniéndose en cuenta, al hacer la elección de dichos puertos de escala, la situación geográfica y la cantidad de los negocios de exportación é importación que se hagan por los puertos que así se elijan: *Quedando entendido, además,* Que el gasto total del servicio de correo extranjero de cualquier año no excederá de la asignación que se haga para dicho año.

Sancionada por el Senado el 20 de marzo de 1908.

GUATEMALA.

EL MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE ESTRADA CABRERA.

Documento lleno de interés y que pone en realce el estado de progreso de que goza Guatemala, es el mensaje que el Presidente ESTRADA CABRERA presentó á la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa en la apertura de sus sesiones ordinarias de 1908 el 1º de marzo. El Presidente comienza su mensaje hablando de la paz y progreso que reinaron durante el año, y de la tranquilidad pública que ha ido acentuándose de día á día sobre la base del acatamiento al derecho y del estímulo al trabajo.

Según el mensaje, las relaciones internacionales siguieron cultivándose con el mayor esmero, siendo la mútua cordialidad y el respeto recíproco los medios más eficaces de su ensanche y desarrollo. Hablando de la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana, el Presidente CABRERA dice:

Acontecimiento de la mayor importancia fué sin duda alguna la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana celebrada en Washington. * * * El Señor Ministro del Ramo dará cuenta oportuna de las convenciones que se firmaron á la Honorable Asamblea, y no dudo que os serviréis considerarlas con el interés que merecen, no sólo por lo que atañe á garantizar y consolidar la paz en Centro América, sino por intervención amistosa de los Gobiernos que tomaron la iniciativa y á la que el Gobierno de Guatemala directamente y por medio de sus delegados ha debido corresponder con la lealtad y franqueza que informan todos sus actos, y muy especialmente por el respeto con que ha cumplido siempre sus compromisos y pactos internacionales.

En el párrafo siguiente el Señor ESTRADA CABRERA hace mención de la inauguración del Ferrocarril Interoceánico de Guatemala diciendo:

Tenemos que agradecer á los cultos Gobiernos con quienes Guatemala mantiene relaciones, un nuevo acto de exquisita cortesía y deferencia. El acontecimiento más plausible para nosotros, no sólo del anterior año constitucional, sino de nuestra vida

independiente, es la inauguración del Ferrocarril Interoceánico de Guatemala, suceso que tuvo lugar en presencia de los Excelentísimos Señores Representantes de las naciones amigas. Todo el Cuerpo Diplomático se sirvió dar con su asistencia mayor solemnidad al acto, habiéndose dignado acreditar delegaciones especiales los Gobiernos de los Estados Unidos de América, de México, de Panamá y de nuestras cuatro hermanas las Repúblicas del Istmo Centroamericano.

El mensaje da cuenta de los congresos internacionales en los que tomó participación la República, que fueron los siguientes: Segunda Conferencia Internacional de la Paz, celebrada en La Haya á mediados de 1907; Conferencia Sanitaria Internacional Americana reunida en México á principios de diciembre de 1907; Congreso Internacional de Higiene y Demografía de Berlín; Conferencia Internacional de la Cruz Roja reunida en Londres; Congreso Zoológico Internacional de Boston; Congreso Internacional Dermatológico de Nueva York; Décimoquinto Congreso de Irrigación celebrado en Sacramento, California; Conferencia Internacional sobre Unidades y Modelos Eléctricos, en Inglaterra; Décimosexto Junta Anual de la Asociación de Cirujanos Militares celebrada en la Exposición de Jamestown, Norfolk; también se han nombrado representantes para la Junta Internacional de Jurisconsultos que preparará dos proyectos de Códigos de Derecho Internacional público y privado, en Río de Janeiro.

Hablando del conflicto entre Honduras y Nicaragua, el Presidente dice que no afectó la neutralidad ni las buenas relaciones que Guatemala cultiva con aquéllas Repúblicas ni con las demás hermanas del Istmo, habiendo tomado especial empeño el Gobierno en evitarlo, tanto por sí sólo como conjuntamente con los Presidentes de México y de los Estados Unidos, y que "es de esperarse que en lo sucesivo no volverá á alterarse la tranquilidad si se tienen en cuenta los pactos celebrados en Washington para afianzar la paz de Centro América, máxime si se atiende á la circunspección y á la buena fé internacional de los Gobiernos que invitaron para la celebración de la Conferencia, como son los de los Estados Unidos de América y de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos."

Las rentas públicas produjeron en el año de 1907 un total de 35,297,822.67 pesos, con un aumento de 10,297,822.67 pesos sobre la cantidad presupuesta por la Asamblea Legislativa. Los gastos hechos en los diversos ramos administrativos ascendieron á 21,860,196.12 pesos, habiéndose destinado además á hacer frente á las atenciones del crédito público la suma de 22,700,025.99 pesos, con lo que el total de lo pagado en el año de 1907 se eleva á 44,560,222.11 pesos. El resultado obtenido es, según el mensaje, de lo más satisfactorio, sobre todo si se tiene en cuenta que se alcanzó sin modificación de los impuestos.

El ramo de instrucción pública fué objeto de la atención especial del Gobierno. El 8 de marzo de 1907 se autorizó á la Secretaría de Instrucción Pública para que nombrase una comisión para preparar un proyecto de reformas á la ley del ramo, á efecto de hacer exten-



VISTA DE UNA SECCIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL TRANSCONTINENTAL DE GUATEMALA, RECIENTEMENTE ABIERTA AL TRÁFICO INTEROCEÁNICO

SCENE ON THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAY OF GUATEMALA, RECENTLY OPENED FOR INTEROCEANIC TRAFFIC.



ASUNCION, LA CAPITAL DEL PARAGUAY, UNO DE LOS MUNICIPIOS MAS ANTIGUOS DEL NUEVO MUNDO.

ASUNCIÓN, CAPITAL OF PARAGUAY, ONE OF THE OLDEST MUNICIPALITIES IN THE NEW WORLD.

sivo á todo el país el sistema de enseñanza práctica que con tan buenos resultados se ha ensayado en la capital de la República. Se espera que esta comisión dará fin á su trabajo dentro de breve tiempo. El 21 de noviembre se inauguraron en casi toda la República los edificios destinados á las escuelas prácticas de varones, las cuales comenzarán á funcionar en el presente año, tan pronto como se reciban los materiales de escuela que se han pedido al extranjero y cuyo valor asciende á \$50,000 oro americano.

El Gobierno dedicó atención preferente al desarrollo de la agricultura, dictando cuantas medidas juzgó necesarias para el fomento de la producción, con el fin llegar al perfeccionamiento de la principal y más lucrativa ocupación á que se consagra una gran mayoría de los guatemaltecos. Como resultado de estas medidas, la producción agrícola de 1907 tuvo un aumento considerable sobre el movimiento habido en las importaciones, por lo que en la introducción de arroz, maíz, patatas y trigo, quedó al país una economía de \$82,000 oro americano.

El algodón, el henequén, la escobilla, la famosa bromelia, llamada en Guatemala "pita floja," el ramié, la coca, el abacá ó plátano de Manila, y las diversas clases y variedades de hule constituyen, según el mensaje, una esperanza bien fundada para el desarrollo de la agricultura nacional. Para la enseñanza práctica de la agricultura, se dispuso por acuerdo del 21 de febrero de 1907 el establecimiento de una quinta normal, y se tiene el propósito de crear estaciones para cultivos que puedan aprovecharse.

Por acuerdo de 1º de julio de 1907 se creó la Dirección General de Minería, Industrias y Comercio, la cual inició sus trabajos formando una importante colección de minerales metálicos y materiales útiles para la construcción, para la marmolería, la cerámica y la ornamentación. Esta colección figuró en la Exposición Nacional celebrada en la capital y clausurada el 9 de febrero, en donde llamó mucho la atención y demostró que suelo de Guatemala iguala en riquezas minerales á cualquier otro país bien dotado por naturaleza. Pronto será emitido el nuevo Código de Minería, que vendrá á favorecer el desarrollo de tan importante industria.

Por lo que respecta al comercio, el mensaje dice que se proyecta la fundación de una cámara de comercio que esté al nivel de las instituciones de la misma naturaleza establecidas en las naciones más avanzadas.

Con el fin de impulsar el desarrollo de la piscicultura, industria nueva en el país, por decreto de 23 de agosto de 1907, se estableció una estación de piscicultura en el Lago Amatitlán, cuyos resultados hasta la fecha han sido muy satisfactorios.

Las obras públicas recibieron un impulso extraordinario durante el año de 1907, habiéndose terminado la construcción de varios

caminos públicos y continuándose con actividad los trabajos en otros varios; pusieron al servicio público varios importantes puentes, y quedaron terminados varios edificios públicos en la capital y en varios pueblos de la República; también se completaron las obras de abastecimiento de aguas en varias ciudades.

Los servicios de telégrafos y teléfonos fueron mejorados durante el año, construyéndose nuevas líneas y reconstruyéndose otras; también se establecieron nuevas oficinas telegráficas y telefónicas en los lugares que así lo exigía el buen servicio.

El Gobierno procuró por todos los medios á su alcance que el servicio de correos llegará al mayor grado de adelanto y perfeccionamiento. El producto por derechos de fardos postales ascendió durante el año de 1907 á la cantidad de 155,393.86 pesos, habiendo un aumento de 70,799 en comparación con lo que esa renta produjo en 1906.

Las compañías ferrocarrileras, de agencias y de muelles, establecidas en el país, prestaron sus respectivos servicios sin interrupción, y recibieron el apoyo y la protección del Gobierno.

El 21 de noviembre se inauguró un ramal de línea férrea que comunica la estación de Palogordo con el pueblo de San Antonio Suchitepéquez, y en la misma fecha se dió principio á los trabajos del ferrocarril que unirá San Andrés Villaseca con San Francisco Zapotitlán.

HONDURAS.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1906-7.

El Señor WILLIAM E. ALGER, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Tegucigalpa, anuncia que el valor de todas las exportaciones que se hicieron de la República de Honduras en el período de doce meses transcurrido de agosto de 1906 á julio de 1907, que es el año económico de la República, ascendió á \$2,012,409.69 en oro americano, en tanto que el valor de las importaciones ascendió á \$2,331,516.96.

Los Estados Unidos representan el factor principal tanto en las exportaciones como en las importaciones de dicho país, por cuanto el valor de las importaciones que hizo del mismo ascendió á \$1,561,855.05, en tanto que el de las exportaciones ascendió á \$1,807,952.55.

El valor de las importaciones en el año económico anterior ascendió á \$2,511,610, en tanto que el de las exportaciones ascendió á \$2,877,743, habiendo comprado los Estados Unidos productos hondureños por valor de \$2,204,692, y habiéndole vendido mercancías por valor de \$1,896,204.

El valor de las mercancías procedentes de Honduras que recibieron otros países en 1907 fué el siguiente:

Guatemala.....	\$64,912.37
Cuba.....	55,861.30
Alemania.....	50,756.47
Belice.....	11,952.13
Salvador.....	10,758.99
Gran Bretaña.....	9,611.57
Nicaragua.....	1,484.44
Costa Rica.....	126.85

Las importaciones, excepto las que se hicieron de los Estados Unidos, procedieron de los siguientes países:

Gran Bretaña.....	\$269,556.65
Alemania.....	209,089.47
Francia.....	110,425.88
Belice.....	63,404.17
Salvador.....	36,173.84
Nicaragua.....	31,849.62
España.....	23,501.68
Italia.....	8,199.40
Cuba.....	5,000.00
Ecuador.....	2,080.00
Bélgica.....	1,734.59
China.....	1,207.00
Austria.....	1,134.73
México.....	1,030.00
Guatemala.....	960.00
Puerto Rico.....	787.00
Escocia.....	229.45
Suecia.....	126.00
Holanda.....	86.62
Hungría.....	46.56
Japón.....	39.25
Panamá.....	20.60

Los bananos constituyen el principal producto de exportación, habiéndose exportado 4,266,567, valuados en \$930,916.36. Siguen en el orden de importancia los minerales, valuados en \$444,332.61, y después el ganado vivo, valuado en \$136,016.31; la plata en barra, por valor de \$132,168.24; los cueros, \$66,313.89; los cocos, \$62,760.25 maderas de tinte y de construcción, \$41,268.14, y goma por valor de \$38,745.25.

MÉXICO.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE DÍAZ.

El Mensaje que el Jefe Ejecutivo de México envió al inaugurarse el cuarto período de las sesiones del Congreso vigésimotercero, el día 1.º de abril de 1908, es un valioso resumen de las condiciones económicas que prevalecieron en todos los ámbitos de la República en aquella fecha, así como una reseña de los asuntos públicos desde la última relación semejante que hizo el Presidente en septiembre de 1907.

El Presidente hace constar que las relaciones extranjeras de la República son satisfactorias, y que en la mayor parte de los casos una amistad sincera caracteriza dichas relaciones.

Respecto de la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana el Presidente Díaz dijo lo siguiente:

Esta Conferencia revistió un interés especial para nosotros, tanto porque en ella tomó parte nuestro Embajador en Washington, de común acuerdo con un Comisionado del Gobierno Americano, como por el hecho de que proporcionó una ocasión propicia para demostrarles á las Repúblicas de la América Central, que México se interesa profundamente en todo lo que á ellas concierne, identificándose— como efectivamente lo hace— con la independencia, la paz y el progreso de todos los países del Nuevo Mundo. No cabe duda de que á la influencia de este espíritu debemos la visita que nos hicieron los Delegados de Honduras y Nicaragua que representaron á sus respectivos gobiernos en la expresada Conferencia, y el primero de los cuales estaba investido con el carácter de Ministro Plenipotenciario en México, habiendo como tal celebrado con el Gobierno tratados de amistad y extradiciones que se someterán á la consideración del Congreso.

El Presidente hace comentarios sobre el estado satisfactorio del arreglo de las reclamaciones venezolanas, y acerca de las condiciones de la concesión de la Bahía de Magdalena dijo lo siguiente:

“El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos pidió permiso para establecer dos buques carboneros en la Bahía de Magdalena para el servicio de su Escuadrón del Pacífico, por un período de cinco años. De acuerdo con la Constitución se le presentó al Senado un proyecto de la ley sobre la materia, limitando á tres años, sin embargo, el período de dicho privilegio, y estableciendo el principio de estricta reciprocidad en cuanto atañe á México, puesto que se juzgó que sobre dicha base, en tanto que por una parte se prestaba un servicio, á una nación amiga, por otra parte la República no recibía ningún daño, sino que antes bien obtenía un privilegio que algún día podía serle útil. La opinión del Senado coincidió con la del Jefe Ejecutivo, y el permiso fué concedido bajo las condiciones mencionadas.”

En dicho mensaje se hace favorable mención de los Tratados de Arbitraje que están á punto de celebrarse con el Gobierno de Washington, y del arreglo equitativo y amistoso de los asuntos de controversia entre los dos gobiernos.

El 27 de septiembre de 1907, los Delegados de la nación á la Conferencia de La Haya hicieron saber la aceptación de México de la

Declaración de París de 16 de abril de 1865, en cuanto á ciertos puntos especiales de derecho marítimo, incluso la abolición de las patentes de corso, habiéndose firmado también otras convenciones, con excepción de una que se refería á la descarga de proyectiles y de explosivos violentos de de los globos.

Estas convenciones, así como un tratado de extradición que se celebró recientemente con los Países Bajos, serán sometidos á la consideración del Senado para que resuelva lo que juzgue conveniente.

El continuado progreso del desarrollo del comercio extranjero de México ha hecho necesaria la reorganización del servicio consular, habiéndose agregado una nueva oficina al Departamento de Relaciones Exteriores, la cual tendrá á su cargo los asuntos administrativos del servicio.

Las condiciones sanitarias de la costa no pueden ser mejores. En conformidad con las resoluciones de la Segunda Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos, en diciembre de 1907, se celebró en la Capital La Tercera Convención Sanitaria, habiendo estado representadas las siguientes naciones: Brasil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, los Estados Unidos, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, Uruguay y México. Uno de los resultados de esta reunión fué el aumento de adhesiones á la Convención Sanitaria que fué firmada en Wáshington en 1905, siendo las nuevas naciones signatarias el Brasil, Colombia y el Uruguay. Las obras sanitarias efectuadas en la Capital incluyen la adición de 2,225 metros de cañerías de cloaca: 7,583 metros de cloacas laterales y 3,760 metros de desagües, al paso que entre otras mejoras municipales, pueden mencionarse las nuevas instituciones de beneficencia y de corrección, jardines y alumbrado públicos, un nuevo mercado, pavimento de nuevas áreas de calles, etc., y mejoras introducidas en los caminos.

En 1907 el valor de las transacciones anotadas en la Oficina de Registro Público de la Capital ascendió á \$448,315,600, en plata, ó como \$224,000,000 en oro, lo cual arroja un sobrante de \$15,000,000 en oro respecto del valor total registrado en el año anterior.

El plazo concedido al Jefe Ejecutivo para efectuar la enmienda del Código Federal de Procedimiento Civil y la publicación de un Código Federal de Procedimiento Penal, y una Ley Orgánica de Ejecución Federal ha sido prorrogado hasta el 31 de diciembre de 1908, y la Comisión encargada de hacer este trabajo está activándolo hasta donde sea compatible con la delicadeza é importancia del asunto.

La República ha mejorado su posición en todos sentidos, en las medidas de instrucción pública, tanto en el país como en el extranjero, habiéndose inaugurado nuevas escuelas é institutos bajo la inspección del Gobierno, y además se tomó parte en el Congreso de Madres que se celebró recientemente en Wáshington, habiéndose también nombrado delegados para que tomen parte en el Congreso de Arquitectos y de

Americanistas que se celebrará en Viena. Se ha invitado á este último cuerpo para que se reúna en México en el año del centenario de la Independencia Nacional.

Una de las principales medidas adoptadas para el fomento de la agricultura fué una ley que colocó bajo el Departamento de Fomento todos los establecimientos de instrucción agrícola, habiendo quedado la Secretaría facultada para reorganizar los métodos de enseñanza agrícola. Así pues, el Colegio Nacional de Agricultura y de Veterinaria inauguró sus clases con nuevos cursos y con 240 estudiantes de toda la República. En conexión con dicho colegio se estableció una granja experimental, y se establecerán estaciones similares en los diferentes estados y territorios para la adquisición de un conocimiento científico de las empresas agrícolas.

Durante el período de julio á diciembre de 1907, se expedieron por la Secretaría de Fomento 3,498 títulos de propiedad que abarcan un área de 357,342 hectáreas de terrenos públicos. En el mismo período se concedieron 3,000 títulos de minas, que comprenden 60,852 pertenencias, siendo estas cifras mayores que las de cualquier otro período. Este hecho es tanto más sorprendente cuanto que la baja del precio de la plata y del cobre produjo la suspensión de trabajos en varias propiedades mineras.

Durante el mismo semestre se emitieron 634 patentes de invención, y se registraron 478 marcas de fábrica.

El trabajo de las inspecciones geodésica y geográfica han continuado dando buenos resultados, y los servicios meteorológicos y astronómicos han sido ensanchados y mejorados.

Hay un crecimiento constante en el número de solicitudes para concesiones para el uso de aguas, bajo la jurisdicción federal, para fines de riego y fuerza motriz. En la primera mitad del año fiscal 1907-8 (julio á diciembre de 1907) se otorgaron 32 concesiones para el uso de 163,000 metros de agua por segundo, para los fines indicados, y se expedieron 37 títulos confirmando derechos previamente adquiridos.

Entre las varias concesiones otorgadas para el establecimiento de nuevas industrias en la República, se hace mención especial de una compañía de fábricas de conservas alimenticias y de alhuacenes refrigeradores, establecida en Uruapan, Estado de Michoacán, la cual empezó á funcionar en enero de 1908. También se otorgaron dos concesiones de pesquerías, y cuatro para la explotación de guano en las islas del Golfo y del Océano Pacífico.

Se están haciendo los preparativos para el levantamiento de un nuevo censo de la República, que se efectuará el 28 de octubre de 1910.

La Secretaría de Comunicaciones informa que la extensión total de ferrocarriles es de 22,822 kilómetros, de los cuales 462 fueron añadidos durante el semestre último de 1907. La jurisdicción fede-

ral sobre las líneas férreas cubre una extensión de 18,386 kilómetros, y los restantes 4,436 kilómetros son de la propiedad de compañías particulares.

Hablando de la consolidación de ferrocarriles, el Presidente dice que una compañía conocida por "Ferrocarriles Nacionales de México" ha sido formada en la capital con el fin de hacerse cargo de la Compañía del Ferrocarril Nacional de México, y de la del Ferrocarril Central.

Los ingresos del Ferrocarril Nacional de Tehuantepec van en crecimiento constante, habiéndose registrado un aumento de \$1,410,000, en moneda mexicana, durante el primer semestre del año fiscal de 1907-8 en comparación con el mismo período del año anterior.

En Puerto México (Coatzacoalcos), Salina Cruz, Manzanillo, Tampico y Mazatlán las obras de puerto y saneamiento continuaron su progreso, en tanto que se han establecido nuevos faros y se han realizado varias mejoras de ríos, con lo que se ha contribuído al mejoramiento de la navegación. Entre Tuxpam y Tampico la extensión navegable del canal es de 115 kilómetros.

El número total de oficinas de correos en el 31 de diciembre de 1907 era de 2,909, de las cuales 25 se establecieron durante el segundo semestre de 1907, y se crearon además 99 agencias y 10 oficinas ambulantes. En comparación con el segundo semestre de 1906, la correspondencia aumentó considerablemente. En el segundo semestre de 1907 el número de piezas que pasaron por los correos fué de 90,000,000, y en el mismo período de 1906 de 86,000,000. Los giros postales interiores tuvieron un aumento de 11 por ciento, habiéndose sido avaluadas en \$24,532,000; los ingresos de correos durante los seis últimos meses de 1907 ascendieron á la cantidad de \$2,135,000, arrojando un aumento de 9 por ciento sobre el mismo período del año anterior.

El primero de enero de 1908 se dictó un decreto concediendo un aumento en el peso de las cartas sin subir el precio del franqueo, medida prescrita con el fin de hacer el sistema interior igual al adoptado en el Congreso de Roma.

Se llama particularmente la atención al estado próspero del Tesoro Nacional, en contraste con la crisis financiera que reinó durante varios meses en el mundo comercial. La baja en el extranjero de los precios de la mayoría de los productos nacionales afectó inevitablemente á muchas industrias del país, pero las medidas dictadas por la Secretaría de Hacienda y la subida reciente de los precios de la plata, del henequén y de otras plantas, contrarrestaron en parte las condiciones desfavorables.

No debe creerse, sin embargo, que las rentas fiscales no serán afectadas por esa crisis económica, pues se ha registrado una disminución en la recaudación de los derechos de importación. Los ingresos de

aduanas en los seis últimos meses de 1907 ascendieron á \$1,000,000, en moneda mexicana, con un aumento sobre los de igual período del año anterior que contrarresta en gran parte las disminuciones subsiguientes que se registran en la recaudación de derechos de importación ó de exportación.

Bajo el encabezamiento de asuntos relativos á la guerra y á la marina, el Presidente Díaz hace referencia á la parte que México tomó en la Exposición de Jamestown, y al hecho de que á la República se le adjudicaron catorce premios de primera clase y cuatro de segunda, por las exhibiciones que hizo. El Presidente también hace comentarios acerca de la cortesía de los Estados Unidos al invitar á los oficiales militares mexicanos para que ingresen en las academias de los Estados Unidos, y acerca de que los superintendentes establecidos en Fort Riley y en Fort Leavenworth hicieron informes satisfactorios relativos á la solicitud ó idoneidad de dichos oficiales militares.

La fortificación de las estaciones terminales de Tehuantepec se ha sometido á la consideración de una comisión de peritos técnicos, y la fábrica de cartuchos nacional ha comenzado ya sus operaciones, habiéndose celebrado un contrato para instalar en la República una planta con el fin de fabricar pólvora sin humo para cañones y armas de fuego menores.

La cantidad de moneda en circulación se ha aumentado continuamente. En el segundo semestre de 1907 se acuñaron \$9,000,000 y \$3,000,000 en monedas de plata de un peso, cantidades que, agregadas á las piezas de níquel y de bronce que se han acuñado, arrojan un total de más de \$111,000,000 de moneda puesta en circulación, contra los \$98,000,000 que se acuñaron anteriormente. También es digno de mención que durante dicho período no se exportó ninguna cantidad considerable de metálico nacional, sino que, al contrario, volvieron al país cerca de 3,000,000 de pesos en plata del extranjero.

De julio á diciembre de 1907, la renta del timbre mostró un aumento de 400,000 pesos en plata, en comparación con el período correspondiente del año anterior, aumento que aunque al parecer es insignificante, resulta notable debido á la rebaja de un 20 por ciento en la contribución federal.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR DURANTE EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907-8.

La Sección de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de la República de México acaba de publicar los datos relativos al comercio exterior de la nación durante los meses de julio á diciembre de 1907, ó sea el primer semestre del año económico de 1907-8, con las cifras correspondientes á igual período de 1906-7, por vía de comparación. Las importaciones tuvieron un valor total de 122,977,698.70 pesos, suma que, comparada con la de 107,746,708.51 pesos en que estuvieron avaluadas las del mismo período del ejercicio anterior, demuestra un aumento de 15,230,999.19 pesos en favor del

corriente. Las exportaciones se avaluaron en la cantidad de 127,786,511.63 pesos que arroja un aumento de 9,902,574.45 pesos al ser comparada con la de 117,883,937.18, á que ascendió el valor de las del mismo trimestre de 1906-7.

Durante el mes de diciembre de 1907 se importaron mercancías extranjeras por valor de 19,574,425.88 pesos, contra 19,799,519.83 pesos en el mismo mes de 1906, ó sea una disminución de 225,093.95 pesos. Las exportaciones hechas durante diciembre de 1907 estuvieron avaluadas en 17,858,489.77 pesos, en comparación con 21,742,267.38 pesos, ó sea una disminución de 3,883,777.61 pesos.

En el siguiente cuadro se indican las clases de mercancías recibidas durante el período que se examina, haciéndose la clasificación de acuerdo con la tarifa de importación vigente en la República: dáuse también las cifras, correspondientes al mismo período de 1906-7, por vía de comparación.

IMPORTACIÓN.

(Valor de factura en moneda mexicana.)

Mercancías.	Seis primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
Materias animales.....	9,294,312.70	10,024,280.17
Materias vegetales.....	16,883,330.21	13,470,379.07
Materias minerales.....	39,946,302.50	37,024,632.70
Tejidos y sus manufacturas.....	15,982,505.65	12,474,206.41
Productos químicos.....	5,488,215.69	4,052,636.88
Bebidas.....	3,721,196.32	3,570,701.38
Papel y sus aplicaciones.....	3,316,815.59	2,978,084.53
Máquinas y aparatos.....	15,839,818.69	13,711,965.38
Vehículos.....	4,735,571.99	4,051,178.94
Armas y explosivos.....	2,034,491.29	2,058,171.83
Diversos.....	5,860,838.07	4,490,411.22
Total importación.....	122,977,098.70	107,746,708.61

Según la clasificación de la nomenclatura de exportación, los productos que se exportaron al extranjero fueron como se detalla á continuación, dándose también las cifras de los seis primeros meses de 1906-7 por comparación:

EXPORTACIÓN.

(Valor de factura en moneda mexicana.)

Productos.	Seis primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
Productos minerales:		
Oro.....	17,507,618.00	12,756,603.41
Plata.....	53,597,579.12	48,745,639.65
Cobre.....	14,619,049.48	14,109,258.98
Otros.....	4,209,838.53	3,534,134.08
Productos vegetales:		
Algodón.....	1,161,846.55	234,096.00
Caucho.....	4,384,533.80	2,070,499.00
Garbanzos.....	2,055,993.70	2,063,581.00
Henequén.....	12,747,174.00	17,067,429.77
Otros.....	9,905,559.56	9,709,018.40
Productos animales:	4,287,671.80	5,232,839.02
Productos manufacturados:	1,419,490.64	1,366,966.22
Diversos.....	899,147.85	363,271.05
Total exportación:		
Metales preciosos.....	71,105,197.72	61,502,243.06
Demás productos.....	56,681,313.91	56,381,694.12
Total general.....	127,786,511.63	117,883,937.18

El total de las mercancías se distribuye de la manera siguiente entre los países de procedencia de las mercancías:

Países de procedencia.	Seis primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
Europa:	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Alemania.....	15,845,852.12	12,180,052.06
Austria-Hungría.....	835,145.16	632,588.84
Bélgica.....	2,046,407.41	1,437,773.48
España.....	3,829,457.45	3,798,019.94
Francia.....	10,595,007.08	8,571,056.92
Gran Bretaña.....	15,065,761.15	10,211,458.88
Holanda.....	316,030.68	294,934.02
Italia.....	1,077,301.86	780,943.31
Noruega.....	81,881.46	76,413.61
Portugal.....	88,511.57	168,537.32
Rusia.....	90,714.70	131,895.57
Suecia.....	429,520.11	364,310.79
Suiza.....	552,489.52	396,942.73
Demás países.....	58,231.08	45,225.64
Total Europa.....	50,942,310.82	39,090,723.11
Asia:		
China.....	89,105.39	132,648.07
India.....	524,644.72	509,294.77
Japón.....	337,528.68	76,911.60
Demás países.....	25,812.79	41,878.04
Total Asia.....	977,091.58	760,733.48
África:		
Egipto.....	43,399.00	115,948.07
Demás países.....	7,414.66	12,726.41
Total África.....	50,813.66	128,674.48
América del Norte:		
Canadá.....	369,050.13	115,277.54
Estados Unidos.....	69,932,539.37	67,404,371.24
Total América del Norte.....	70,302,189.50	67,519,648.78
América Central:		
Guatemala.....	4,230.77	3,097.88
Honduras Británica.....	11,020.04	2,433.58
Demás países.....	25,957.91	6,578.54
Total América Central.....	41,808.72	12,110.00
América del Sur:		
Brasil.....	8,945.37	5,204.38
Colombia.....	14,750.00	7,726.00
Chile.....	28,463.50	7,109.00
Ecuador.....	65,823.62	26,731.38
El Salvador.....	1.44	.....
Perú.....	1,129.00	18,124.00
República Argentina.....	341,468.00	21,968.13
Venezuela.....	4,889.00	4,834.24
Demás países.....	2,881.14	4,405.97
Total América del Sur.....	471,551.07	96,113.10
Antillas:		
Cuba.....	64,269.31	87,859.21
Demás países.....	3,578.76	2,801.91
Total Antillas.....	67,878.07	90,661.12
Oceanía:		
Australia.....	103,023.25	42,398.44
Demás países.....	20,942.00	5,621.00
Total Oceanía.....	123,965.25	48,022.44
Total General.....	122,977,698.70	107,736,788.51

Las exportaciones fueron destinadas á los países que se indican el cuadro que sigue:

Países de destino.	Seis primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907-8.	1906-7.
Europa:		
Alemania.....	\$11,303,981.93	\$9,289,319.71
Austria-Hungría.....	7,200.00	1,200.00
Bélgica.....	2,330,310.52	2,716,273.65
España.....	1,395,395.23	1,809,450.00
Francia.....	1,780,731.00	3,931,070.91
Gran Bretaña.....	16,272,671.35	15,013,298.44
Holanda.....	9,210.00	34,170.00
Italia.....	6,131.00	24,555.90
Noruega.....	1,000.00	.....
Portugal.....	531.00	.....
Rusia.....	5,765.00	19,000.00
Demás países.....	.....	430.00
Total Europa.....	36,072,740.63	32,887,887.74
Asia:		
China.....	500.00	706.00
América del Norte:		
Canadá.....	98,378.00	62,598.00
Estados Unidos.....	89,745,807.77	83,113,718.93
Total América del Norte.....	89,844,185.77	83,176,226.93
América Central:		
Guatemala.....	339,000.00	365,715.11
Honduras Británica.....	122,932.20	139,900.40
Demás países.....	4,334.04	5,402.00
Total América Central.....	466,266.24	510,017.51
América del Sur:		
Chile.....	15,108.30	.....
Ecuador.....	.....	200.00
Panamá.....	10,141.00	69,569.00
Perú.....	500.00	.....
República Argentina.....	945.00	.....
Venezuela.....	50.00	.....
Total América del Sur.....	26,744.30	69,769.00
Antillas:		
Cuba.....	1,385,095.00	1,254,250.00
Demás países.....	.....	2,000.00
Total Antillas.....	1,385,095.00	1,256,250.00
Total general.....	127,786,511.63	117,883,937.18

DATOS ESTADÍSTICOS RELATIVOS Á LA ZAFRA DE 1907.

En el informe anual publicado por "El Hacendado Mexicano," relativo á la producción de azúcar de México, se expresa que en 1906-7 dicha producción ascendió á 119,000 toneladas, en comparación con 107,500 toneladas en el año anterior, y se calcula que en 1907-8 la producción ascenderá á 115,000 toneladas.

Á continuación se expresa la producción de azúcar de los varios Estados:

	Kilogramos.
Campeche.....	1,445,549
Chiapas.....	732,300
Colima.....	1,597,243
Guerrero.....	2,889,450
Jalisco.....	6,304,300

	Kilogramos.
México.....	189,863
Michoacán.....	7,492,809
Morales.....	12,229,727
Nuevo León.....	924,000
Oaxaca.....	1,682,320
Puebla.....	16,739,000
San Luis Potosí.....	1,268,000
Sinaloa.....	8,785,000
Tabasco.....	2,005,000
Tamaulipas.....	1,578,000
Territorio de Tepic.....	3,250,000
Veracruz.....	18,690,000
Yucatán.....	1,694,000

También se produjeron mieles y pan-de, es decir, 68,329,799 y 50,000,000 de kilogramos, respectivamente.

Este informe representa las operaciones de 773 ingenios, debiendo agregarse que el hecho de que en febrero se aumentaron los derechos impuestos sobre el producto extranjero, ha contribuido á que sea mucho mayor el interés que se demuestra en el cultivo de la caña de azúcar y en la fabricación de este dulce. Del año pasado á la fecha se han establecido dos ingenios pertenecientes á capitalistas norteamericanos, es decir, uno cerca del Ferrocarril Central Mexicano, entre San Luis Potosí y Tampico, y el otro cerca del Ferrocarril Mexicano, á una distancia como de 90 kilómetros del Puerto de Veracruz. Ambos ingenios cuentan con la maquinaria moderna necesaria, y pueden hacer 3,000 toneladas y 800 toneladas diarias, respectivamente. En muchos de los antiguos ingenios se han instalado máquinas nuevas, habiéndose mejorado mucho por este medio la calidad del producto.

BASE EN PLATA DE LOS IMPUESTOS DE TIMBRE Y ADUANA EN ABRIL DE 1908.

La circular que publica mensualmente el Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de México anuncia que el precio legal por kilogramo de plata pura durante el mes de abril de 1908 será de \$36.32, con arreglo á los cálculos hechos de acuerdo con el decreto de 25 de marzo de 1905. Este precio servirá de base para calcular el impuesto de timbre y los derechos de aduana.

LA EXPLOTACIÓN DE GUANO.

Con fecha 19 de febrero de 1908, el Gobierno Mexicano autorizó al Señor GEORGE F. ARCHER, ó á la compañía que él organice, para explotar, durante un período de diez años, en conformidad con la concesión que se le hizo el 18 de septiembre de 1906, los depósitos de guano que hay en las Islas Areas, cerca de la Costa de Campeche, así como los que están situados en las Islas Arenas, al noroeste de Punta

de Palma, á 22° 7' latitud norte, cerca de la costa de Yucatán. La concesión para la explotación de guano que se le hizo al Señor HARRY J. EARLE, ó sus causahabientes, el 26 de septiembre de 1907, fué modificada el 22 de febrero de 1908, retirándose con tal fin el permiso que se le había dado para explotar los depósitos de guano en las Islas Arenas, y autorizándole para que explote los depósitos de guano que se encuentran en las Islas de Contoy, Cancun, Chinchorros, Alacranes, Desterrada, Cornezuelo y Perez, cerca de las costas de Quintana Roo, Yucatán y Campeche.

PRECIO DE LOS TERRENOS DEL GOBIERNO EN 1908 9.

El día 9 de enero de 1908 el Gobierno Mexicano fijó el precio de los terrenos del Gobierno durante 1908-9 como sigue:

Estados.	Precio por hectárea.	Estados.	Precio por hectárea.
	<i>Pesos.</i>		<i>Pesos.</i>
Aguascalientes.....	7.00	Puebla.....	11.00
Campeche.....	4.00	Querétaro.....	9.00
Chiapas.....	4.00	San Luis Potosí.....	4.00
Chihuahua.....	4.00	Sinaloa.....	4.00
Cóahuila.....	4.00	Sonora.....	4.00
Colima.....	6.00	Tabasco.....	7.00
Durango.....	4.00	Tamaulipas.....	4.00
Guerrero.....	12.00	Thaxcala.....	17.00
Hidalgo.....	5.00	Veracruz.....	12.00
Jalisco.....	9.00	Yucatán.....	4.00
México.....	21.00	Zacatecas.....	4.00
Michoacán.....	14.00	Distrito Federal.....	100.00
Morales.....	27.00	Territorio de Tepic.....	4.00
Nuevo León.....	4.00	Territorio de la Baja California.....	2.00
Oaxaca.....	5.00	Territorio de Quintana Roo.....	2.00

NICARAGUA.

CONCESIONES RECIENTEMENTE OTORGADAS.

La Asamblea Nacional de la República de Nicaragua ha aprobado recientemente las concesiones que se enumeran á continuación: Contrato celebrado con "The American European Finance and Development Company" sobre venta de terrenos exclusivamente para dedicar los productos á la construcción del Ferrocarril de Matagalpa; contrato celebrado con los Generales ASCENCIÓN FLORES, R. CARLOS, A. DE ZUBIRÍA, y otros sobre arrendamiento de terrenos en la Costa Atlántica en los cuales tendrán el derecho de poseer y explotar todos los depósitos minerales, etc., que se hallen situados dentro de la zona concedida; contrato celebrado con el Doctor MANUEL V. DARRÁZAGA por el cual se le concede privilegio exclusivo para introducir en la República inmigrantes chinos y japoneses para trabajos agrícolas; contrato celebrado con el Señor JAMES DIETRICH para que introduzca inmigrantes chinos que se dedicarán solamente á trabajos ferroviarios y otros que se especifican en la concesión; contrato con Don JUAN HEAT-TASCH para el establecimiento de una fábrica de losa de China; contrato

con Don JUAN CÁRLOS SERRANO dándole exclusivo derecho para fabricar papel con materias primas que obtenga en la República y con algodón, trapos, paja, aserrín, cortezas y toda clase de materiales.

PANAMÁ.

CONCESIÓN PARA ESTABLECER Y OPERAR UNA CERVECERÍA.

El Gobierno de Panamá le ha hecho una concesión á STEPHEN S. SIMPSON, para que establezca una fábrica de cerveza grande, moderna y bien equipada en la ciudad de Panamá.

Todos los materiales, abastecimiento, maquinaria, herramientas, utensilios, aparatos, substancias químicas y materia prima necesaria para usarse en la construcción y operación de la fábrica de cerveza, entrarán libres de derechos durante un período de veinticinco años. Los concesionarios se comprometen á pagarle al Gobierno \$0.75 por cada barril de cerveza de 32 galones que se fabrique en dicha cervecería y que se ofrezca en venta en la República ó que se exporte de esta última. La construcción de los edificios necesarios deberá comenzarse antes del 18 de diciembre de 1908. El Gobierno se obliga á no hacerle á ninguna persona ó personas una concesión más favorable durante la vigencia de este contrato. Esta concesión no podrá ser traspasada á un tercero sin el previo consentimiento del Gobierno.

PERÚ.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN EL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

Los últimos datos estadísticos que ha recibido la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, relativos al comercio extranjero del Perú, muestran que el valor total de las importaciones en el primer trimestre de 1907 ascendió á \$5,933,510 (£1,186,702), en tanto que el de las exportaciones ascendió á \$6,703,370 (£1,340,674). Durante el mismo período de 1906, el valor de las importaciones ascendió á \$6,587,730 (£1,317,546), en tanto que el de las exportaciones ascendió á \$7,126,935 (£1,425,387).

Así pues, resulta que en el primer trimestre de 1907 hubo una baja de \$977,785, en el valor de las transacciones comerciales en comparación con el período correspondiente del año anterior.

RENTA COBRADA POR LA COMPAÑÍA NACIONAL DE RECAUDACIÓN, PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Las rentas producidas por los ramos que administra la Compañía Nacional de Recaudación del Perú ascendieron durante el primer semestre de 1907 á la cantidad de £415,142.3.69, en comparación con £403,995.1.94, suma que se recaudó en el mismo período de 1906.

LÍNEA DE TELEGRAFÍA INALÁMBRICA.

"El Peruano," diario oficial de la República del Perú, en su número del 16 de octubre de 1907, publica el texto de una ley aprobada por el Congreso el 6 de septiembre de 1907 y promulgada por el Presidente PARDO el 7 del mismo mes, que dispone la suma de £7,428,574 para establecer la telegrafía inalámbrica en la región de la montaña hasta la ciudad de Iquitos.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DE SALAVERRY EN 1907.

Durante el año de 1907 la aduana de Salaverry, República del Perú, recaudó una renta total de £43,989.479, de cuya cantidad £39,782.081 fueron por derechos de importación, £3,173.693 por el recargo de 8 por ciento, y la suma restante por varios conceptos.

SALVADOR.**EL MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE FIGUEROA.**

El día 20 de febrero de 1908, en que se celebró la apertura de las sesiones ordinarias de la Asamblea Nacional de 1908, el Presidente FIGUEROA, de la República del Salvador, presentó su mensaje correspondiente al año de 1907 y en el que hace una relación sucinta de la administración y marcha de los asuntos gubernamentales.

Según el mensaje, todos los ramos de la administración pública están bien organizados y fueron debidamente atendidos. El Gobierno prestó atención especial á todas las obras que demanda el progreso del país, y en toda la República se llevaron á cabo mejoras de importancia.

La instrucción pública mereció la especial atención del Gobierno: se está preparando una reforma al plan general de instrucción primaria que la haga más práctica y dé resultados más positivos, y se intenta fundar varios colegios de segunda enseñanza. Se abrió al servicio público la Escuela de Agricultura, dotada con todos los elementos necesarios.

Hablando de la conferencia que los Presidentes del Salvador, Honduras, y Nicaragua celebraron en Amapala el 6 de noviembre de 1907, el General FIGUEROA dice:

El resultado de este acto fué especialmente beneficioso para la paz de Centro América y los delegados centroamericanos en Washington, sin divisiones ni rencores, unidos todos por el mismo sentimiento, pudieron facilmente llegar á conclusiones que asegurasen la paz y la prosperidad de Centro América, correspondiendo de lleno á los nobles deseos de los Presidentes de los Estados Unidos y de México.

En el mensaje el Presidente FIGUEROA expresa la gratitud del pueblo y del Gobierno salvadoreños á los Presidentes ROOSEVELT y

Díaz por sus importantes y amistosos oficios en favor de la paz y bienestar de Centro América. Igual manifestación de gratitud hace respecto de los Presidentes de Guatemala y de Costa Rica por las pruebas de amistad y fraternidad que han dado al Salvador.

El Presidente se complace en manifestar á la asamblea que las relaciones del Salvador con las demás Repúblicas de la América Central son en la actualidad muy cordiales y amistosas, y que se propone ensancharlas y robustecerlas en lo posible. Las relaciones que cultiva el Salvador con las demás naciones del mundo continúan en el mejor pie, como dice el mensaje.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DURANTE LOS PRIMEROS NUEVE MESES DE 1907.

Las aduanas de la República del Salvador recaudaron durante los primeros nueve meses de 1907 una renta total de 3,900,121.33 pesos, de cuya cantidad corresponden á derechos de importación 3,196,098.97 pesos, á derechos de exportación 656,833.56 pesos, y el resto á varios ingresos. La renta total aduanera de 1906 ascendió á 4,316,620.84 pesos, de modo que se observa una disminución de 416,499.51 pesos en contra de 1907.

URUGUAY.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE WILLIMAN.

En el mensaje que el Presidente WILLIMAN dirigió al Congreso Uruguayo al inaugurar éste sus sesiones en febrero de 1908, el Presidente se refirió á la paz y el orden que prevalecieron en las últimas elecciones generales y presidenciales, como una prueba evidente de la regularidad y estabilidad de las instituciones gubernamentales.

El Presidente se mostró altamente complacido de la manera amistosa en que la República Argentina, el Brasil y la Gran Bretaña fueron representados en las ceremonias de inauguración en marzo de 1907, y también se mostró satisfecho de la cordial recepción que se le hizo á los delegados del Uruguay cuando visitaron los dos países primeramente mencionados.

Al aludir á los ingresos, el estado financiero y el comercio durante el año de referencia, el Jefe Ejecutivo hizo constar que gracias á los trabajos de la comisión encargada de hacer la nueva tasa de contribuciones en la capital, el impuesto sobre la propiedad en el último semestre del año arrojó un aumento de \$79,459. El derecho del timbre en el año de referencia mostró un aumento de \$25,000, en tanto que los derechos de herencias mostraron un aumento de \$173,464. La renta de aduana de dicho año rindió un aumento de

\$331.612 respecto de 1906, y se calcula que el valor total del comercio en el año de referencia muestra un aumento de cerca de \$2,000,000 en comparación con el año anterior.

En 1907 el Gobierno contrajo deudas que ascendieron á \$3,442,445, mayormente la deuda de conversión, y se redimieron \$2,579,462. Así pues, á fines del año la deuda ascendía á \$128,138,917, contra \$127,275,933, á fines del año de 1906. Todavía quedan por emitirse \$8,048,393 de bonos sobre el empréstito de conversión, y quedan pendientes \$5,556,354 por concepto de reclamaciones de indemnización de guerra. Por virtud del creciente tráfico que se advierte en los ferrocarriles, la cantidad devengada por concepto de garantía quedó reducida á \$658,160, ó sean \$61,427 menos que en 1906.

Se espera que á la terminación del año económico el 30 de junio de 1908, en el Tesoro Nacional habrá un sobrante por lo menos de \$1,800,000, puesto que los egresos hasta esa fecha se han fijado en \$10,652,919, inebiso una partida extraordinaria de \$410,602, para cuyo pago habrá disponible una renta de \$12,453,780, haciendo el cálculo sobre la base de los ingresos del año anterior.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1906 Y 1907.

Según un cálculo general, en 1907 el valor total del comercio del Uruguay ascendió á \$69,575,000, de los cuales \$34,425,000 representan las importaciones y \$35,150,000 representan las exportaciones.

Los últimos datos estadísticos publicados por la Oficina de Estadística agregada á la Aduana de Montevideo, comprenden el valor de las importaciones y exportaciones de la República en el último semestre de 1906. El valor total de ambas ascendió á \$30,625,958, de los cuales \$17,402,334, representan el valor de importaciones y \$13,223,624 de exportaciones.

Agregando esta cantidad á los \$37,230,981, que anteriormente se anunciaron correspondientes al primer semestre del año, resulta que el valor del comercio extranjero del Uruguay en 1906 ascendió á exportaciones. Estas cifras indican un aumento de \$6,305,089 \$67,856,939, es decir, \$34,454,915, de importaciones y \$33,402,024 de respecto de 1905, época en que el valor total del comercio extranjero ascendió á \$61,551,850, es decir, \$30,777,603, de importaciones y \$30,774,247 de exportaciones. Así pues, queda demostrado que hubo aumentos notables tanto en el valor de las importaciones como en el de las exportaciones, considerando el año en conjunto, por más que en el último semestre hubo una disminución de \$6,944,776, en el valor de las exportaciones en comparación con el del primer semestre, baja que de ninguna manera fué compensada por el pequeño aumento de \$349,753 que hubo en el valor de las importaciones. Sia embargo, si se establece una comparación con el período correspondiente de

1905, resulta un aumento de más de \$2,000,000, puesto que de julio á diciembre de 1905 el valor del comercio extranjero del Uruguay sólo ascendió á \$28,500,000.

VENEZUELA.

LAS EXPORTACIONES DE CACAO EN EL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1907.

Durante el primer semestre de 1907 las exportaciones de cacao que se hicieron por los diferentes puertos de Venezuela ascendieron á un total de 7,993,080 de kilogramos, valuados en 9,692,604.65 de bolívares, ó sea \$1,928,520.93. Los embarques que se hicieron de los puertos de La Guaira y Carúpano, respectivamente, ascendieron á 4,604,701 y 2,023,027 de kilogramos, y los que se hicieron de todos los demás puertos venezolanos ascendieron á 1,365,352 de kilogramos. Del número total de kilogramos exportados, 4,476,882 fueron enviados á Francia, 1,174,930 á España, 1,088,079 á la Gran Bretaña y sus colonias, 1,085,102 fueron á la América del Norte, 87,681 á Alemania, 63,138 fueron á Holanda y sus colonias, 56,512 fueron á Italia y 756 á Puerto Rico.

EXPLOTACIÓN DE LA GOMA Y BALATA.

El día 22 de enero de 1908 el Presidente Castro expidió un decreto que rige la explotación de la goma y balata en el Río Negro y en El Canra. Por este decreto se prohíbe derribar los árboles de goma, y la recogida de la goma se efectuará exclusivamente por el sistema de incisiones. La balata puede recogerse derribando los árboles de balata en la estación en que se recoge dicho producto, si los árboles se han desarrollado por completo, y con tal que se siembren dos árboles de balata por cada uno que se destruya. Se prohíbe derribar los árboles de balata que tengan menos de ocho años, á menos que estén en completo desarrollo.

LA RENTA DERIVADA DE FERROCARRILES EN 1906.

La renta en bruto que se derivó de los ferrocarriles de Venezuela en 1906 ascendió á 8,983,629 de bolívares, ó como \$1,796,725, es decir, el transporte de la carga y de los pasajeros rindió 7,403,163 y 1,580,466 de bolívares, respectivamente. La carga que se transportó durante el año ascendió á 179,185,475 de kilogramos y se transportaron 536,553 pasajeros.

CONCESIONES DE DEPÓSITOS DE ASFALTO.

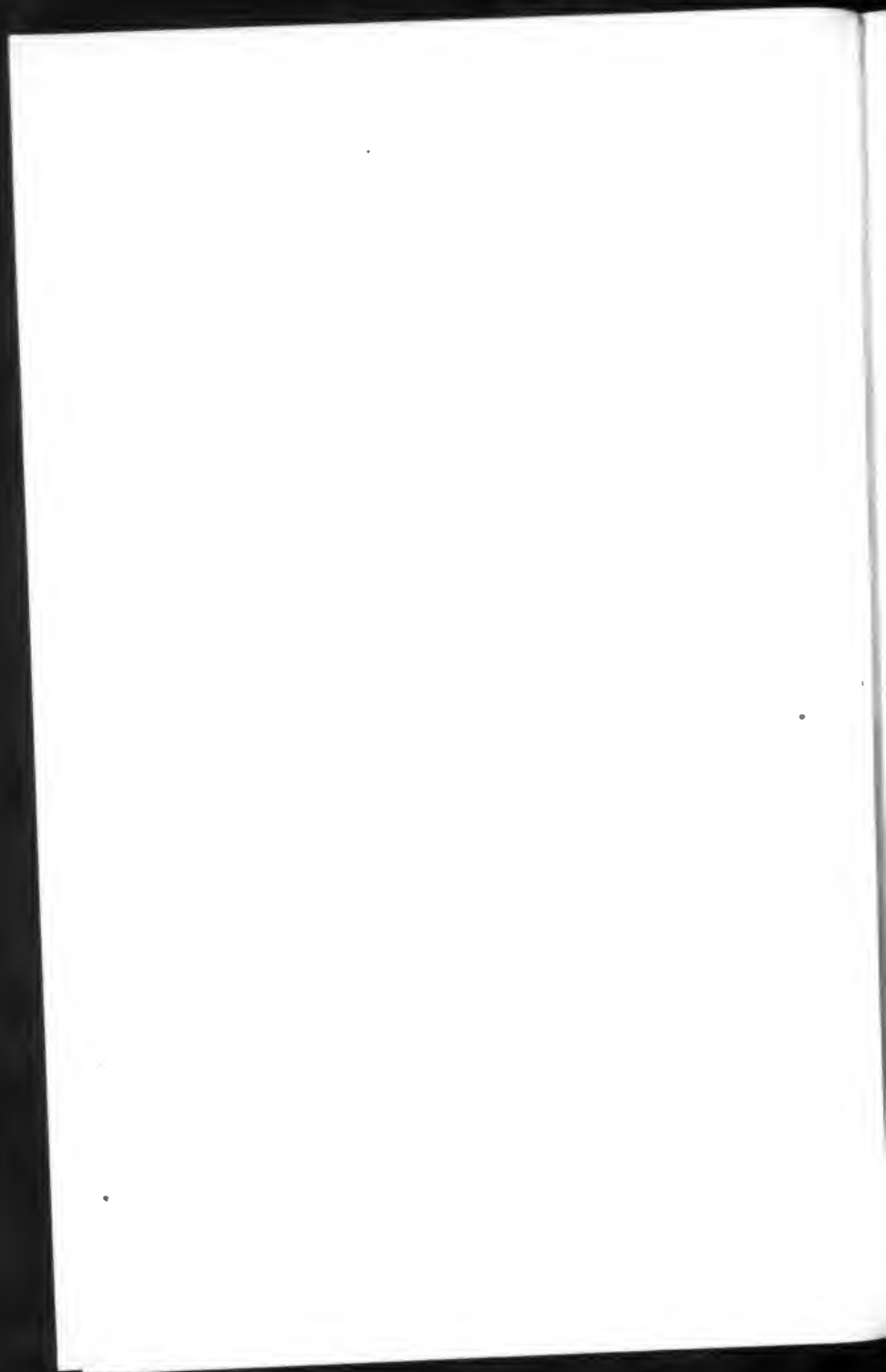
Con fecha 14 de enero de 1908, el Gobierno de Venezuela dió en arrendamiento á NARCISO SALDIVIA, sus sucesores ó causahabientes, por un término de veinticinco años, los depósitos de asfalto que hay

en la municipalidad de Caño Colorado, Distrito de Managas, Estado de Bermudez. Además de la contribución anual de dos bolívares por hectárea, en el área de los depósitos á que se hace referencia en el contrato de arrendamiento, los concesionarios se obligan á pagar al Gobierno 4 bolívares por cada tonelada de asfalto que se exporte ó venda en el país.

LA PESCA DE PERLAS.

Por el pago anual de 25,000 bolívares, el Gobierno le ha concedido al Señor LUIS F. HERNANDEZ, por un período de dieciséis meses, el derecho exclusivo de explotar ó subarrendar para la explotación, la pesca de perlas de la Isla de Margarita en el Golfo de Cariaco y en la Costa de Punta de Araya. La explotación deberá efectuarse mediante el sistema de dragado, y se suspenderá en los meses de julio, agosto y septiembre.

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BOLETIM

DA

SECRETARIA INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

UNIÃO INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.

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No dia 1º de abril corrente foi assignado entre o Director da Secretaria Internacional e a "*Norcross Brothers Company*," de Worcester, Mass., o contracto para a construcção do novo edificio da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas. Pelos termos do contracto, o edificio deverá estar concluido dentro de quinze mezes contados da data do contracto, isto é, em 1º de julho de 1909. Conforme os planos e as especificações revisados, o exterior do edificio será construido todo de marmore, em vez de estuque como estabelecido no original projecto. Esta importante mudança no acabamento do edificio foi feita como resultado da actual situação deprimente da industria de construcção. Ha agora tão poucas construcções em andamento e os empreiteiros estão tão ansiosos por obter trabalho que o orçamento de construcção foi provavelmente vinte por cento menos do que teria sido seis ou oito mezes passados, sendo esta economia applicada em marmore em vez de estuque no exterior do edificio. A "*Norcross Brothers Company*" é uma das mais antigas firmas constructoras dos Estados Unidos. Foram encarregados das alterações que foram feitas ha alguns annos na Casa Branca, e foram tambem os empreiteiros chefes do grande edificio da Bibliotheca Publica de New York, já quasi concluida. A opinião geral a respeito dos planos submettidos aos empreiteiros pelos architectos Srs. Kelsey e Cret, de Philadelphia, Pa., é que não será apenas um dos mais bellos edificios de Washington, mas tambem um verdadeiro orgulho para todas as Republicas Americanas. Neste momento os empreiteiros já iniciaram os trabalhos preliminares e é a intenção do Conselho Director da Secretaria lançar a pedra fundamental com as devidas cerimoniaes em 11 de maio, com a assistencia do Presidente Roosevelt, Andrew Carnegie, o Embaixador do Brazil e o Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos.

Apezar de se tomar o maior cuidado para se assegurar correccão nas publicações da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, esta não se responsabiliza pelos erros ou inexactidões que nellas occorrerem.

COMISSÃO PAN-AMERICANA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

A nova Comissão Pan-Americana a que fizemos referencia no ultimo numero do BOLETIM, já iniciou os seus trabalhos, com o firme proposito de obter feliz exito. A organização da Comissão effectuouse na reunião que teve lugar no Departamento de Estado dos Estados Unidos em 17 de março de 1908, tendo sido o Secretario de Estado, ELIHU ROOT, unanimemente eleito Presidente Honorario. A mesa ficou constituída assim: Presidente, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN; Vice-Presidente, ANDREW CARNEGIE; Secretario, JOHN BARRETT. A comissão executiva é composta dos Srs. Dr. L. S. ROWE, Representante CHARLES B. LANDIS, General A. E. BATES e WILLIAM E. CURTIS. O Presidente e Secretario da comissão geral são membros ex-officio da comissão executiva. A primeira reunião da comissão executiva realizou-se em 7 de abril, na qual foram dados os passos precisos para a elaboração de relatorios especiais sobre diversos assumptos.

CURSO NA UNIVERSIDADE DE HARVARD SOBRE A GEOGRAPHIA DA AMERICA DO SUL.

Em vista do interesse geralmente despertado pelos assumptos que se relacionam com a America Latina, a Universidade de Harvard inaugurou um curso sobre a geographia da America do Sul no seu programma de ensino para o anno de 1907-8. O annuncio preliminar deste plano foi feito ha dez annos, mas até o presente não se deram os passos preeisos para leval-o a effeito.

Este curso traçado pelo Professor ROBERT DEC. WARD de Harvard, abrange o estudo geral da physiographia, geographia commercial e climatologia da America do Sul (incluindo a America Central e as Antilhas), consideradas em seu conjuncto, e separadamente. Neste curso não se adoptará um livro especial, mas serão apontados para consulta livros de autoridades sobre a America do Sul, assim como artigos de revistas e relatorios. Attenção especial será dada ao estudo da climatologia e da influencia que tem o clima sobre a salubridade de um lugar, e por consequente, sobre as occupações, viagens, transportes, etc.

A UNIVERSIDADE DE CORNELL E A AMERICA LATINA.

O Director da Secretaria, accedendo ao cordial convite do Presidente JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN, e dos estudantes argentinos, membros do Club Cosmopolitano, fez uma visita á Universidade de Cornell, que se acha em Ithaca, Estado de New York, nos dias 13 e 14 de março ultimo. Na sexta-feira á tarde, realizou uma conferencia perante os estudantes da Universidade, sendo a reunião presidida

pelo Presidente SCHURMAN, e no dia seguinte á noite assistiu á uma recepção que lhe foi feita pelos alumnos argentinos, onde discorreu sobre aquelle paiz perante numerosa assistencia. O numero de moços latino-americanos actualmente matriculados na Universidade de Cornell é de 46, sendo distribuidos assim: Republica Argentina 13, Porto Rico 10, Mexico 7, Peru 5, Brazil 4, Equador 2, Nicaragua 2, Chile 1, Uruguay 1, Costa Rica 1. Como o contingente estrangeiro de Cornell comprehende 143 estudantes, vê-se que um terço deste numero vem da America Latina. Attendendo a varios pedidos que o Director tem recebido, reproduzimos neste numero do BOLETIM extractos das duas conferencias que realizou na Universidade de Cornell.

A NOVA ESTRADA DE FERRO TRANSCONTINENTAL.

Neste numero do BOLETIM publicamos um artigo descriptivo da cerimonia da inauguração da estrada de ferro transcontinental de Guatemala, que se realizou em janeiro ultimo, juntamente com trechos do interessante relatorio do Major General GEORGE W. DAVIS, que foi o representante especial dos Estados Unidos nesta occasião.

Com a construcção da linha ligando Puerto Barrios no mar Caribeano a San José no Pacifico, com 270 millas de extensão, o Istmo é atravessado por tres vias ferreas transcontinentaes, sendo a primeira a de Panamá e a segunda a de Tehuantepec. Não ha duvida que esta nova estrada será de grande beneficio no desenvolvimento do commercio e prosperidade de Guatemala, e este paiz, assim como o seu Presidente, MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA, mereceu nossos applausos pela feliz conclusão deste empreendimento. São tambem credores da nossa gratidão os Srs. MINOR C. KEITH, Sir WILLIAM VAN HORNE e General T. H. HUBBARD, os quaes cooperaram efficazmente com o Governo de Guatemala na construcção da linha.

REUNIÃO PAN-AMERICANA EM PHILADELPHIA.

No dia 20 de março ultimo, realizou-se no auditorium Witherspoon, de Philadelphia, Estado de Pennsylvania, uma importante sessão da Academia Americana de Sciencias Politicas e Sociaes, a que assistiram os Ministros em Washington das Republicas da Bolivia, Argentina, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay e Chile, os quaes pronunciaram discursos apropriados. O facto principal da sessão foi o discurso pronunciado pelo Dr. L. S. ROWE, da Universidade de Pennsylvania, e a collação do grau honorario de Doutor em Direito ao mesmo, conferido pela Universidade Nacional de La Plata da Republica Argentina, assim como das honras de Lente Honorario de Direito da Universidade

de San Marcos, em Lima, Peru. A sessão foi presidida pelo Director da Secretaria e numerosa foi a assistencia por pessoas da alta sociedade de Philadelphia e New York.

O CONGRESSO INTERNACIONAL DE TUBERCULOSE.

O primeiro Congresso Internacional de Tuberculose na America reunir-se-ha em Washington, no mez de setembro de 1908, em que serão representadas quasi todas as nações civilizadas do mundo.

Entre os paizes da America Latina que se farão representar no Congresso são: a Republica Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, Equador, Guatemala, Peru, Honduras, Salvador, Venezuela e Cuba.

Por occasião do Congresso, a *Smithsonian Institution* offerece um premio de \$1.500 ao autor do melhor tratado que for apresentado sobre a these "A relação que tem o ar atmosferico com a tuberculose," escripto em inglez, francez, allemão, hespanhol ou italiano. Serão tambem offerecidos outros premios e medalhas por demonstrações de trabalhos praticos que se têm feito para alleviar ou combater a tuberculose. Informações mais detalhadas a este respeito podem ser obtidas, dirigindo-se ao Dr. CHARLES J. HATFIELD, 2008 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

DUAS NOTAVEIS FUNCÇÕES DIPLOMATICAS.

Ainda que não seja o costume do BOLETIM noticiar funcções sociaes foram tão notaveis os jantares offerecidos respectivamente pelo Embaixador do Brazil e o Ministro da Republica Argentina em Washington, que fazemos demorada referencia a elles em outra secção deste numero. É digno de nota que os dous mais brillantes banquetes officiaes e semi-diplomaticos que se realizaram durante o inverno passado foram os offerecidos por dous representantes diplomaticos da America Latina. O primeiro desses banquetes foi offerecido pelo Embaixador NABUCO na terça-feira, 10 de março, em honra ao Supremo Tribunal dos Estados Unidos, e o segundo foi dado pelo Ministro PORTELA na terça-feira, 17 de março, em signal de reconhecimento por ter sido a cidade de Buenos Aires escolhida para a reunião da proxima Conferencia Pan-Americana.

REGRESSO AO PAIZ DO SR. CHARLES M. PEPPER.

Dentro em pouco deverá regressar aos Estados Unidos o Sr. CHARLES M. PEPPER, commissario especial do Departamento do Commercio e do Trabalho, que tem estado viajando extensamente

pela Colombia, Equador, Peru e Bolivia. Os relatorios por elle elaborados sobre a Colombia e o Equador são valiosas contribuições para o conhecimento das condições e do progresso da costa occidental do continente sul-americano, e o apparecimento dos sobre o Peru e a Bolivia é aguardado com vivo interesse. Poucos são os homens que conhecem a America Latina tão bem como o Sr. PEPPER e o trabalho que está levando a effeito ha de concorrer poderosamente para desenvolver relações commerciaes mais estreitas entre os Estados Unidos e as nações suas irmãs.

GUIA Á AMERICA LATINA PARA VIAJANTES.

Si o publico podesse examinar a correspondencia da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas ficaria espantado ao ver o avultado numero de cartas que a Secretaria recebe annualmente, pedindo informações acerca das condições e os itinerarios de viagem na America Latina. Essas cartas são recebidas de *touristes* que pretendem visitar esta parte do mundo; de pessoas que, animadas por interesses commerciaes, desejam levar a sua actividade commercial a mercados já ha muito conhecidos pelos activos fabricantes europeos; e de commerciantes que, apesar de haverem iniciado relações commerciaes com algumas partes da America Latina, ainda ignotam muitas vezes a situação exacta das localidades onde moram os seus freguezes e a direcção que as suas encommendas devem seguir.

Para supprir esta lacuna, publicaremos no BOLETIM de maio um itinerario preparado com os elementos existentes na Bibliotheca de Colombo por um viajante muito competente e pratico no assumpto. As informações serão organizadas em tabellas. Na primeira serão mencionados todos os portos e paizes da America Latina; as linhas de navegação que fazem communicação com os mesmos; as distancias que ficam dos portos de sahida, o custo da passagem, e a duração da viagem. A segunda tabella conterá a denominação official das companhias de navegação, o endereço do seu escriptorio principal nos Estados Unidos, os portos de sahida e os de escala na America Latina, a nacionalidade de suas bandeiras, o intervallo entre as sahdas e a classe de carga transportada, si passageiros ou cargos, ou ambos.

MENSAGENS DE PRESIDENTES AMERICANOS.

Neste numero do BOLETIM MENSAL reproduzimos trechos das mensagens que varios Presidentes da America Latina apresentaram desde os principios do anno aos Congressos nacionaes dos seus respectivos Governos. A nota que sobresahe nas mensagens dos Presidentes de Salvador e de Guatemala é o entusiasmo com que applaudem os

esforços feitos pelos Governos da America Central, Mexico e os Estados Unidos para manter a paz em todos os paizes que tomaram parte na Conferencia de Washington. O mesmo espirito de confraternidade manifesta-se na mensagem do Presidente WILLIMAN, que em fevereiro ultimo terminou o primeiro anno do seu mandato como chefe da Republica do Uruguay. Na abertura do Congresso Nacional do Mexico no dia 1 de abril, o Presidente DÍAZ apresentou sua mensagem costumada, em que dá conta dos negocios do paiz no semestre findo.

ESTANHO BOLIVIANO EM 1907.

A crise financeira mundial que se manifestou em fins de 1907, influíu sobre o preço pago pelo estanho boliviano nas praças estrangeiras, havendo por isso uma redução na quantidade produzida. Conforme a pauta movel, que tem por base o preço obtido pelo estanho proveniente do Estreito de Magalhães, a produção em 1907 foi no valor de \$15,000,000, ou \$3,000,000 menos que no anno anterior, ao passo que a quantidade produzida foi de 1,865 toneladas menos do que no anno anterior.

PROGRESSIVA EXPANSÃO DO COMMERCIO EXTERIOR DO BRAZIL.

O augmento que o commercio exterior do Brazil de 1907 apresenta sobre o de 1906 foi de \$54,000,000, o total para os dous annos sendo de \$494,000,000 e \$440,000,000, respectivamente. Este augmento realizou-se tanto na importação como na exportação, sendo maior o accrescimento verificado na importação. Verificou-se um augmento consideravel nas exportações de café e cacão, mas na exportação da borracha, que é um dos principaes artigos exportados, houve sensível diminuição.

DESENVOLVIMENTO DE VIAS DE COMMUNICAÇÃO NO CHILE.

O espirito progressista do Governo do Chile sob a administração do Presidente MONTT, evidencia-se pelo facto de ter o Governo feito varias concessões para a construcção de vias ferreas e obras de melhoramento e por ter autorizado o estabelecimento de uma linha de navegação entre Valparaiso e Panamá, a qual receberá do Governo uma subvenção annua de \$100,000. Fica especialmente estipulado que os vapores dessa linha deverão fazer a viagem dentro de oito dias, estabelecendo-se assim um serviço rapido entre as costas oriental e occidental do continente. As cifras do recenseamento do paiz mostram que a população augmentou em mais de 500,000 habitantes

nos últimos doze annos, e o crescente numero de estabelecimentos industriaes dá sahida aos productos nacionaes.

O commercio exterior em 1907 attingiu ao valor de \$182,802,896, o que mostra um augmento de \$2,516,079 sobre o do anno anterior.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS DE COSTA RICA.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas de Costa Rica durante o anno de 1907 mostram uma progressão crescente. A arrecadação total nos nove mezes de abril a dezembro de 1907, foi de \$300,000 em excesso da de igual periodo de 1906, sendo uma média de \$210,000 o rendimento mensal, ao passo que o rendimento no mez de janeiro de 1908 foi de cerca de \$210,000.

VALOR DO COMMERCIO DE CUBA.

Pelos dados estatisticos publicados pelo Departamento da Fazenda de Cuba, se vê que a situação commercial da Republica é satisfactoria. O valor total do seu commercio exterior em 1907 foi de \$208,529,972, contra \$201,933,135 em 1906. Tanto a importação, como a exportação mostra um augmento sobre as do anno anterior. Segundo as cifras organizadas pela Repartição de Estatistica dos Estados Unidos, a porcentagem deste commercio com os mesmos foi de 123.55 na importação, e 61.52 na exportação. As rendas aduaneiras arrecadadas durante o anno tiveram um augmento de \$1,000,000 sobre as de 1906.

COMMERCIO DA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA EM 1907.

O relatório apresentado pelo recebedor geral das rendas aduaneiras da Republica Dominicana relativo ao anno de 1907, mostra que o commercio exterior da Republica nesse anno attingiu a maior cifra jamais registrada. O commercio total foi em excesso de \$12,500,000, sendo a exportação no valor de \$7,628,356, e a importação no de \$4,948,961. Comparadas com as cifras do anno anterior, verifica-se um augmento de \$1,191,968 na exportação, e de \$883,524 na importação. A importação foi restringida a artigos de necessidade, o que explica o augmento relativamente pequeno verificado neste ramo do commercio. As rendas aduaneiras augmentaram, permittindo que fosse depositada no National City Bank, de New York, a somma de \$1,543,421.20 para saldar a divida publica. Das transações do anno resulta um saldo liquido de \$1,135,974.

PROGRESSO DA ESTRADA DE FERRO DE GUAYAQUIL A QUITO.

A proposito da concessão que fez ultimamente o Governo do Equador para a construção de uma nova estrada de ferro, convem registrar aqui a informação ministrada á Secretaria pelo Sr. WILLIAMS C. Fox. Ministro dos Estados Unidos nesta Republica, de que até 1º de junho, a Estrada de Ferro de Guayaquil a Quito deverá ter chegado á capital. O primeiro trem para passageiros chegou á cidade de Tambillo em 1º de março, e os empreiteiros asseguram que a linha estará breve em Quito, pois, as secções mais difficéis já foram concluidas.

O PRESIDENTE DÁVILA ASSUME AS FUNCÇÕES DO SEU CARGO.

Em 1º de março de 1908, o Sr. MIGUEL R. DÁVILA, que tinha exercido as funções de Presidente Provisorio de Honduras desde abril do anno anterior, assumiu officialmente o cargo de Presidente Constitucional da Republica e nesta qualidade pronunciou um discurso perante a Assembleia Nacional, traçando sua politica e fins. Segundo informações recebidas, a situação economica do paiz é em geral satisfactoria, ainda que o valor do commercio no exercicio de 1906-7 fosse inferior ao de 1905-6, sendo de \$4,343,926.65 e \$5,389,353, respectivamente.

FUSÃO DE VIAS FERREAS E COMMERCIO EXTERIOR DO MEXICO.

No dia 28 de março de 1908, foi assignada a acta da constituição da "*Mexican Railway Merger Company*," com o capital de \$230,000,000, ouro, e garantias representando o valor de \$615,000,000. O decreto de 6 de julho de 1907, autorizando a constituição da Companhia de Vias Ferreas Mexicanas do Mexico, e definindo os direitos dos accionistas e do Governo Mexicano, foi publicado no BOLETIM de agosto de 1907. Das 2,300,000 acções em que o capital é dividido, 1,150,023 acções pertencem ao Governo, o que lhe permitirá exercer influencia dominante nas operações da Companhia. As propriedades da Companhia abrangem as linhas de tronco e ramaes e outras propriedades das Companhias das Estradas de Ferro Nacional de Mexico e Central Mexicana.

Os dados estatísticos do commercio exterior no segundo semestre de 1907, ultimamente publicados, evidenciam a prosperidade da Republica, tendo a importação augmentado em \$7,615,495, e a exportação em \$4,951,468, sobre as de igual periodo de 1906, o que perfaz um augmento total de cerca de \$12,600,000. Conforme os dados estatísticos já publicados, o movimento commercial da Republica no anno de 1907 representa o valor de \$213,440,000, ouro, sendo \$93,950,000 o valor da importação, e \$119,490,000, o da exportação.

CONCESSÕES FEITAS PELO GOVERNO DE NICARAGUA.

Com o fim de explorar as riquezas naturaes da Republica, o Governo de Nicaragua fez ultimamente varias concessões de importancia a capitalistas estrangeiros, cuja lista vem publicada neste numero do BOLETIM.

BALANÇO COMMERCIAL DO URUGUAY.

Na mensagem que o Presidente WILLIMAN apresentou ao Congresso Nacional, o commercio exterior da Republica em 1907 é calculado em \$69,576,143, o que mostra um augmento de \$1,719,204 sobre o do anno anterior. É digno de nota que esse augmento tenha-se realizado todo na exportação, não havendo sido sensivel alteração no valor da importação. A julgar pela receita arrecadada no anno de 1907, resultará do balanço do Thesouro em 30 de junho de 1908, o saldo de \$1,800,000.

TARIFA DAS ALFANDEGAS DA VENEZUELA.

Publicamos neste numero do BOLETIM a tarifa das alfandegas de Venezuela, como foi promulgada em janeiro do presente anno. A traducção em inglez foi feita do texto publicado na "*Gaceta Oficial*" da Republica, com as modificações que se têm feito desde a data de sua publicação.

COMISSÕES PAN-AMERICANAS.

De accordo com a convocação feita pelo Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, o Sr. ELIHT ROOT, realizou-se no salão de recepções diplomaticas do Departamento de Estado no dia 17 de março, ás 3 horas da tarde, a primeira reunião da Comissão Pan-Americana dos Estados Unidos. Estiveram presentes a maioria dos membros da Comissão que está constituída assim:

Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, Delegado dos Estados Unidos á Conferencia Pan-Americana.

Hon. STEPHEN B. ELKINS, Senador pelo Estado de West Virginia.

Hon. JAMES B. McCREARY, Senador pelo Estado de Kentucky.

Hon. CHARLES B. LANDIS, Deputado pelo Estado de Indiana.

Hon. JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Deputado pelo Estado de Texas.

Hon. ROBERT BACON, Sub-Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos.

Major General ALFRED E. BATES, do Exercito dos Estados Unidos, aposentado.

Major WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, chefe da delegação norte-americana na Terceira Conferência Pan-Americana.

Dr. BENJAMIN IDE WHEELER, Presidente da Universidade de California.

Dr. EDMUND J. JAMES, Presidente da Universidade de Illinois.

Dr. L. S. ROWE, da Universidade de Pennsylvania.

Dr. PAUL S. REINSCH, da Universidade de Wisconsin.

WILLIAM E. CURTIS, membro da Comissão Executiva da Primeira Conferência Pan-Americana.

JOHN BARRETT, Director da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

O Secretario Root abriu a sessão, justificando a criação da Comissão e expondo os seus fins. Leu a seguinte resolução da Terceira Conferência Pan-Americana, recommendando a "criação de secções especiaes dependentes das Secretarias das Relações Exteriores e especificando as suas funcções:"

"Recommendar a cada um dos Governos nella representados que nomeie uma Comissão, dependente do Ministerio das Relações Exteriores, e composta, sendo possivel, de pessoas que já tenham sido delegados a alguma Conferência Internacional, afim de que:

I. Promova a approvação das resoluções adoptadas pelas Conferencias Internacionais Americanas;

II. Forneça á Secretaria Internacional todos os dados de que ella necessite para o preparo dos seus trabalhos; e.

III. Exerça as demais attribuições que os respectivos Governos julgarem convenientes."

Terminadas as observações do Sr. Root, logo em seguida foi organizada a mesa que ficou assim constituída:

Presidente honorario, ELMU ROOT, Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos.

Presidente, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, chefe da delegação norte-americana á Terceira Conferência Pan-Americana.

Vice-Presidente, Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, Delegado dos Estados Unidos á Primeira Conferência Pan-Americana.

Secretario, JOHN BARRETT, Director da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Resolveu-se que a comissão executiva fosse nomeada pelo Presidente, devendo ser composta de quatro membros, servindo o presidente e secretario da comissão geral como membros *ex-officio*. Os Senhores nomeados foram os seguintes: Dr. L. S. ROWE, presidente; Hon. CHARLES B. LANSIS, Major General ALFRED E. BATES, e WILLIAM E. CURTIS.

O Presidente da comissão já officiou ao Secretario de Estado, notificando-lhe a organização da comissão e pedindo sua intervenção junto aos Ministros dos Estados Unidos acreditados ás diversas capi-

taes da America Latina, para que haja communicação com as commissões semelhantes nas outras Republicas, e é de esperar que dentro de pouco tempo todas as vinte e uma Republicas tenham nomeado commissões semelhantes para cooperarem com a dos Estados Unidos.

COMISSÃO PAN-AMERICANA DO PERU.

O Ministro do Peru em Washington notificou á Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas a nomeação pelo Governo peruano da Commissão Pan-Americana, de conformidade com a quarta resolução da Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana do Rio de Janeiro, a qual fica constituída assim: Sr. ALBERTO ELMORE, Delegado á Segunda Conferencia Pan-Americana; Sr. EUGENIO LARRABURE, Delegado á Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana; Sr. VICTOR EGUIGUREN, ex-Ministro do Peru nos Estados Unidos; Sr. MANUEL ALVAREZ CALDERON, ex-Ministro do Peru nos Estados Unidos; Sr. ALEJANDRO GARLAND, Delegado á Exposição de São Luiz.

SESSÃO PAN-AMERICANA DA ACADEMIA AMERICANA DE SCIENCIAS POLITICAS E SOCIAES.

A sessão da Academia Americana de Sciencias Políticas e Sociaes que se realizou no auditorium Witherspoon, Philadelphia, a 20 de março de 1908, presidida pelo Director da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, pode ser considerada como uma sessão pan-americana em virtude da feição especial de suas deliberações e por terem assistido a ella grande numero de representantes diplomaticos da America do Sul.

Aproveitou-se a occasião para a collação official do grau honorario de Doutor em Direito ao Dr. L. S. ROWE, da Universidade de Pennsylvania, conferido pela Universidade Nacional de La Plata da Republica Argentina, assim como as honras de Lente Honorario de Direito da Universidade de San Marcos em Lima, que é a mais velha do seu genero no continente Americano.

Pronunciaram discursos os Srs. EPIFANIO PORTELA, Ministro da Republica Argentina; FELIPE PARDO, Ministro do Peru; ANIBAL CRUZ, Ministro do Chile; ENRIQUE CORTES, Ministro da Colombia; IGNACIO CALDERON, Ministro da Bolivia; MELIAN LAFINUR, Ministro do Uruguay, e Dr. LEO S. ROWE, que foi orador official.

Ao apresentar o Dr. ROWE, o Sr. BARRETT disse que estava convencido de que dentro dos proximos dez annos se operaria um notavel progresso no sentido de um maior conhecimento e aproximação entre os povos do Novo Mundo. A era inaugurada com as visitas do Secretario Root á America do Sul e ao Mexico ha de derribar as

barreiras constituídas pela diversidade de linguas, costumes e tradições, as quaes, conjunctamente com a falta de facilidades de transporte, os poucos contactos, e uma certa desconfiança, até agora têm impedido o completo estabelecimento de relações de mutua sympathia e accordo.

O Dr. ROWE, presagiando um futuro auspicioso para os paizes da America Latina, qualificou-os como "verdadeiras potencias politicas com que as nações do globo hão de contar." Seu desenvolvimento moral e intellectual igualou seu progresso commercial e industrial, e o Dr. ROWE encareceu a necessidade que têm os Estados Unidos de fomentar uma maior communitade de interesses educadores, si o objectivo almejado é uma verdadeira confraternização. Citou o exemplo da Allemanha, que com largueza de vistas e patriotismo tem sempre fornecido á America do Sul scientistas para as suas universidades, professores para as suas escolas, especialistas para trabalhos administrativos, technicos e sanitarios, influindo assim poderosamente sobre a opinião publica.

O Ministro Argentino, ao tratar das relações existentes entre os Estados Unidos e as Republicas do Sul, salientou a necessidade vital que ha de um conhecimento reciproco das condições existentes e deplorou as concepções erroneas que tem o publico dos costumes e habitos ordinarios que prevalecem em communitades muito afastadas, que, ainda que sejam dissemelhantes, não deverão ser por isso condemnados.

Foram no mesmo sentido as palavras proferidas pelo Ministro do Peru que disse que aos homens de illustriação deve competir a obra de tornar melhor conhecidos os elementos existentes a fim de discriminar os que devem ser desenvolvidos e os que devem ser reprimidos.

A identidade na ultima analyse dos interesses americanos foi o thema escollido pelo Ministro do Chile, que attribuiu á diversidade de raças, differenças nas condições climatericas e o desejo legitimo, mas demais precipitado, que têm os povos de conseguir seu completo desenvolvimento nacional, os obstaculos que até agora se têm opposto a que se chegue a unidade internacional.

O Ministro da Colombia invocou a cooperação dos Estados Unidos sob o ponto de vista moral e espiritual antes que material, na obra do estabelecimento de relações mais estreitas entre os povos americanos para o seu bem estar geral, e os Ministros do Uruguay e da Bolivia concordaram com os seus confrades, affirmando que a unidade continental de interesses sociaes é a base do progresso continental.

UMA FUNÇÃO NOTAVEL NA EMBAIXADA
BRAZILEIRA.

No dia 9 de março ultimo o Embaixador do Brazil offereceu aos membros do Supremo Tribunal dos Estados Unidos um jantar tão notavel e fóra do commum, que julgamos de interesse reproduzir em parte o artigo descriptivo delle que appareceu no "Washington Post." de terça-feira, 10 de março:

O jantar que o Embaixador NABUCCO e Sua Exma. senhora offereceram hontem aos membros do Supremo Tribunal foi um dos mais brilhantes da estação. Neste banquete não só se rendeu homenagem aos juizes que na actualidade são membros do Tribunal Federal, mas tambem foram lembrados os eminentes juristas que têm presidido ás deliberações deste Tribunal desde sua fundação.

Acima das decorações de cada uma das oito mesas em que se serviu o jantar, appareciam, em letras de ouro sobre um fundo verde, cores brasileiras, os nomes dos presidentes do Supremo Tribunal, desde o erudito JOHN JAY e seus successores, Rutledge, Ellsworth, Marshall, Taney, Chase, Waite até Fuller.

O salão de baile foi transformado em um verdadeiro bosque. O tecto e as paredes do compartimento foram completamente occultos com ramos de gigantescas palmeiras, entre as quaes se achavam algumas especies do Brazil, as quaes foram dispostas de modo a formarem um arco por toda a extensão do salão, constituindo assim, com ramos de pinho e *smilax*, uma paisagem lindissima. A porta que dá entrada ao salão foi decorada com uma grade rustica coberta com *smilax*, servindo de moldura para o lindo quadro interior. Aqui e alli no meio desse bosque de palmeiras foram collocadas as mesas circulares, em cada uma das quaes se achava um ramalhete de flores, dando uma nota alegre á festa.

O jantar foi de oitenta talheres, sentando-se os hospedes em grupos de dez. Em uma mesa presidia o amphitrião, e nas outras Madame NABUCCO, o Secretario de Estado, o presidente do Supremo Tribunal, os Embaixadores de Italia, França, Inglaterra e Japão occupavam os postos de honra.

Não se pronunciaram discursos, mas o Secretario de Estado a instanciaes do Embaixador NABUCCO fez o seguinte brinde, muito appropriado á occasião:

"A defesa da constitucionalidade das leis por parte da magistratura nacional foi o serviço mais importante que a America tem prestado á sciencia politica. A manutenção do prestigio do Supremo Tribunal mostra o predomínio do espirito juridico sobre o da força arbitraria."

BANQUETE OFFERECIDO PELO MINISTRO ARGENTINO AO CORPO DIPLOMATICO PAN-AMERICANO.

No dia 17 de março ultimo o Ministro Argentino offereceu um banquete ao Corpo Diplomatico Pan-Americano, que foi uma função tão notavel que reproduzimos em parte o artigo descriptivo della que vem publicado no "Washington Post" de terça-feira, 18 de março:

Foi um dos mais brilhantes da estação o jantar que o Ministro Argentino e Madame PORTELA offereceram hontem no salão de baile do edificio de Rauscher, a que compareceram 120 convidados. O Governo Argentino mandou realizar o jantar em signal de reconhecimento por ter sido este paiz escolhido para a reunião da proxima Confé-

rencia Pan-Americana de 1910. Entre outros convidados tomaram parte no banquete o Secretario de Estado, a Commissão de Relações Exteriores do Senado, a Commissão de Relações Exteriores da Casa dos Representantes, a Commissão Pan-Americana, nomeada ultimamente pelo Secretario Root com o fim de promover relações commerciaes entre os povos americanos, os Ministros de todas as Republicas Latino-Americanas e o Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE.

Por esta occasião o Embaixador do Brazil pronunciou um brinde em que Sua Excellencia lembrou o facto de que elle e o Sr. PORRELA tinham iniciado sua carreira diplomatica em Washington, ha trinta annos, e disse que dos acontecimentos que se desenrolaram desde então, nenhum causou ao Brazil maior satisfacção do que o extraordinario impulso dado ao desenvolvimento da Republica Argentina, que se tornou uma das mais prosperas e progressivas nações do mundo. Exprimiu a convicção de que no auditorium em Buenos Aires onde se realizará a Conferencia de 1910, hão de ecoar as mesmas expressões de confiança pelo auspicioso futuro da America que resoaram no Palacio Monroe no Rio de Janeiro em 1906. Mostrou mui sinceros desejos para que sejam coroados de exito os esforços do Ministro Argentino e seu Governo no sentido de fazer que a Conferencia de Buenos Aires seja a mais fecunda de todas em resultados.

BOLIVIA.

PRODUCCÃO DO ESTANHO EM 1907.

O Sr. IGNACIO CALDERÓN, Ministro da Bolivia nos Estados Unidos, subministrou á Secretaria uma copia de um relatorio do inspector geral das rendas aduaneiras da Bolivia, sobre a produccão do estanho da Republica no anno de 1907.

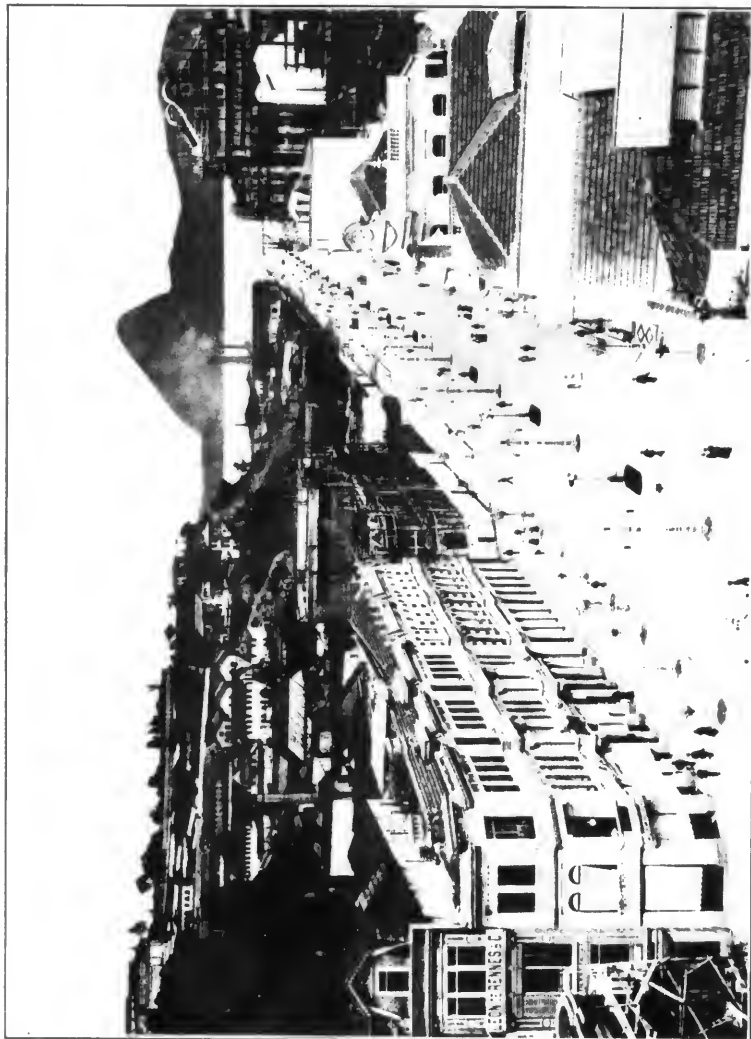
Por este se vê que a produccão nacional deste metal foi de 16,606,668.56 kilos de estanho em barra, no valor de 29,892,003.41 *bolivianos*. Em 1906 a produccão attingiu a 29,373,538.31 kilos de estanho em barra, no valor de 35,248,245.68 *bolivianos*.

BRAZIL.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR EM 1907.

Segundo dados organizados pelo Serviço de Estatistica Commercial, o valor total do commercio exterior do Brazil no anno de 1907, foi de 1,575,643:953\$, incluindo a importação de especies metallicas e notas de banco estrangeiras.

A importação foi no valor de 644,937:744\$, contra 499,286:976\$ em 1906. A exportação attingiu ao valor de 860,890:882\$ em 1907, contra 799,670:295\$ em 1906. A importação de especies metallicas e notas de banco estrangeiras foi no valor de 69,815:327\$, contra 45,211:689\$ no anno anterior.



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AVENIDA DE MAYO, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

A magnificent thoroughfare on which constructive harmony has been maintained by municipal regulations.

COLOMBIA.

CAMINHOS PUBLICOS E A ESTRADA DE FERRO DE CAUCA.

Um relatório interessante apresentado pelo inspector geral dos caminhos publicos da Republica mostra que o Governo da Colombia despendeu durante o anno de 1907 a quantia de \$398,373.55 ouro na construção, reparação e melhoramento das estradas publicas. Em muitos casos, para o prolongamento das estradas até terras virgens, foi necessario transpor importantes rios e atravessar difficis e perigosas passagens nas montanhas. Além do grande numero de estradas de rodagem que têm sido construidas e melhoradas na Colombia, está quasi concluida a Estrada de Ferro de Cauca, que tem estado em via de construção durante muitos annos e em que o Governo tem empregado muitos milhões de dollars. A companhia constructora da linha tem hoje á sua disposição para sua construção \$1,400,000 ouro, além de 50 por cento das rendas brutas arrecadadas pelas alfândegas da costa occidental da Republica, e espera-se que a estrada será concluida até Papagayeros antes do fim de 1908, e que toda a linha até Cali será entregue ao trafego em julho de 1910.

COMPANHIA DE REFINAÇÃO DE PETROLEO DE CARTAGENA.

Os Srs. DIEGO MARTINEZ & C., em virtude de uma concessão obtida do Governo Federal, organizaram uma companhia na capital da Republica sob o nome de "Cartagena Oil Company," com o capital de \$100,000, para refinar o petroleo que se encontra na costa do Atlantico. Dentro dos proximos quatro mezes, a nova Companhia estabelecerá em Cartagena uma completa installação desta industria.

AUGMENTO NO PREÇO DO SAL.

Um decreto executivo de 20 de janeiro de 1908, augmenta o preço do sal proveniente das minas de Chita e Muneque, e limita a produção dessas minas de modo tal que só poderão supprir as cidades vizinhas e a parte septentrional da Republica. Como resultado desta medida, essas minas não poderão continuar a enviar sal a Tundama e Boyaca, nem fazer concorrência com o producto das minas de Zipaquirá, de propriedade do Governo.

BUREAU DE INFORMAÇÕES EM BORDÉOS.

Acaba de ser estabelecido em Bordéos, França, um Bureau de Informações, semelhante aos que estão em funcionamento em Londres, Paris, Barcelona, Hamburgo, e New York.

CONTRACTO PARA O SERVIÇO TELEGRAPHICO E TELEPHONICO.

O Departamento dos Correios e Telegraphos, com a previa approvação do Poder Executivo, prorogou por mais cinco annos a contar de 1º de janeiro de 1908, o prazo do contracto feito em 12 de junho de 1906, com FRANCISCO J. FERNANDEZ, para a construção, reparação e funcionamento das linhas telegraphicas e telephonicas federaes.

COSTA RICA.**RENDAS ADUANEIRAS, NOVE MEZES DE 1907.**

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica de abril a dezembro de 1907, foram na importancia de 3,815,223.71 *colones*, contra 3,214,234.24 *colones* em igual periodo de 1906, sendo assim distribuidas: As principaes alfandegas do paiz, 2,294,453.14 *colones*; alfandega de Limon, 1,128,263.95 *colones*, e a alfandega de Puntarenas, 392,506.62 *colones*. As alfandegas da Republica arrecadaram no mez de janeiro de 1908, 478,053.74 *colones*.

CUBA.**RENDAS ADUANEIRAS NO PERIODO DE 1905 1907.**

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas da Republica nos annos de 1905, 1906, e 1907, foram na importancia de \$25,258,005.44, \$25,090,084.05 e \$26,311,596.85, respectivamente, o que perfaz o total de \$76,659,686.34.

ESTATISTICA PECUARIA.

Segundo eifras organizadas pela Repartição de Estatística da Republica de Cuba, existiam na Republica em 30 de junho de 1907, 2,584,877 cabeças de gado vaccum, 413,937 cavallos, 50,637 muares, e 2,810 burros.

CONSTRUCÇÃO DE ESTRADAS DE RODAGEM E OBRAS PUBLICAS.

Em 14 de fevereiro de 1908, o Governador Provisorio de Cuba, attendendo ao que lhe requereu o Secretario Interino das Obras Publicas, proclamou um decreto autorizando a abertura de um credito de \$1,007,750, para a construção, prolongamento, conclusão e reparação das estradas de rodagem e as pontes da Republica. Esta verba estará á disposição do Departamento das Obras Publicas, e será paga com os fundos existentes no Thesouro que não tenham outro destino.

REPUBLICA DOMINICANA.

RATIFICAÇÃO DAS CONVENÇÕES SOBRE PROPRIEDADE LITTERARIA E ARTISTICA E CODIGOS DE DIREITO INTERNACIONAL.

O Governo da Republica Dominicana ratificou a 15 de junho de 1907, a Convenção sobre Propriedade Litteraria e Artistica, firmada na Segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, reunida na cidade de Mexico, em 27 de janeiro de 1902, e a Convenção sobre Codigos de Direito Internacional, assignada na cidade do Rio de Janeiro o 23 de agosto de 1906, pelos delegados dos Governos representados na Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana. Os decretos approvando estas convenções vem publicados na "*Gaceta Oficial*," de 5 e 12 de outubro de 1907.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM OS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

RELAÇÃO MENSAL DA IMPORTAÇÃO E EXPORTAÇÃO.

O quadro apresentado na pagina 818 é extrahido dos dados compilados pelo Chefe da Repartição de Estatistica do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, mostrando o movimento commercial entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos. A relação corresponde ao mez de fevereiro de 1908, com uma identica comparativa para o mez correspondente do anno anterior, assim como para oito mezes findos em fevereiro de 1908, comparados com o periodo correspondente do anno precedente. Deve-se explicar que os algarismos das diversas alfandegas, mostrando as importações e exportações de um só mez, são recebidos no Departamento do Thesouro até quasi o dia 20 do mez seguinte, e perde-se algum tempo necessariamente em sua compilação e impressão. Por conseguinte, as estatisticas para o mez de fevereiro, por exemplo, não são publicadas até os primeiros dias de abril.

UM SERVIÇO DE VAPORES PARA O TRANSPORTE DAS MALAS PARA A AMERICA DO SUL.

Como uma medida importante encaminhada para pôr os Estados Unidos em relações commerciaes mais estreitas com a America do Sul, o texto da seguinte lei, que foi approvada pelo Senado dos Estados Unidos no dia 20 de março de 1908, e que se espera que tambem seja ratificada pela Casa dos Representantes dos Estados Unidos, merece especial attenção.

UMA LEI Que tem por objecto reformar a lei de 3 de março de 1891, intitulada "Uma lei autorizando a abertura do credito necessario para o estabelecimento de um serviço postal maritimo entre os Estados Unidos e portos estrangeiros e para promover o commercio."

O Senado e a Casa dos Representantes dos Estados Unidos da America, reunidos em Congresso, decretam: Pela presente fica autorizado o Director Geral dos Correios a

pagar pelo serviço do transporte das malas, de conformidade com a lei de 3 de março de 1891, em vapores de segunda classe que façam carreira para a America do Sul, as Philippinas, o Japão, China e a Australasia, isto é, uma distancia de quatro mil ou mais millas na viagem de ida, uma subvenção por milha navegada que não exceda a subvenção applicavel aos vapores de primeira classe, de conformidade com as disposições da referida lei, e em vapores de terceira classe que façam este serviço, uma subvenção por milha navegada que não deverá exceder a applicavel aos vapores de segunda classe, de accordo com as disposições da dita lei: entendendo-se, que si não for celebrado um contracto de accordo com as disposições desta lei, para o estabelecimento de um serviço de vapores entre um porto situado na costa do Atlantico ao sul do Cabo Charles e portos da America do Sul, o Director Geral dos Correios exigirá, comtanto que se estabeleçam duas ou mais linhas de portos do Norte do Atlantico, que os vapores de uma das ditas linhas façam escala, tanto na viagem de ida como na de volta, pelo menos em dous portos da costa do Atlantico ao sul do Cabo Charles, tendo-se em conta para a escolha de ditos portos de escala, sua situação e movimento commercial; entendendo-se igualmente, que a despesa total do serviço postal estrangeiro de qualquer anno não deverá exceder a receita estimada para o dito anno.

Approvada pelo Senado a 20 de março de 1908.

Dou fé.

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretario*.

HONDURAS.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR EM 1906-7.

O Sr. WILLIAM E. ALGER, Consul dos Estados Unidos em Tegucigalpa, informa que a exportação da Republica de Honduras nos doze mezes decorridos de agosto de 1906 a julho de 1907, foi no valor de \$2,012,409.69, moeda norte-americana, ao passo que a importação attingiu a \$2,331,516.96.

Os Estados Unidos occupam o primeiro lugar tanto no commercio de importação, como no de exportação, sendo as importações dessa procedencia no valor de \$1,561,855.05, e as exportações para alli, no valor de \$1,807,952.55.

No exercicio anterior a importação foi no valor de \$2,511,610, e a exportação no de \$2,877,743, importando os Estados Unidos mercadorias dessa procedencia no valor de \$2,204,692, e exportando para alli productos no valor de \$1,896.204.

A participação que tiveram os outros paizes na importação de Honduras foi a seguinte:

	Valor.		Valor.
Guatemala	\$64,912.37	Salvador	\$10,758.99
Cuba	55,861.30	Grã Bretanha	9,611.57
Alemanha	50,756.47	Nicaragua	1,484.44
Honduras ingleza	11,952.13	Costa Rica	126.85

As importações tiveram a seguinte origem:

	Valor.		Valor.
Grã Bretanha.....	\$269.556.65	China.....	\$1.207.00
Allemanha.....	209.089.47	Austria.....	1.134.73
França.....	110.425.88	Mexico.....	1.030.00
Honduras Inglesa.....	63.404.17	Guatemala.....	900.00
Salvador.....	36.173.84	Porto Rico.....	787.00
Nicaragua.....	34.859.62	Escocia.....	224.45
Espanha.....	24.591.68	Suecia.....	126.00
Italia.....	8.199.40	Hollanda.....	86.62
Cuba.....	5.000.00	Hungria.....	46.56
Equador.....	2.080.00	Japão.....	39.25
Belgica.....	1.734.59	Panama.....	20.00

Os artigos que mais avultaram na exportação são os seguintes: bananas, 4,266,567 cachos no valor de \$930,916.36; minérios, \$444,332.61; animais vivos, \$136,016.31; prata em barra, \$132,168.24; couros, \$66,313.89; cocos, \$62,760.25; madeiras duras e de tinturaria, \$41,268.14, e borracha, \$38,745.25.

MEXICO.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR, PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907-8.

Segundo as cifras publicadas pela Divisão de Estatística do Departamento da Fazenda e Crédito Público do Mexico, o valor total dos generos importados no primeiro semestre do exercicio de 1907-8 (julho a dezembro de 1907), foi de 122,977,698.70 pesos, contra 107,746,708.51 pesos, em igual periodo do exercicio anterior, o que accusa um augmento de 15,230,990.19 pesos. Exportaram-se no primeiro semestre do exercicio de 1907-8, productos no valor de 127,736,511.63 pesos, contra 117,883,937.18 pesos, em igual periodo do exercicio anterior, o que mostra um augmento de 9,902,574.45 pesos. É digno de nota o augmento havido na importação, tendo em conta o facto que as importações nos exercicios de 1905-6 e 1906-7, soffreram uma consideravel diminuição.

PREÇOS DE TERRAS PUBLICAS, 1908-9.

Segundo a tabella estabelecida em 9 de janeiro de 1908 pelo Governo do Mexico, os preços de terras publicas no exercicio de 1908-9, serão os seguintes:

Estados.	Preço por hectare.	Estados.	Preço por hectare.
	Pesos.		Pesos.
Aguascalientes.....	7.00	Puebla.....	11.00
Campeche.....	4.00	Queretaro.....	9.00
Chiapas.....	4.00	San Luis Potosi.....	4.00
Chihuahua.....	4.00	Sinaloa.....	4.00
Coahuila.....	4.00	Sonora.....	4.00
Colima.....	6.00	Tlaxcala.....	7.00
Durango.....	4.00	Tlaxcala.....	4.00
Guajalajara.....	12.00	Tlaxcala.....	17.00
Guerrero.....	5.00	Veracruz.....	12.00
Hidalgo.....	5.00	Yucatan.....	4.00
Jalisco.....	9.00	Zacatecas.....	4.00
Mexico.....	21.00	Districto Federal.....	100.00
Michoacan.....	14.00	Territorio de Freijeiro.....	4.00
Morlos.....	27.00	Territorio de Baja California.....	2.00
Nuevo Leon.....	4.00	Territorio de Quintana Roo.....	2.00
Oaxaca.....	5.00		

VENEZUELA.

EXPORTAÇÃO DO CACÁO, PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1907.

A quantidade total de cacáó exportado pela Republica de Venezuela durante o primeiro semestre de 1907, foi de 7,993,080 kilos, no valor de 9.692,604.65 *bolivars*. Foram exportados pelos portos de La Guaira e Carupano, 4, 604,701 e 2,023,027 kilos, respectivamente, e, pelos demais portos, 1,365,352 kilos. Da quantidade total exportada, 4,476,882 kilos, foram com destino á França; 1,134,930 kilos, á Hespanha; 1,088,079 kilos, á Grã Bretanha e suas colonias; 1,085,102 kilos, á America do Norte; 87,681 kilos, á Allemanha; 63,138 kilos, á Hollanda e suas colonias; 56,512 kilos, á Italia, e 756 kilos, a Porto Rico.

BULLETIN

DU

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No. 4.

Le 1^{er} avril le Directeur du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines et MM. Norcross Frères de Worcester, Massachusetts, ont signé l'acte par lequel ces derniers ont été reconnus adjudicataires des travaux de construction du nouveau bâtiment du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines. Ce bâtiment devra être terminé en quinze mois à partir de la date de la signature de l'adjudication, c'est-à-dire le 1^{er} juillet 1909. Dans les plans modifiés, ainsi que dans le cahier des charges, il est dit que la construction extérieure doit être tout en marbre et non en stuc comme on l'avait d'abord décidé. C'est en grande partie, grâce aux présentes conditions dans lesquelles se trouve l'industrie du bâtiment que l'on a pu faire cet important changement. On construit si peu en ce moment et les entrepreneurs ont un si grand désir d'avoir des travaux que les chiffres des soumissions ont été d'environ 20 pour cent inférieurs à ce qu'ils auraient été il y a six ou huit mois; et par suite de cette économie on est convenu de remplacer le stuc par du marbre pour les murs extérieurs. La compagnie Norcross Frères est une des plus anciennes maisons des Etats-Unis. C'est elle qui a eu l'entreprise pour faire les différents changements dans la Maison Blanche il y a quelques années et c'est elle aussi qui est à la tête de l'entreprise de la grande bibliothèque de New York qui est maintenant presque terminée. Toutes les personnes qui ont vu les plans tels qu'ils ont été soumis par les architectes, MM. Kelsey & Cret, de Philadelphie, Pensylvanie, sont unanimes à dire que non seulement le bâtiment sera un des plus beaux qui ait jamais été construit à Washington, mais que toutes les Républiques sud-américaines pourront en être fières. Au moment où ce BULLETIN est sous presse, les entrepreneurs ont déjà commencé les premiers travaux et le conseil d'administration du Bureau International compte pouvoir poser la première pierre le 11 mai avec les cérémonies appropriées à

Bien que le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines exerce le plus grand soin pour assurer l'exactitude de ses publications, il n'assumera aucune responsabilité des erreurs ou inexactitudes qui pourraient s'y glisser.

la circonstance. M. ROOSEVELT, président des Etats-Unis, M. ANDREW CARNEGIE, M. l'ambassadeur du Brésil et le secrétaire d'État prendront part à ces cérémonies.

COMITÉ PAN-AMÉRICAIN DES ETATS-UNIS.

Le nouveau comité pan-américain dont on a parlé dans le dernier numéro du BULLETIN a commencé ses travaux. C'est le 17 mars 1908, à la dernière réunion tenue au Département d'Etat, que l'on a définitivement organisé le comité. M. ROOT en a été choisi, à l'unanimité, le président honoraire. Les membres permanents sont: Président, WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN; vice-Président, ANDREW CARNEGIE; Secrétaire, JOHN BARRETT. Le comité exécutif est ainsi constitué: M. le docteur L. S. ROWE, M. CHARLES B. LANDIS, député, M. le général A. E. BATES et M. WILLIAM E. CURTIS. Le président et le secrétaire du comité général sont *ex-officio* membres du comité exécutif. La première réunion ordinaire a eu lieu le 7 avril, et on a fait des arrangements pour la préparation de rapports spéciaux sur différents sujets.

CONFÉRENCE DE HARVARD SUR LA GÉOGRAPHIE SUD-AMÉRICAINÉ.

Par suite du grand intérêt qui se manifeste pour tout ce qui touche à l'Amérique Latine, l'Université de Harvard, dans son programme pour l'année 1907-8, a établi un cours de géographie sur l'Amérique du Sud. Il y a dix ans on avait annoncé ce projet, mais jusqu'ici on n'avait pris aucune mesure pour le mettre à exécution.

Ce cours, d'après le sommaire qui en a été fait par M. ROBERT de C. WARD, professeur à l'Université de Harvard, présente une vue générale sur l'état physique, commercial et climatérique de l'Amérique du Sud, y compris l'Amérique Centrale et les Indes Occidentales, prise en entier et des différentes divisions politiques prises séparément. On ne se sert pas de livres, mais on consulte les livres qui font autorité sur l'Amérique du Sud, ainsi que différents articles et rapports. On prête une attention toute spéciale à l'étude des climats et à l'influence qu'ils peuvent avoir sur les habitations, les occupations, les voyages, le transport, etc.

L'UNIVERSITÉ DE CORNELL ET L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

Sur l'invitation de M. JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN, président de l'Université de Cornell, et sur celle des étudiants argentins qui sont membres du Cercle Cosmopolite, le Directeur du Bureau interna-

tional est allé faire une visite intéressante à l'Université de Cornell, à Ithaca, New York, les 13 et 14 mars 1908. Le vendredi soir il a parlé devant une réunion d'étudiants, présidée par M. SCHURMAN, et le soir suivant les étudiants argentins ont offert une grande réception en son honneur, au cours de laquelle il a fait une description de la République Argentine. Il y a actuellement à Cornell 46 étudiants de différents pays latino-américains, répartis de la manière suivante: République Argentine 13; Porto Rico 10; Mexique 7; Pérou 5; Brésil 4; Équateur 2; Nicaragua 2; Chili 1; Uruguay 1; Costa Rica 1. Comme il y a en tout 143 étudiants venant de pays étrangers, on voit que presque le tiers vient de l'Amérique Latine. Par suite des nombreuses demandes adressées au Directeur à ce sujet, on publie dans ce numéro du BULLETIN des extraits de ses deux discours prononcés à Cornell.

NOUVEAU CHEMIN DE FER TRANSCONTINENTAL.

On publie dans ce numéro du BULLETIN un compte-rendu des cérémonies qui ont eu lieu en janvier 1908, à l'occasion de l'inauguration du chemin de fer transcontinental du Guatemala. On y a donné aussi des extraits de l'intéressant rapport de M. GEORGE W. DAVIS, major-général de l'armée des Etats-Unis, qui représentait ce dernier pays dans cette circonstance. En reliant Puerto Barrios, sur la mer des Caraïbes, à San José, sur le Pacifique, par une ligne de 270 milles de longueur, on a créé le troisième chemin de fer transcontinental, le premier étant celui de Panama et le second celui de Tehuantepec. Sans aucun doute, ce chemin de fer aura une très grande influence sur le développement du commerce et la prospérité du Guatemala, et on doit féliciter ce pays, ainsi que M. MANUEL ESTRADA CABRERA, son Président, d'avoir mené à bonne fin une pareille entreprise. M. MINOR C. KEITH, Sir WILLIAM VAN HORNE et le général T. H. HUBBARD, qui ont agi de concert avec le Gouvernement du Guatemala pour la construction de la ligne, ont grandement contribué au succès de l'entreprise.

RÉUNION PAN-AMÉRICAINNE À PHILADELPHIE.

Une réunion importante de l'Académie américaine des Sciences politiques et sociales a eu lieu le 20 mars à Witherspoon Hall, à Philadelphie, Pensylvanie. Les ministres de Bolivie, de la République Argentine, du Pérou, de Colombie, de l'Uruguay et du Chili y assistaient et ont prononcé des discours appropriés à la circonstance. Les faits principaux de la réunion ont été le discours prononcé par M. le docteur L. S. ROWE, de l'Université de Pensylvanie;

la remise du diplôme honoraire de docteur ès droit qui lui a été faite par l'Université nationale de La Plata, République Argentine, et celle des insignes de professeur de droit qui lui a été faite par l'Université de San Marcos, à Lima, Pérou. M. JOHN BARRETT, Directeur du Bureau, présidait la séance. On remarquait dans l'audience beaucoup de personnes distinguées de Philadelphie et de New York.

CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL DE TUBERCULOSE.

La première réunion du Congrès international de tuberculose aura lieu à Washington en septembre 1908, et des délégués officiels de presque tous les pays civilisés y assisteront. Parmi les pays de l'Amérique Latine qui ont manifesté leur intention de prendre part à cette conférence sont: La République Argentine, le Brésil, l'Uruguay, le Chili, la Colombie, l'Équateur, le Guatémala, le Pérou, le Honduras, le Salvador, le Vénézuëla et Cuba.

L'Institut *Smithsonian* à Washington a offert un prix de \$1,500 pour la meilleure étude sur "L'action que peuvent avoir les conditions atmosphériques sur la tuberculose." Cette étude devra être faite en anglais, en français, en allemand, en espagnol ou en italien. On décernera d'autres prix en argent, ainsi que des médailles pour des expériences faisant voir le soulagement que l'on peut apporter à la tuberculose ou même pour sa prévention. On peut avoir tous les renseignements à ce sujet en s'adressant au docteur CHARLES J. HATFIELD, 2008 rue Walnut, Philadelphie, Pensylvanie.

DEUX IMPORTANTS DÎNERS DIPLOMATIQUES.

Quoiqu'en général le Bureau ne s'occupe pas des événements de la société, deux dîners donnés respectivement par l'ambassadeur du Brésil et le ministre de la République Argentine à Washington méritent une attention toute particulière, et par conséquent on en trouve un compte-rendu détaillé dans ce numéro du BULLETIN. Il est à remarquer que les deux plus grands et plus importants dîners officiels et semi-diplomatiques donnés à Washington dans le courant de l'hiver ont été ceux des représentants de pays de l'Amérique Latine. Le premier de ces dîners a été celui que M. NABUCCO, ambassadeur du Brésil, a donné le mardi 10 mars en l'honneur de la Cour suprême des États-Unis; et le second, celui que M. PORTELA, ministre de la République Argentine, a donné le mardi 17 mars pour fêter le choix de Buéno-Ayres comme lieu de réunion de la prochaine Conférence pan-américaine.

RETOUR DE M. CHARLES M. PEPPER.

D'ici peu, M. CHARLES M. PEPPER, représentant spécial du Département du Commerce et du Travail, qui a fait de longs voyages dans la Colombie, l'Équateur, le Pérou et la Bolivie, sera de retour aux États-Unis. Les rapports qu'il a préparés sur la Colombie et l'Équateur ont grandement contribué à la connaissance des conditions et du progrès de la côte ouest du continent sud-américain, et on attend impatiemment ceux qui doivent suivre sur le Pérou et la Bolivie. Il y a peu d'hommes qui connaissent mieux l'Amérique Latine que M. PEPPER, et le travail qu'il fait aidera grandement au développement du commerce et de l'industrie entre les États-Unis et ses Républiques sœurs.

GUIDE DE VOYAGE POUR L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

Si le public pouvait feuilleter la correspondance du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines, il serait très étonné de voir les centaines de lettres reçues chaque année pour demander des renseignements au sujet des routes à suivre pour aller dans l'Amérique Latine, la parcourir et en revenir. Quelques-unes de ces lettres viennent de voyageurs qui désirent visiter ce pays; d'autres sont inspirées par des intérêts commerciaux et aussi par le désir de trouver des débouchés dans des pays dont l'importance a été reconnue depuis longtemps par d'actifs manufacturiers européens; d'autres encore viennent de personnes qui ont déjà commencé à bénéficier des avantages de l'expansion du commerce américain, et bien que leurs produits se vendent dans certaines parties de l'Amérique Latine ces commerçants ignorent où se trouve la place exacte habitée par leurs clients et les routes les plus directes à suivre pour y transporter leurs marchandises.

Afin de porter remède à cet état de chose, on publiera dans le BULLETIN du mois de mai un itinéraire qu'un voyageur expérimenté a compilé d'après les ouvrages se trouvant dans la Bibliothèque de Christophe Colomb. Les renseignements comprendront deux tableaux: Le premier donnera les noms de tous les ports de mer et de tous les pays de l'Amérique Latine, les lignes de vapeurs qu'il faut prendre pour s'y rendre, la distance du port de départ, le prix du voyage et sa durée approximative; le second donnera le nom officiel de chaque compagnie de navigation, son siège social aux États-Unis, les ports de départ et les ports d'escale dans l'Amérique Latine, le pavillon de chaque navire, la date des départs ainsi que la nature du fret transporté et le nom des navires transportant des passagers ou des marchandises, ou les deux en même temps.

MESSAGES DES PRÉSIDENTS DES RÉPUBLIQUES DE L'AMÉRIQUE
LATINE.

Dans ce numéro du BULLETIN MENSUEL on reproduit des extraits des messages que différents Présidents des Républiques de l'Amérique Latine ont prononcés devant les Assemblées nationales de leurs Gouvernements respectifs depuis le commencement de l'année. Un des traits saillants des messages des Présidents du Salvador et du Guatemala est l'appui chaleureux donné aux efforts combinés du Mexique, des Etats-Unis et des Gouvernements de l'Amérique du Centre pour maintenir une paix durable entre les pays qui ont pris part à la Conférence de Washington. Monsieur WILLIMAN, qui vient de terminer en février dernier sa première année en qualité de Président de la République de l'Uruguay, montre aussi dans son message le même esprit de confraternité. A l'ouverture du Congrès Mexicain le 1 avril, Monsieur DIAZ, Président de la République Mexicaine, a fait le résumé ordinaire des conditions qui ont prévalu dans le pays pendant le semestre précédent.

ÉTAIN BOLIVIEN EN 1907.

La crise financière qui s'est fait sentir dans le monde commercial à la fin de l'année 1907, a affecté le prix de l'étain bolivien sur les marchés du monde entier, et par conséquent en a diminué la production. D'après l'échelle mobile adoptée au sujet de la valeur de l'étain des Straits Settlements, qui est prise comme base, la production pour l'année 1907 s'est élevée à une valeur totale de \$15,000,000, soit \$3,000,000 de moins que dans l'année antérieure, dont la production cependant était de 1,865 tonnes de moins.

AUGMENTATION DANS LE COMMERCE DU BRÉSIL.

Le commerce extérieur du Brésil en 1907 accuse une augmentation de \$54,000,000 sur l'année 1906, les totaux pour les deux années étant respectivement de \$494,000,000 et de \$440,000,000. Les importations ainsi que les exportations figurent dans cette plus-value, bien que les importations dépassent considérablement les exportations. On constate des augmentations sensibles dans les envois de café et de cacao, mais le caoutchouc, cet autre article si important, fait voir une diminution.

DÉVELOPPEMENT DES MOYENS DE COMMUNICATIONS AU CHILI.

L'esprit progressif qui anime le Gouvernement du Chili, sous l'administration de Monsieur MONTT, son Président, se fait voir non seulement par les nombreuses concessions accordées pour la construction

de chemins de fer et de travaux publics, mais aussi par l'établissement d'un service maritime entre Valparaiso et Panama, subventionné par le Gouvernement qui lui accorde la somme de \$100,000 par an. Le projet de loi stipule surtout que le voyage doit s'effectuer en huit jours, établissant ainsi un service rapide *via* l'Isthme de Panama, entre les côtes est et ouest du continent. Le recensement du pays fait ressortir une augmentation de plus de 500,000 dans le nombre des habitants pendant les douze dernières années, et les établissements industriels cherchent des débouchés pour leurs produits indigènes. En 1907 on constate une augmentation de \$2,516,079 sur l'année précédente, ce qui porte le total au chiffre de \$182,802,896.

RECETTES DE COSTA-RICA.

Les recettes douanières de Costa-Rica pour l'année 1907 ont constamment augmenté. Dans les neuf mois, d'avril à janvier, les recettes totales ont dépassé de \$300,000 celles de la même période de l'année 1906, soit une moyenne de \$210,000 par mois, et au mois de janvier 1908 les recettes ont presque atteint la somme de \$240,000.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR DE CUBA.

Les statistiques commerciales publiées par le Ministère des Finances de la République de Cuba font ressortir les conditions satisfaisantes du commerce du pays, les évaluations totales pour l'année 1907 étant estimées à \$208,529,972, contre \$201,933,135 en 1906. Il y a des augmentations dans les deux branches du commerce sur l'année précédente. La part des États-Unis, d'après les statistiques détaillées du Bureau des Statistiques des États-Unis, accuse une augmentation de 123.55 pour cent dans les importations et de 61.52 pour cent dans les exportations sur l'année 1903. Les recettes douanières de l'année dépassent de \$1,000,000 celles de l'année 1906.

LE COMMERCE DOMINICAÏN EN 1907.

Le rapport pour l'année 1907 préparé par M. W.-E. PULLIAM, receveur général des douanes dominicaines, fait ressortir que le total du commerce extérieur s'est élevé au chiffre le plus élevé qui ait jamais été atteint jusqu'ici. On constate une augmentation de plus de \$12,500,000 dans les exportations ainsi que dans les importations, les premières s'élevant à \$7,628,356, et les dernières à \$4,948,961. En les comparant à l'année 1906 on voit une augmentation de \$1,191,968 dans les exportations et de \$883,524 dans les importations. Le commerce d'importation du pays s'est borné aux besoins

urgents et actuels, ce qui explique l'augmentation peu considérable dans cette branche du commerce, mais l'augmentation dans les perceptions douanières a permis au receveur de verser au compte du Gouvernement dans les caisses de la Banque Nationale de New York la somme de \$1,543,421.20 pour servir au remboursement de la dette nationale, ce qui laisse une balance nette de \$1,135,974, résultat des transactions de l'année dont il est question.

La nouvelle constitution approuvée en février et mise en vigueur le 2 avril 1908 fixe à six ans la durée du terme présidentiel et abolit l'emploi de vice-président.

PROGRÈS FAITS DANS LES TRAVAUX DU CHEMIN DE FER DE GUAYAQUIL
À QUITO.

Au sujet de la nouvelle concession de chemins de fer autorisée par le Gouvernement de l'Équateur, il est intéressant de noter que d'après les renseignements transmis au Bureau par M. WILLIAMS C. FOX, Ministre des États-Unis auprès de ce Gouvernement, les travaux de la ligne de Guayaquil à Quito seront terminés le 1^{er} juin. Le 1^{er} mars le premier train de voyageurs est entré dans la ville de Tambillo, et les entrepreneurs ont certifié que d'ici très peu de temps les travaux de la ligne seront terminés, les sections les plus difficiles de la ligne étant déjà prêtes à être mises en exploitation.

INAUGURATION DU PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU HONDURAS.

Le 1^{er} mars dernier Señor Don MIGUEL R. DÁVILA, qui, depuis le mois d'avril dernier 1907, exerçait les fonctions de Président provisoire du Honduras, vient d'être installé comme Président définitif, et en cette qualité il a prononcé à l'Assemblée Nationale un discours officiel dans lequel il a déclaré sa politique et ses intentions. D'après des renseignements reçus de source particulière, il ressort que le pays jouit d'une prospérité économique générale, bien que les évaluations commerciales de l'année fiscale, soit \$4,343,926.65, soient quelque peu au-dessous de celles de l'année 1905-6, qui se montaient à \$5,389,353.

FUSION DE CHEMINS DE FER MEXICAINS ET COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR.

Par suite de l'acte signé le 28 mars 1908, établissant son existence légale, il s'est formé par fusion une société de chemins de fer mexicains au capital de \$230,000,000 en or. On a publié dans le BULLETIN du mois d'août 1907 l'acte de fusion des chemins de fer du Gouvernement mexicain, en date du 6 juillet 1907, dans lequel on fait



PLACE PUBLIQUE DE TEGUCIGALPA, CAPITALE DU HONDURAS.

Située au centre du district minier à 3,200 pieds au-dessus du niveau de la mer.

PLAZA CENTRAL OF TEGUCIGALPA, THE CAPITAL OF HONDURAS.

Situated 3,200 feet above sea level in the center of the mining district.



PLANTATION DE CAFE AU SALVADOR.

La production caféière du pays dépasse 50,000 tonnes par an.

COFFEE "FINCA" IN SALVADOR.

The country's annual production of this article is over 50,000 tons.

connaître les droits des actionnaires ainsi que les intérêts du Gouvernement. Le Gouvernement, possédant 1,150,023 actions sur un total de 2,300,000, s'est ainsi assuré d'une manière presque complète la direction des opérations de cette société. La fusion se compose des grandes lignes, des lignes secondaires et des propriétés du Chemin de Fer du Centre et du Chemin de Fer National.

Les chiffres publiés dernièrement au sujet du commerce extérieur, du 1^{er} juillet au 31 décembre 1907, font voir la prospérité du pays. Les importations ont augmenté de \$7,615,495 sur celles de la même période de l'année 1906 et les exportations de \$4,951,468, ce qui fait une augmentation totale de \$12,500,000 pour les six mois en question. En se basant sur les statistiques publiées précédemment, le mouvement commercial du pays pour l'année 1907 s'est élevé à \$213,440,000, dont \$93,950,000 pour les importations et \$119,490,000 pour les exportations.

CONCESSIONS ACCORDÉES PAR LE NICARAGUA.

Pour développer les ressources naturelles du pays, le Gouvernement du Nicaragua vient d'accorder à des capitalistes étrangers plusieurs concessions importantes dont on publie la liste dans ce numéro du BULLETIN.

BALANCE COMMERCIALE DE L'URUGUAY.

D'après les chiffres donnés par M. WILLIAM, Président de la République de l'Uruguay, dans son message au Congrès national, le commerce extérieur du pays s'élève à \$69,576,143, ce qui représente une plus-value de \$1,719,204 sur l'année précédente. Il est à remarquer que cette augmentation porte entièrement sur les exportations; les importations étant à peu près stationnaires. En se basant sur les recettes fiscales de l'année 1907, on compte sur un excédent de \$1,800,000 au 30 juin 1908.

TARIF DOUANIER DU VÉNÉZUELA.

D'après la "Gaceta Oficial" on a traduit en anglais, pour le publier dans ce numéro du BULLETIN, le tarif douanier du Venezuela promulgué le mois de janvier dernier, ainsi que les changements qui ont été communiqués au Bureau depuis la date de la publication dudit tarif.

RÉPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR POUR L'ANNÉE 1907.

Le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines vient de recevoir le résumé du rapport annuel du commerce de la République Dominicaine pour l'année 1907, tel qu'il a été soumis par M. W. E. PULLIAM, receveur général des douanes dominicaines, au chef du Bureau des Affaires insulaires, au Ministère de la Guerre. Ce rapport renferme les tableaux comparatifs des années 1905-6. Dans les tableaux annexés aux statistiques du commerce de la République Dominicaine on a fait une comparaison entre le volume des importations et celui des exportations pour les trois dernières années, période pendant laquelle l'administration des douanes a été entre les mains des États-Unis. On se rappelle que c'est le 1^{er} avril 1905 que l'administration du receveur américain a commencé. Les remarques et observations qui suivent ont trait aux conditions générales du mouvement commercial pendant toute la période en question, quoiqu'on ait donné une attention toute particulière à l'année 1907, pour laquelle ce rapport a été spécialement rédigé. Pendant les trois années le pays a joui de la paix et de la tranquillité, c'est donc un moment propice pour juger les conditions commerciales telles qu'elles sont montrées par les transactions douanières. Il y a eu de grandes améliorations dans l'industrie et l'on en prévoit d'autres pour l'avenir.

C'est avec la plus grande satisfaction que l'on voit l'année 1907 tenir le record pour le commerce du pays: les récoltes, étant plus grandes, ont augmenté le chiffre des exportations et les personnes occupées dans ce commerce ont retiré de bien plus beaux bénéfices qu'auparavant.

Sachant parfaitement que les statistiques quelles qu'elles soient n'offrent que peu d'intérêt à cause de leur aridité, d'un autre côté, sachant aussi combien ceux qui peuvent s'intéresser au sujet en question, désirent en arriver le plus vite possible aux faits eux-mêmes, on a essayé de donner une place importante aux points saillants donnés en chiffres, non seulement pour les importations mais aussi pour les exportations qui servent ainsi de préliminaire aux courtes observations qui suivent immédiatement la désignation de chaque groupe. De cette manière, les personnes en question peuvent se rendre compte d'un coup d'œil de l'importance du sujet et décider alors s'ils doivent pousser leurs investigations plus loin et étudier les états du sommaire lui-même pour y trouver des détails spéciaux sur les pays d'origine, les expéditions, la valeur, le poids, etc.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR.

Le total du commerce extérieur de la République Dominicaine pour l'année 1907 a dépassé \$12,500,000, somme qui n'avait jamais été atteinte par ce pays. Le commerce d'exportation a atteint le maximum dans son histoire et cela fait espérer une grande prospérité dans l'avenir pour le peuple dominicain; la valeur déclarée des exportations étant de \$7,628,356, contre \$6,876,098 en 1905 et \$6,536,378 en 1906.

On a acheté à l'étranger des marchandises pour une valeur de \$1,948.96, soit \$2,212,133 de plus qu'en 1905 et \$883,526 de plus qu'en 1906. Les ventes de la République Dominicaine à l'étranger ont dépassé de \$2,679,395 le chiffre de ses achats, ce qui a naturellement augmenté la richesse du pays.

L'augmentation dans les perceptions douanières pendant l'année a permis au receveur de verser au compte du Gouvernement dans la Banque nationale de la ville de New York, choisie à cet effet, la somme de \$1,543,421.20 pour servir au remboursement de la dette nationale.

Pour éviter l'exportation de cette grosse somme en espèces, on l'a transférée au moyen du change à l'exception d'une petite somme. En déduisant ces \$1,543,421.20 des \$2,679,395, balance commerciale dont nous avons parlé plus haut, il reste encore la somme de \$1,135,974 au crédit du pays pour les transactions de l'année fiscale qui vient de finir.

Afin d'éviter tout malentendu que pourrait causer le paragraphe précédent, on doit dire ici que la condition financière du pays a été loin d'être satisfaisante pendant l'année 1907: la circulation de la monnaie a été très restreinte et l'île a ressenti l'effet de la crise monétaire qui a eu lieu dans les centres financiers de l'Europe et de l'Amérique. Par conséquent les importations se sont bornées aux demandes urgentes et besoins actuels du peuple.

Les faits les plus notoires du commerce extérieur dominicain pendant l'année 1907, sont une augmentation de plus de \$1,000,000 dans les exportations sur l'année 1906 et une plus-value de \$750,000 dans les importations pour le même période. En comparant l'année 1905 à l'année 1907, on voit en faveur de cette dernière une augmentation de \$2,000,000 pour les importations et une augmentation d'environ \$900,000 pour les exportations, malgré que le prix du sucre jusqu'ici le principal article d'exportation, ait diminué de plus de 37 pour cent depuis l'année 1905. On ne peut attribuer l'énorme augmentation dans le volume des importations à aucune cause spéciale mais plutôt à l'amélioration sensible de toutes les industries. Le gain total dans la valeur des exportations est dû à la hausse remarquable dans les prix du cacao sur les marchés européens ainsi qu'aux expéditions énormes de tabac en feuilles en Allemagne.

A cause de leur avantage géographique, les Etats-Unis ont continué à recevoir plus de 50 pour cent des achats nécessaires à la consommation indigène et bien que les ventes de marchandises des Etats-Unis à la République Dominicaine en 1907, s'élevant à \$2,656,549, n'aient dépassé que de \$369,026 celles de l'année précédente, la différence ou plus-value sur l'année 1905, a augmenté de plus de \$1,000,000. Quoique les Etats-Unis aient continué à être les plus grands acheteurs de produits dominicains leurs achats ont diminué énormément depuis 1905. A cette époque ils s'élevaient à \$4,484,271, soit \$1,145,073 de plus qu'en 1907 (cette diminution étant due à la baisse du prix du sucre).

Le commerce d'exportation et d'importation entre l'Allemagne et la République Dominicaine a augmenté rapidement depuis l'année 1905, accusant une augmentation de 100 pour cent. Comme l'Allemagne tient le second rang pour les importations ainsi que pour les exportations ce pays est un concurrent redoutable des Etats-Unis pour le commerce dominicain. En 1905, 1906 et 1907, les ventes de l'Allemagne se sont élevées, respectivement, à \$441,450, \$824,126 et \$953,963 et ses achats pour les mêmes années ont atteint une valeur de \$1,261,006, \$2,099,816 et \$2,759,624.

La France vient en troisième lieu, juste avant l'Angleterre pour le commerce dominicain. Une analyse des statistiques indique une augmentation considérable dans son commerce en 1907, lorsque ses importations se sont élevées à \$1,078,308 contre \$562,416 en 1906 et \$953,065 en 1905, et ses exportations à \$250,408 contre \$209,500 en 1906 et \$150,304 en 1905.

La France a toujours acheté beaucoup plus de la République Dominicaine qu'elle ne lui a vendu, tandis que c'est tout le contraire pour l'Angleterre.

Les achats de ce pays pour la consommation anglaise destinés au Royaume-Uni, ont été de \$330,787 soit environ une augmentation de 400 pour cent sur l'année 1905 et de 700 pour cent sur l'année 1906. Les ventes de l'Angleterre à la République ont dépassé considérablement ses achats. Les chiffres pour les trois dernières années ont été respectivement de: \$366,684, \$526,827 et \$761,787.

Les quatre pays nommés ci-dessus, qui sont vraiment les premiers pays du monde, sont les seuls qui font un commerce important avec la République Dominicaine, mais on remarquera avec intérêt en passant que pendant l'année 1907, l'Italie et l'Espagne ont fait pour la première fois une petite commande de produits dominicains, ce qui fait espérer pour l'avenir une augmentation dans les exportations dominicaines. L'état condensé qui suit montre les importations et exportations de marchandises faites seulement pendant les trois dernières années.

Total du commerce extérieur.

[Non compris la monnaie d'or et d'argent. a]

Pays.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Augmen- tation en 1907 sur 1906.	Augmen- tation en 1907 sur 1905.	Tant pour cent pour 1907 seulement.
États-Unis.....	\$0,085,526	\$6,029,313	\$5,975,387	b \$110,409	b \$53,926	\$47.51
Royaume-Uni.....	449,484	572,714	1,062,574	643,990	519,850	8.48
Allemagne.....	1,702,456	2,923,942	3,713,587	2,011,131	789,645	29.53
France.....	1,103,369	771,916	1,328,716	225,347	556,890	10.56
Espagne.....	43,417	93,732	127,777	84,360	34,015	1.02
Italie.....	80,873	50,842	115,520	34,647	64,678	.92
Belgique.....	4,443	5,189	6,102	1,659	913	.96
Cuba.....	77,234	47,751	36,752	b 40,482	b 10,999	.29
Porto Rico.....	16,123	32,936	76,118	59,995	43,182	.60
Autres pays.....	69,671	73,480	104,784	35,113	31,304	.83
Totaux.....	9,632,926	10,601,815	12,577,317	.....	.....	100.00

a Voir l'état détaillé dans le résumé; chiffres incomplets. Beaucoup de transactions qui ont été faites par l'intermédiaire de la poste à cause de la sécurité, de la facilité et de l'économie, n'ont pas été classées dans les entrées douanières.

b Diminution.

RENSEIGNEMENTS DÉTAILLÉS.

IMPORTATIONS.

Tissus de coton.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$1,218,679
Augmentation sur 1906.....	82,321
Augmentation sur 1905.....	665,905

Parmi les articles importés dans la République Dominicaine, les tissus de coton occupent le premier rang. C'est aussi sur cet article que s'est produite la plus grande augmentation par suite de la situation du pays qui s'est améliorée sous tous les points de vue en général. Ce sont les tissus de coton dont les indigènes ont le plus besoin. Pendant l'année 1907 la valeur des importations de cet article a dépassé d'un quart le total général de toutes les autres marchandises importées dans le pays pendant cette même période. On remarque une augmentation continue, et il est probable que les valeurs actuelles dépassent celles qui sont indiquées. Les importateurs ont l'habitude de faire les déclarations au-dessous de la valeur réelle lors de l'entrée des marchandises en douane non pas que les valeurs affectent le montant des droits de douane à percevoir sur les dites marchandises, mais le papier timbré que le Gouvernement exige pour la sortie des douanes se trouve réduit en proportion de la réduction même des valeurs déclarées. Il y a eu une augmentation sensible sur les deux années précédentes pour les mousselines et coutils. L'Angleterre et les États-Unis ont fourni plus de 90 pour cent de cet article, mais en 1907 les quantités fournies par l'Angleterre ont dépassé celles qui ont été fournies par les États-Unis quand autrefois ce dernier pays en importait la plus grande quantité.

Articles en fer et en acier.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$537, 707
Augmentation sur 1906.....	63, 507
Augmentation sur 1905.....	133, 548

Comme ils le faisaient dans le passé, les Etats-Unis ont continué à fournir environ 70 pour cent des articles en fer et en acier, soit \$351,081. La ronce artificielle, qui est admise en franchise de droits de douane, est l'article le plus important de ces transactions commerciales, les importations ayant dépassé de 1,000,000 de livres celles de l'année 1906.

Riz.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$472, 145
Augmentation sur 1906.....	101, 477
Augmentation sur 1905.....	270, 816
<hr/>	
Livres, 1907.....	20, 572, 976
Augmentation sur 1906.....	1, 698, 860
Augmentation sur 1905.....	10, 555, 964

La consommation du riz a plus que doublé depuis l'année 1905. L'Allemagne en a encore expédié environ 80 pour cent, bien que la plus grande partie ait été récoltée dans l'Inde et la Cochinchine. Par suite des transbordements et de l'emmagasinage dans les docks des ports allemands, il semble que ce pays fournisse de plus grandes quantités de riz que ne l'indiquent la production actuelle et l'expédition directe de cette céréale. Les Etats-Unis n'en ont fourni que 1,694,393 livres, ce qui porte à croire qu'on pourrait avantageusement développer ce commerce entre les deux Républiques.

Farine de ble.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$325, 386
Augmentation sur 1906.....	74, 905
Augmentation sur 1905.....	115, 563
<hr/>	
Barils en 1907.....	66, 460
Augmentation sur 1906.....	7, 818
Augmentation sur 1905.....	25, 017

Les Etats-Unis ont le monopole exclusif de ce commerce et, en général, ils ont expédié à Saint-Domingue de la farine de qualité supérieure. Il est très intéressant de remarquer que la farine tient le second rang dans les importations de la République Dominicaine et que les quantités introduites dans le pays augmentent constamment surtout quand on pense aux droits exorbitants qui frappent ce produit. Les droits d'importation seuls, s'élèvent à \$5.14 par baril; les droits de port, de papier timbré et les droits d'octroi s'élèvent à 50 cents par baril. Le prix du transport de New-York est actuellement de 75 cents par baril. Si l'on ajoute le prix du baril de farine, qui est

d'environ \$4.50, les frais d'assurance et le camionnage, qui s'élèvent ensemble à 11 cents par baril, on voit que le prix d'un baril de farine à Saint-Domingue est de \$11.

Produits alimentaires.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$305, 581
Augmentation sur 1906.....	89, 353
Augmentation sur 1905.....	167, 386

Les Etats-Unis ont fourni pour \$154,235 de viandes et de produits alimentaires, ce qui représente à peu près la moitié de la consommation totale de ces produits. L'Allemagne s'est emparée de plus d'un tiers de ce commerce, soit \$116,550. Porto-Rico a essayé de se lancer dans ce commerce en 1906 et il y a expédié de petits lots de bœuf séché. En 1907 l'île voisine y a expédié 299,070 livres de bœuf séché s'élevant à \$19,781. On a acheté aux Etats-Unis du saïndoux, des jambons et du porc salé pour une valeur de \$95,000. On a importé d'Allemagne du fromage et du beurre pour une valeur de \$11,000. Par suite des facilités de transport et de l'achat de ces produits alimentaires sur le marché de Hambourg, une grande quantité de ce beurre et de ce fromage était réellement d'origine hollandaise. La consommation des viandes en conserve est insignifiante par suite des droits prohibitifs.

Huiles.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$268, 197
Augmentation sur 1906.....	50, 738
Augmentation sur 1905.....	112, 263

L'huile d'éclairage, l'huile à graisse et les huiles de coton, facturées pour une valeur de \$239,446, proviennent des Etats-Unis et représentent de beaucoup la plus grande partie de ces importations. Les huiles d'olive importées d'Espagne se sont élevées à \$11,957, soit une augmentation de \$9,944 sur l'année 1905.

Tissus de fibres végétales.

Valeur 1907.....	\$170, 316
Augmentation sur 1906.....	21, 289
Augmentation sur 1905.....	84, 595

L'augmentation sensible qui s'est produite dans l'importation de ces articles est due principalement aux achats importants de gros sacs pour l'exportation du sucre, du cacao et du café. L'importation de ces sacs en 1907 s'est élevée au nombre de 712,124 au prix moyen de \$17 le cent. A ce prix, il faut ajouter un droit d'importation de \$0.026 par sac, ce qui met à \$0.196 le prix de chaque sac pour les exportations des produits indigènes en question. En ce moment les fibres végétales ne se récoltent pas dans le pays, bien que la "cabella," plante fibreuse de l'espèce des cactus, vient abondamment à

l'état sauvage dans beaucoup de districts. On emploie avantageusement dans d'autres pays, pour la fabrication de sacs et de toile à sac, la fibre que l'on extrait de cette plante, et si l'on s'occupait d'en accroître la production on pourrait fabriquer avantageusement les sacs à l'intérieur du pays.

Poissons conservés et similaires.

Valeur, 1907.....	\$162, 234
Augmentation sur 1906.....	30, 757
Augmentation sur 1905.....	48, 100

L'Amérique a le monopole de ce commerce. Ses ventes de morue salée et de harengs fumés se sont élevées pendant l'année 1907 à environ \$147,000.

Bois et articles en bois.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$159, 087
Augmentation sur 1906.....	48, 162
Augmentation sur 1905.....	62, 905

La plus grande quantité du bois et d'articles en bois provient des Etats-Unis, les exportations de ce pays s'étant élevées en 1907 à \$141,731, réparties de la manière suivante: Pin dégrossi, \$76,148; pin brut, \$17,328; meubles, \$21,689; châssis de boîtes, \$10,974; le reste se composait de barils et d'autres articles en bois. L'Allemagne a envoyé aux fabriques d'allumettes de la République Dominicaine des bâtons d'allumettes déjà prêts pour l'immersion dans une pâte préparée pour les faire prendre feu par frottement. Elle y a aussi envoyé les boîtes pour la vente au détail; le montant de ces articles en 1907 a dépassé \$10,000.

Cuir et articles en cuir.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$139, 133
Augmentation sur 1906.....	20, 554
Augmentation sur 1905.....	66, 169

Les bottes et chaussures reçues des Etats-Unis seulement, se sont élevées à \$83,324; les cuirs pour tiges de chaussures à \$26,525. La valeur des importations de tous les autres pays a été très petite en comparaison. L'Angleterre a exporté des articles en cuir de toutes sortes pour une valeur de \$8,989; l'Allemagne pour \$5,678; la France pour \$5,060 et l'Espagne pour \$2,209. On vient d'installer à Saint Domingue d'après les derniers modèles, une cordonnerie, où l'on fabrique des chaussures d'assez bonne qualité, ce qui promet bien pour cette industrie. Le pays produit d'excellents cuirs, le bétail puissant dans les prairies naturelles de l'île.

Sucres et confiseries.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$80, 161
Augmentation sur 1906.....	23, 203
Augmentation sur 1905.....	53, 564

Par un acte du Congrès national en date du mois de décembre 1904, on a frappé d'un droit d'un demi cent par livre le sucre raffiné ou tout article dans la fabrication duquel le sucre est le principal ingrédient. Avant la mise en vigueur de cette loi, le droit était de 7 cents $\frac{3}{4}$ la livre sur le sucre raffiné et d'environ 18 cents $\frac{1}{2}$ la livre sur la confiserie. On peut facilement voir l'effet de la réduction en comparant les chiffres donnés ci-dessus en se souvenant que plusieurs mois se sont nécessairement écoulés après le passage de la loi avant qu'on ait reçu des importations plus considérables de ces produits. Les Etats-Unis ont fourni environ 70 pour cent de ces articles, principalement les sucres raffinés, et l'Europe a fourni le reste des commandes principalement les bonbons et les sirops.

Produits chimiques et teintures.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$79,260
Augmentation sur 1906.....	14,108
Augmentation sur 1905.....	21,010

Les soi-disant médicaments brevetés ont composé une grande partie de ces importations. On a importé beaucoup de médicaments contenant de l'huile de foie de morue; ceci est dû en grande partie à l'entrée en franchise de droits de l'huile et des préparations qui la contiennent.

Boissons fabriquées avec de l'orge: bière en bouteilles.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$72,426
Augmentation sur 1906.....	13,415
Augmentation sur 1905.....	33,274
Douzaine de bouteilles 1907.....	48,127
Augmentation sur 1906..... douzaines..	8,028
Augmentation sur 1905..... do.....	22,564

C'est la bière allemande qui domine dans le pays. Sur la quantité mentionnée ci-dessus, provenant de différents pays, l'Allemagne y figure pour 38,652 douzaines de bouteilles d'une valeur de \$59,415.

Chapeaux et casquettes de toutes sortes.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$45,580
Augmentation sur 1906.....	3,858
Diminution sur 1905.....	16,231

Comme on vient de le voir d'après les chiffres ci-dessus, le commerce des chapeaux et des casquettes, qui a éprouvé une grande diminution en 1906, par comparaison à l'année 1905, s'est presque complètement relevé en 1907. L'Italie, qui joue un rôle si important dans ce commerce, occupe le premier rang comme toujours. En 1907, elle a expédié de ces articles pour une valeur de \$49,670, la France n'en a envoyé que pour \$7,677 et les Etats-Unis pour \$3,603.

Légumes.

Valeur en 1907.....	\$45,580
Diminution sur 1906.....	3,858
Augmentation sur 1905.....	16,231

En 1907, les produits américains qui représentaient plus de \$22,000, se composaient principalement de haricots, de pommes de terre et d'oignons à l'état naturel. Il existe une demande constante de ces trois légumes. L'agriculteur indigène ne s'étant que très peu dévoué à cette culture, les commerçants ont été obligés d'importer presque tous ces produits. Le sol et le climat du pays conviennent admirablement à la culture des légumes et si l'on employait de bonnes semences et de bonnes méthodes, Saint-Domingue pourrait devenir un pays exportateur de légumes au lieu d'en acheter dans les marchés extérieurs.

En 1907, les importations de légumes en conserve ne se sont élevées qu'à \$1,188. Ainsi qu'on l'a déjà dit, le droit élevé sur ces comestibles empêche leur introduction avantageuse et par conséquent les habitants sont obligés de s'en passer.

Parmi les différents groupes principaux mentionnés dans les états qui accompagnent ce rapport (voir page 787), il n'y a que trois classes de marchandises qui font voir une diminution depuis 1906, soit en valeur, soit en quantité. Ces dernières sont d'une importance secondaire, telles que les verres et verreries, les gommés et résines et les légumes en conserve.

EXPORTATIONS.

Les principales exportations faites par la République Dominicaine en 1907 sont, par ordre de valeur déclarée: le cacao, le sucre, le tabac, les bananes et le café. Les augmentations les plus sensibles se sont portées sur le cacao et le tabac: le cacao a pris le premier rang parmi les exportations au lieu du sucre qui occupait toujours cette place dans les années précédentes. Quoiqu'il soit toujours au troisième rang par ordre d'importance, le tabac montre dans les exportations une augmentation de 60 pour cent sur l'année 1906 et une de 175 pour cent sur l'année 1905. Une pareille augmentation montre les avantages que le pays pourrait retirer en se livrant à la culture et à la préparation du tabac, industrie dans laquelle il devrait jouer un rôle important à l'avenir, étant voisin de l'île de Cuba et possédant ces mêmes avantages climatiques qui ont rendu cette île si renommée pour son tabac. De ces cinq produits principaux le sucre seul a subi une réduction de prix, mais la quantité a été satisfaisante. Presque tout le sucre qui provient de la République Dominicaine se vend sur les marchés des Etats-Unis, faisant concurrence aux produits similaires venant de Cuba et de Porto-Rico, îles qui jouissent toutes les deux, d'un tarif spécial réduisant les droits de douane.

CACAO, 1907.

	Destination.		
	Allemagne.	Etats-Unis.	France.
LIVRES.....	8,857,342	7,119,693	6,386,620
Valeur.....	\$1,185,096	\$996,057	\$865,249

Les exportations de cacao en 1907 se sont élevées à 22,384,082 livres. L'Allemagne, les Etats-Unis et la France ont acheté presque toute la récolte, ainsi qu'on peut le voir par les chiffres précités. De même que dans les années précédentes l'Allemagne a été le plus grand acheteur, viennent ensuite les Etats-Unis. Bien que les expéditions de cacao n'aient pas été aussi considérables qu'en 1905 et 1906, les planteurs ont réalisé des bénéfices plus élevés, dûs en partie à la qualité de la fève mais principalement aux meilleurs débouchés. Une période prolongée de sécheresse a diminué la récolte totale d'environ 10,000,000 de livres. La récolte de cacao ayant partiellement manqué dans d'autres pays, les prix de cet article s'en sont naturellement ressentis. La moyenne des prix a été de \$7.67 pour l'année 1905 et de \$7.07 pour l'année 1906, contre \$13.35 en 1907. Ces prix sont par quintal ou 100 livres. Par suite de la grande demande les prix continuent à hausser, encourageant ainsi les planteurs laborieux à consacrer plus de terrain à la culture du cacao. Si les prix restent fermes cette situation attirera de nouveaux colons à Saint-Domingue et les engagera à se livrer à cette culture si rémunératrice.

De même que pour les autres produits dominicains, les habitants n'apportent pas à la culture du cacao autant de soins qu'ils pourraient le faire. Si l'on tient compte de cette manière d'agir et qu'on y porte remède le pays occupera le rang qu'il devrait avoir parmi les pays producteurs de cet important article. A ce sujet on cite le paragraphe suivant, extrait d'un des derniers numéros du bulletin officiel de la Chambre de Commerce de Londres qui l'a reproduit du "Gordian," publication allemande consacrée aux intérêts du cacao :

Saint-Domingue mérite une attention toute particulière, car sa production de cacao sera, dans un avenir prochain, un facteur important dans la production mondiale. Les plantations ont augmenté pendant l'année écoulée. Sachant qu'il existe encore dans la République Dominicaine de grandes étendues de terres propres à la culture du cacao, on peut dire sans crainte de se tromper que sa production de cacao augmentera considérablement d'ici peu.

Sucre.

	1907.	1906.	1905.
Nombre de tonnes exportées.....	54,100	61,700	52,986
Valeur.....	\$2,099,679	\$2,362,406	\$3,242,470
Prix moyen par tonne.....	\$38.80	\$38.77	\$62.14

Sur les quatre principaux articles d'exportation produits dans la République Dominicaine c'est l'industrie sucrière qui a montré l'état le moins satisfaisant en 1907. On peut attribuer cette condition premièrement au bas prix de \$39 par tonne qui a existé depuis l'année 1906, ainsi qu'à une diminution de la production. Le prix énorme de \$62.14 par tonne auquel le sucre s'est élevé en 1905 a naturellement augmenté la valeur des exportations totales pour l'année en question.

D'un autre côté, la diminution de 7,600 tonnes dans les expéditions de 1907, en les comparant à celles de l'année, 1906, a aussi affecté les recettes. Pendant l'année 1907, les Etats-Unis en ont acheté 45,336 tonnes et le Royaume-Uni 8,464 tonnes.

TABAC.

	1907.	1906.	1905.	Augmen- tation sur 1906.	Augmen- tation sur 1905.
Livres.....	21,802,982	14,965,799	11,510,762	6,837,183	10,292,220
Valeur.....	\$1,341,233	\$837,657	\$480,487	\$504,176	\$860,746
Prix moyen par 100 livres.....	\$6.15	\$5.60	\$4.17		

On constate une activité marquée dans les exportations de tabac en 1907. La production a augmenté d'environ 100 pour cent sur l'année 1905 et considérablement sur celle de l'année 1906. L'Allemagne a été, comme toujours, le seul pays acheteur de grandes quantités de tabac. En effet, elle a reçu 95 pour cent de l'exportation totale:

Bananes.

Quantité (régimes):

1907.....	640,000
1906.....	668,100
1905.....	514,033

Les plantations dans le voisinage de Puerto Plata, appartenant à la "United Fruit Company" ont continué à produire à peu près la même quantité de fruits en 1907 que pendant l'année précédente. Il n'y a eu qu'une diminution très peu sensible. Toutes les exportations de bananes ont été faites aux Etats-Unis au prix uniforme de 50 cents le régime.

Café, 1907.

Acheté par:

	Livres.
La France.....	1,243,206
L'Allemagne.....	950,747
Les Etats-Unis.....	811,612

Les expéditions de café pendant l'année se sont élevées à 3,376,970 livres évaluées dans les factures consulaires à \$252,390. La France a reçu plus d'un tiers du total ayant augmenté de plus de 100 pour cent ses achats de cet excellent produit. Deux nouveaux pays acheteurs, l'Italie et l'Espagne, ont paru sur le marché des cafés de Saint-Domingue. On a expédié 64,327 livres en Italie et 52,459 livres en Espagne. Environ les deux-tiers du café envoyé en Espagne et en Italie ont été expédiés du port de Barahona. On assure que pendant l'année 1907 le Vatican est devenu un acheteur régulier du café provenant de Barahona. On a demandé à l'Archevêque de Saint-Domingue de vouloir bien personnellement s'occuper d'une commande spéciale qu'on lui a transmise.

EXPORTATIONS DIVERSES.

Bien qu'en 1907, plus de 91 pour cent du commerce d'exportation de Saint-Domingue soient compris dans les produits mentionnés ci-dessus, plusieurs produits moins importants tels que les cuirs de chèvres et de bétail, le miel, les bois de teintures, le lignum-vitæ, etc., etc., accusent des augmentations dans les exportations. Il s'est produit sur ces différents articles une augmentation de \$40,000 sur les années 1905 et 1906.

NATIONALITÉ DES NAVIRES.

NAVIRES D'IMPORTATION.

Les navires américains et allemands continuent à apporter dans le pays environ 86 pour cent de toutes les importations. Pendant l'année 1907, des navires américains ont transporté des marchandises évaluées à \$2,804,605 soit 54 pour cent des importations totales et les navires allemands en ont importé pour une valeur de \$1,629,715 soit 32 pour cent. Les navires français et norvégiens ne font pas une grande concurrence. Sous ce rapport, cependant, chacun de ces pays a augmenté son commerce de 100 pour cent environ depuis 1906. Les navires français ont apporté des marchandises pour une valeur de \$272,111 en 1906 et de \$426,481 en 1907 et les navires norvégiens en ont apporté pour une valeur de \$55,421 en 1906 contre \$102,028 en 1907. Le reste des importations a été réparti entre les navires anglais, cubains, espagnols, dominicains et hollandais, comme on peut le voir dans les tableaux détaillés qui accompagnent ce rapport.

NAVIRES D'EXPORTATION.

Les navires américains et allemands ont transporté plus des deux-tiers des exportations en 1907, chaque nationalité ayant une part à peu près égale du commerce du transport: celle de l'Allemagne était un peu plus considérable en 1906 mais en 1907, c'est tout le contraire qui s'est produit, les navires américains ayant transporté des produits pour une valeur de \$2,596,464 et les navires allemands pour une valeur de \$2,538,631. Les navires français et norvégiens ont transporté pour \$895,000 de marchandises et les navires anglais, hollandais, dominicains et cubains se sont partagé le reste du commerce qui s'est élevé respectivement à \$600,959, \$44,430, \$33,722 et \$30,962 pendant l'année.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE AVEC L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

On trouvera à la page 818 le dernier rapport du commerce entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique latine, extrait de la compilation faite par le Bureau des Statistiques du Ministère du Commerce et du Travail. Le rapport a trait au mois de février 1908, et donne un tableau comparatif de ce mois avec le mois correspondant de l'année 1907. Il donne aussi un tableau des huit mois finissant au mois de février 1908, en les comparant avec la période correspondente de l'année précédente. On sait que les chiffres des différents bureaux de douane montrant les importations et les exportations pour un mois quelconque ne sont reçus au Ministère des Finances que le 20 du mois suivant, et qu'il faut un certain temps pour les compiler et les faire imprimer, de sorte que les résultats pour les mois de février ne peuvent être publiés avant le mois d'avril.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LATIN-AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

AMBASSADORS EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Brazil	IRVING B. DUDLEY, Rio de Janeiro.
Mexico	DAVID E. THOMPSON, Mexico.

ENVOYS EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTERS PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Argentine Republic	*SPENCER EDDY, Buenos Aires.
Bolivia	WILLIAM B. SORSBY, La Paz.
Chile	JOHN HICKS, Santiago.
Colombia	THOMAS C. DAWSON, Bogotá.
Costa Rica	WILLIAM L. MERRY, San José.
Cuba	EDWIN V. MORGAN, Havana.
Ecuador	WILLIAMS C. FOX, Quito.
Guatemala	WILLIAM HELMKÉ, Guatemala City.
Haiti	HENRY W. FERNISS, Port au Prince.
Honduras	(See Salvador.)
Nicaragua	(See Costa Rica.)
Panama	HERBERT G. SQUIERS, Panama.
Paraguay	(See Uruguay.)
Peru	LESLIE COMBS, Lima.
Salvador	H. PERCIVAL DODGE, San Salvador.
Uruguay	EDWARD C. O'BRIEN, Montevideo.
Venezuela	W. W. RUSSELL, Caracas.

MINISTER RESIDENT AND CONSUL-GENERAL.

Dominican Republic.....	FENTON R. MCCREERY, Santo Domingo.
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*From June 1, 1908.

VALUE OF LATIN-AMERICAN COINS.

The following table shows the value, in United States gold, of coins representing the monetary units of the Central and South American Republics and Mexico, estimated quarterly by the Director of the United States Mint, in pursuance of act of Congress:

ESTIMATE APRIL 1, 1908.

Countries.	Standard.	Unit.	Value in U. S. gold or silver.	Coins.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.	Gold	Peso	\$0.965	Gold—Argentine (\$4.824) and $\frac{1}{2}$ Argentine. Silver—Peso and divisions.
BOLIVIA	Silver	Boliviano	.408		Silver—Boliviano and divisions.
BRAZIL	Gold	Milreis	.546	Gold—5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver— $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 milreis.
CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES—				
Costa Rica	Gold	Colon	.465	Gold—2, 5, 10, and 20 colons (\$9.307). Silver—5, 10, 25, and 50 centimos.
Guatemala	Silver	Peso	.408		Silver—Peso and divisions.
Honduras				
Nicaragua				
Salvador				
CHILE	Gold	Peso	.365	Gold—Escudo (\$1.825), doubloon (\$3.650), and condor (\$7.300). Silver—Peso and divisions.
COLOMBIA	Gold	Dollar	1.000		Gold—Condor ($9.647) and double condor. Silver—Peso.
ECUADOR	Gold	Sucre	.487	Gold—10 sucres (\$4.8665). Silver—Sucre and divisions.
HAITI	Gold	Gourde	.965		Gold—1, 2, 5, and 10 gourdes. Silver—Gourde and divisions.
MEXICO	Gold	Peso ^a	.498	Gold—5 and 10 pesos. Silver—Dollar ^b (or peso) and divisions.
PANAMA	Gold	Balboa	1.000		Gold—1, 2$\frac{1}{2}$, 5, 10, and 20 balboas. Silver—Peso and divisions.
PERU	Gold	Libra	4.866 $\frac{1}{2}$	Gold— $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 libra. Silver—Sol and divisions.
URUGUAY	Gold	Peso	1.034		Gold—Peso. Silver—Peso and divisions.
VENEZUELA	Gold	Bolivar	.193	Gold—5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 bolivars. Silver—5 bolivars.

^a 75 centigrams fine gold.^b Value in Mexico, 0.498.

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