

International Union of American Republics

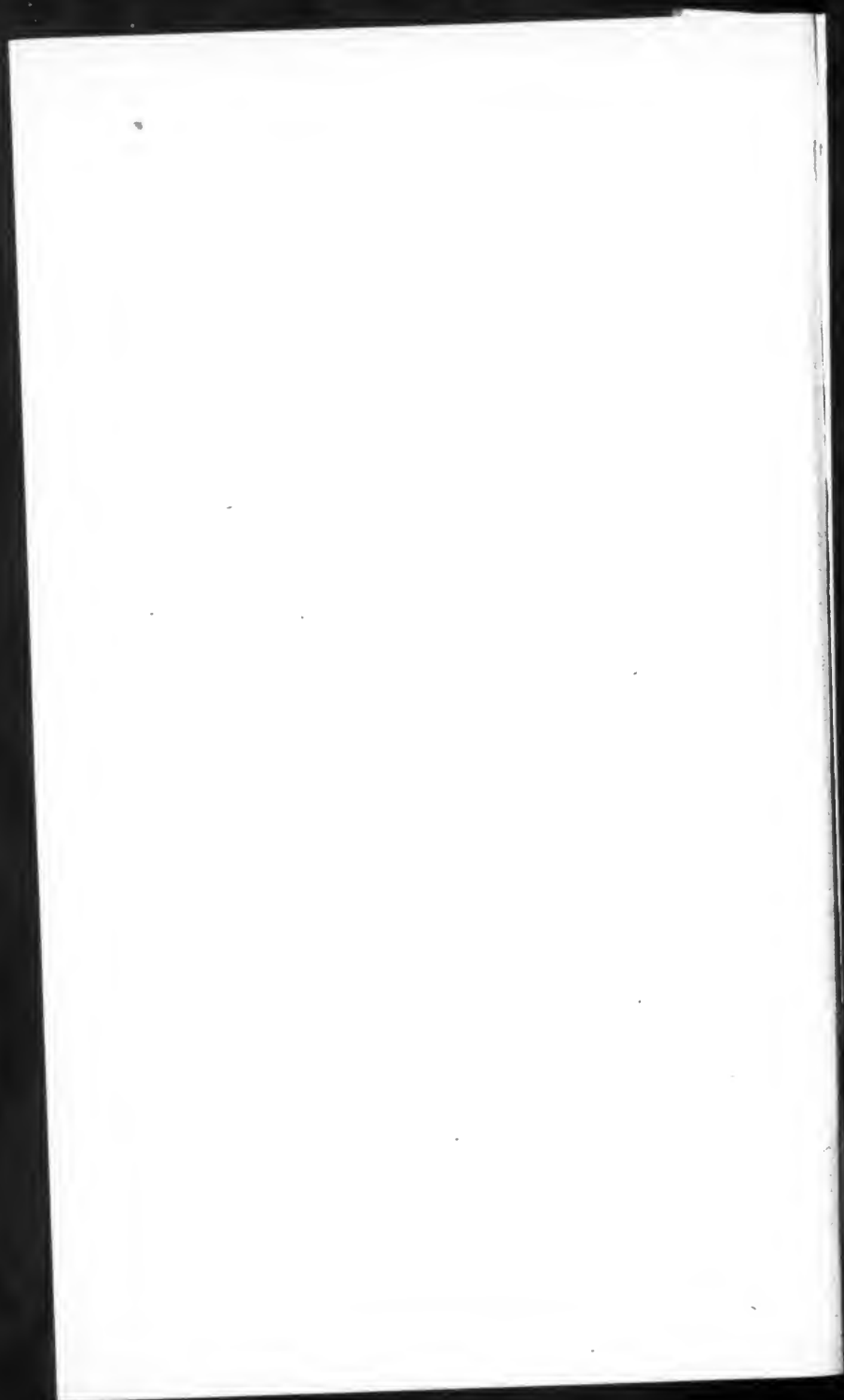
Monthly Bulletin
OF THE
International Bureau
OF THE
American Republics

VOL. 24, No. 6
JUNE, 1907
WHOLE NO. 165



WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1907

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R918

JOHN BARRETT

Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

FRANCISCO J. YÁNES,
Secretary.

WILLIAM C. WELLS,
Chief Clerk.

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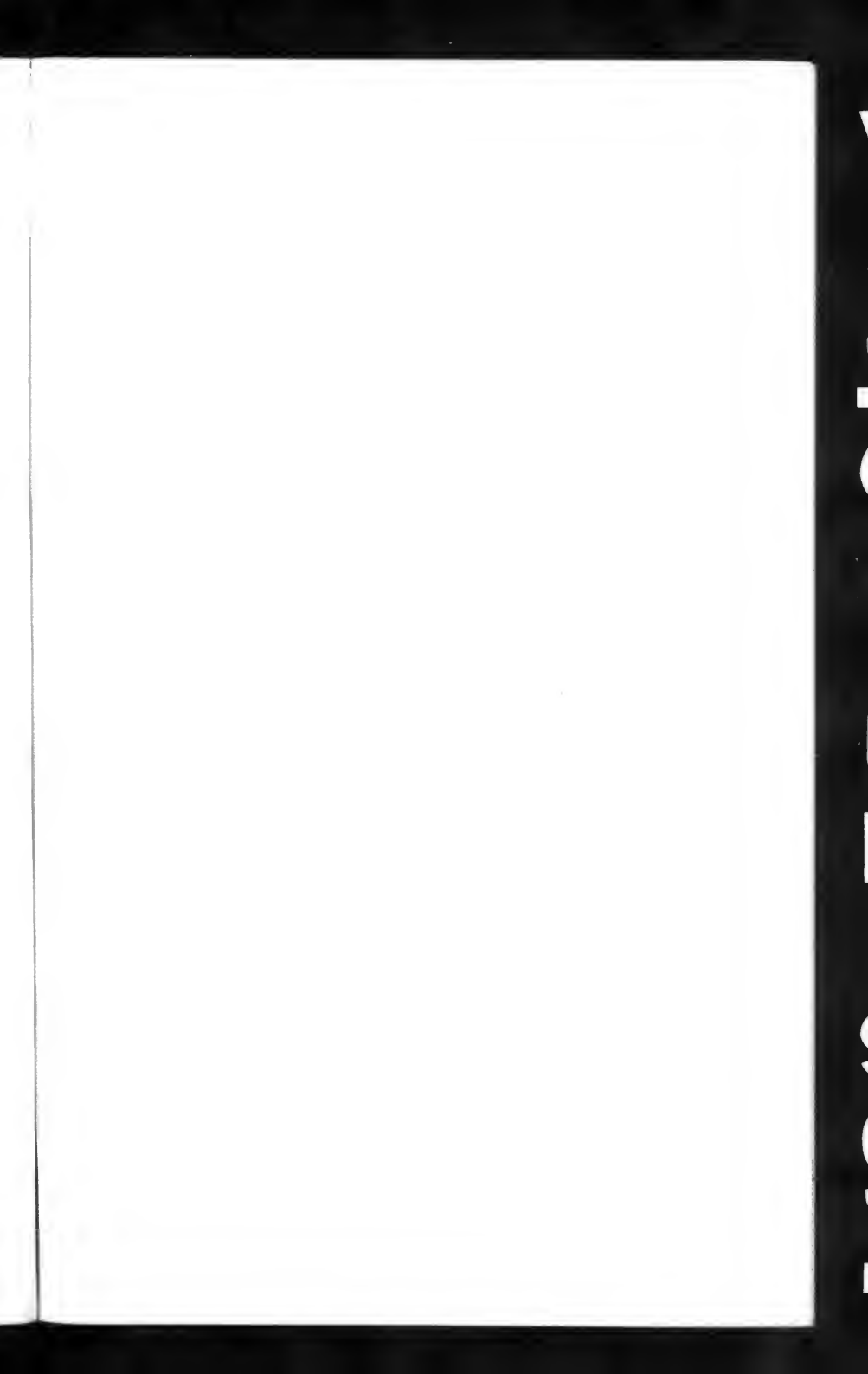
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While the utmost care is taken to insure accuracy in the publications of the International Bureau of the American Republics, no responsibility is assumed on account of errors or inaccuracies which may occur therein.

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SEÑOR DON LUIS F. COREA, MINISTER OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED STATES.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,

International Union of American Republics.

VOL. XXIV.

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No. 6.

There is such a growing demand from all parts of the world for information regarding the work, scope, and character of the International Bureau of American Republics that it has been thought best to include in this issue of the BULLETIN a general sketch of the Bureau that gives sufficient data to answer the majority of inquiries. Even those who are more or less familiar not only with what the International Bureau has accomplished, but with what it has before it, may find in this résumé some facts in regard to the Bureau's importance, opportunity, and responsibility which they have not before appreciated.

LATIN AMERICA AT THE LAKE MOHONK CONFERENCE.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, which met May 22-24, 1907, was the prominence given to Latin America. In none of the twelve annual preceding meetings has there been manifested such an interest in what Central and South American countries have done for the promotion of international arbitration. The addresses of Ambassador CREEL, of Mexico, and of Minister CALDERÓN, of Bolivia, were among the most notable, important, and significant that were delivered at the conference. They attracted wide attention throughout the United States, and were generally commented upon by the leading newspapers. Brief addresses by Hon. FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, former United States Minister to Venezuela and former Assistant Secretary of State of the United States, and by the Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, took up various phases of Latin-American efforts at peace and progress. The BULLETIN prints in this issue extracts from some of the speeches delivered at Lake Mohonk.

THE NEW MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BOARD.

The International Bureau of the American Republics welcomes to membership on its Governing Board Señor Don JOSÉ AUGUSTIN ARANGO, the new Minister of Panama to the United States, who was received by President ROOSEVELT on May 13. Mr. ARANGO is well known to the Director of the Bureau, who enjoyed his friendship and profited by his advice during the Director's experience as United States Minister to Panama. The new Minister is one of the foremost men of the young Republic, and will prove a worthy representative of its ambitions at Washington. The Director takes advantage of this opportunity, moreover, to express his regret at the departure of Minister OBALDÍA, who has always taken a deep interest in the work and welfare of the Bureau. The retiring Minister, however, returns home to assume even greater responsibilities than he had in Washington, because he will act as Chief Executive of Panama during the approaching absence of President AMADOR.

EXCEPTIONAL HONORS FOR AMBASSADOR CREEL.

It is to be hoped that the exceptional honor which has been conferred upon the Ambassador of Mexico, Señor Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, by the people of the Province of Chihuahua, who have just elected him governor, will not take him away from Washington. Not only has Ambassador CREEL manifested practical interest in the enlarged scope and work of the Bureau and cooperated to make its efforts of advantage alike to Mexico and the United States, but he has done much in a very short time to make Mexico better known and more respected than ever before throughout the United States. It is indeed a rare honor for a man to hold the dual position of Ambassador from his country and of governor of one of its principal provinces. There could be no better evidence of the esteem in which he is held in his own country, not only by his Government at large, but also by the people of a special section remote from the capital.

BUENOS AIRES' CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION IN 1910.

In this era of expositions, which have become such a feature of the national life of the United States, it is most interesting to note that the Government of the Argentine Republic is preparing to hold, at Buenos Aires in 1910, the centennial year of Argentine independence, a great exhibition of arts, industries, agriculture, and cattle. The Argentine Congress has just passed a law providing for the appoint-

ment of a national commission which shall formulate plans for the exposition and the awakening of general interest not only in the Argentine Republic but throughout the world in the exposition. As the announcement has just been made there has not been time for much attention to be given this project in the United States or in Europe, but it is to be hoped that if foreign nations are invited to participate, the United States will not fail to make a liberal appropriation for a comprehensive exhibit. The Argentine Republic is growing so rapidly and is becoming so important a factor in the world's trade that the manufacturers and exporters of the United States should not fail to improve this opportunity to exploit their products. If the average American, who might otherwise not be interested in the exhibition at Buenos Aires, will remember that that city has now a population of over 1,000,000 and that the foreign commerce of the Republic amounted last year to \$563,000,000, or an average of nearly \$100 per head of population, he will be convinced that the opportunity for the United States to strengthen its material position there should not be neglected. It is needless to prophesy that the exhibition will be a success. The Argentine Republic is so progressive and the people of Buenos Aires are so energetic that they are sure to make it one of the most ambitious undertakings of its kind that the world has known. Incidentally, it may be added that 1910 would be a good year for Americans, who wish to see South America, to plan a visit to that part of the world. In this connection it will be interesting to read the published extracts from the message of the President of the Argentine Republic, delivered May 8, 1907, on the occasion of the convening of the Forty-sixth National Assembly. He points out many things which are worthy of consideration by all those who are interested in Latin-American affairs as demonstrated by Argentine development.

Mining Regulations in Bolivia.

The International Bureau of the American Republics is constantly receiving inquiries in regard to mining legislation and regulations in the different Latin-American countries. The BULLETIN in this issue gives a new decree, issued by the Bolivian Government on April 20, 1907, relating to mining concessions and applications, the survey and settling of land, oppositions, approvals, registered titles, and jurisdiction in full. It is the purpose of the BULLETIN to publish, from time to time, all new mining regulations or changes in old laws which are enacted in the different American Republics, so that the growing mining interests of the world may be familiar with the conditions in each country.

PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY OF BRAZIL.

The message of President AFFONSO PENNA, of Brazil, which was delivered at the opening session of the National Congress May 3, 1907, should be carefully read by all persons who are watching the onward movement of the largest Latin-American country. The extracts from it which appear in this BULLETIN show that the country is moving rapidly forward along all lines of development and has before it a remarkable future. The President of Brazil declares that a careful examination of public affairs confirms the belief which he expressed in a former message that the country is marching steadfastly toward a great destiny, and that this opinion is shared by prominent foreigners who have visited the country and examined its resources and have watched its progress for many years. He says that the wonderful progress that has been made in Rio Janeiro astonished all who have visited it. Trade statistics prove that production has increased, while the statistics of the Treasury—which reflect the economic conditions—are satisfactory. He makes special reference to the International Bureau of the American Republics; to the visit of Secretary Root to South America; to the participation of Brazil at The Hague Conference; to the negotiation of a boundary treaty with Colombia, and to the progress being made in the settlement of questions with Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay, and Bolivia. Great emphasis is laid upon the importance of developing the railways of the country, and he advises Government aid and cooperation to carry out different enterprises. Statistics of foreign trade of Brazil for 1906 show that the exports were worth approximately \$265,000,000 and the imports \$165,000,000, or a total foreign trade of \$430,000,000, an increase of between \$60,000,000 and \$70,000,000 over 1905.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF CHILE.

The BULLETIN publishes in this issue extracts from a financial publication of Santiago containing a statement sent to the Department of the Interior of Chile by its Bureau of Statistics, which shows a very favorable condition of affairs in that progressive Republic. For instance, the total valuation of property subject to taxation in 1904 was \$1,512,591,127, an increase of \$112,507,766 over the valuation of 1897. The bank deposits, according to latest reports, were \$314,240,433, or an increase of \$193,078,147, or 159 per cent, over the deposits of December 31, 1901. Stock companies were incorporated in 1905, to the amount of \$25,000,000, or an increase of 800 per cent over 1901. The number of industrial establishments in 1905 was 10,152, against 7,315 in 1901, while there were 35,018 commercial establishments in 1905 against 32,944 in 1901.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT REYES, OF COLOMBIA.

Colombia is now forging so rapidly to the front that the reprint of portions of the message of President REYES, delivered April 1, 1907, before the National Assembly of that country, will be read with interest. The nearness of Colombia to the United States, its location on both the waters of the Atlantic and the Pacific, its remarkable variety of resources, and its good fortune in having at its head a man of such statesmanlike qualities as President REYES, are proving to the world that it is a field for great material progress.

OTHER FEATURES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

There is not space in the introductory portion of the BULLETIN to comment on all the subjects covered of particular interest in each of the countries, but attention is invited to the message of the President of Costa Rica, delivered on May 1, 1907, to the Costa Rican Congress; the mining report from the Province of Santiago in Cuba; provisions regarding colonization and irrigation in the Dominican Republic; the reception of United States Minister FOX by President ALEARO, of Ecuador; the trade of Guatemala with New York in 1906; commercial, mining, and general conditions in Mexico; organization of a Panama Bureau of Statistics; improved port facilities of Paraguay; new land and irrigation laws in Peru; general commerce of the United States with Latin America; foreign trade of Venezuela, and a paper on the ratio of trade values between Latin America and the United States.

SKETCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF
THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

The International Bureau of the American Republics has its headquarters in Washington, D. C. It is maintained by the joint action and contributions of all the Republics of the Western Hemisphere, for the purpose not only of promoting commerce and trade, but of developing among them better acquaintance, closer relations, and more intimate intercourse along material, educational, intellectual, and social lines.

It is an organization which has no counterpart in the world. It is not a bureau subordinate to any one Department of the United States Government, as many people suppose, but it is the independent office of the Governments of Latin America as much as of the United States. Its control is in the hands of a Governing Board, made up of all the diplomatic representatives in Washington of the American

Republics and presided over by the Secretary of State of the United States. This Board, in turn, chooses the Director, who is the chief administrative officer and responsible to the Board for the management of the Bureau. The Director is an officer of twenty-one Republics, but, as the headquarters of the Bureau are in Washington, he is nominated, as a matter of courtesy and precedent, by the Secretary of State of the United States and then voted upon by the Ambassadors and Ministers of the other countries.

The funds for its maintenance are provided by appropriations of the American Republics made in proportion to their population, so that the smallest of the nations in area have as much interest in its support as the larger countries, like the United States. The twenty-one Republics represented on the Governing Board are, in order of population, United States, Brazil, Mexico, Argentin Republic, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Cuba, Haiti, Guatemala, Ecuador, Salvador, Uruguay, Paraguay, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama.

THE BUREAU FIRST ESTABLISHED IN 1890.

The Bureau was first established in 1890 by the action of the First International Conference of American Republics, which assembled at that time in Washington and was presided over by JAMES G. BLAINE. The motive which prompted its establishment was the desire of the delegates to dispel the ignorance which they discovered existed in the United States about her sister Republics and, in turn, among the latter concerning the United States. It was first described as a "Bureau of Information," and it was the intention of its founders that it should acquaint manufacturers, exporters, importers, merchants, and all classes of people seeking reliable data for the upbuilding of trade, with the kind of information that would bring about a new era in the material relations of the American Republics.

Its first Director was the distinguished newspaper correspondent, WILLIAM E. CURTIS. In a short time he gave the Bureau a prominence that caused it to be recognized among all the countries as a useful and practical institution. Succeeding him until the Second Pan-American Conference, held in Mexico in 1901, were, in the order of their terms, CLINTON FURBISH, JOSEPH P. SMITH, FREDERIC EMORY, and W. W. ROCKHILL, now United States Minister to China. At the Mexican Conference the plan and scope of the Bureau was enlarged so that it should become the agency for the carrying out of the resolutions of this international gathering.

When Mr. ROCKHILL went to China, in 1905, he was succeeded by WILLIAMS C. FOX, now United States Minister to Ecuador. Under the various administrations of these different Directors the Bureau gradually grew in influence and utility, but there was lacking the

direct interest and hearty support of all the Governments concerned to make it as powerful and useful an institution as desired for the good of the nations supporting it. Some new force was required to give it added influence, popularity, and practical value.

SECRETARY ROOT'S VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA.

When ELIHU ROOT became Secretary of State he immediately recognized that something should be done on new and broader lines to bring about closer diplomatic, commercial, and social relations between the United States and her sister American Republics. It was, therefore, decided by the Administration that Mr. ROOT should make a tour of South America and that at the Third Pan-American Conference, held in Rio de Janeiro in the summer of 1906, steps should be taken to reorganize the International Bureau and enlarge its scope and usefulness. In the discussions that took place in Washington at the sessions of the Governing Board, prior to the Rio Conference, the Latin-American representatives cordially reciprocated the interest of the Secretary of State in Latin America and in the plans for the Bureau, with the result that, when the Conference assembled, it unanimously passed resolutions that will make the Bureau a powerful and practical institution for the building up of international American trade, for providing avenues of approach to each other on political, educational, and intellectual lines, and for developing more general acquaintanceship and closer intercourse.

THE ELECTION OF DIRECTOR BARRETT.

In December, 1906, JOHN BARRETT, then United States Minister to Colombia, and prior to that United States Minister, respectively, to Siam, the Argentine Republic, and Panama, was unanimously chosen by the Governing Board as Director to succeed WILLIAMS C. FOX, who was appointed United States Minister to Ecuador. To Mr. BARRETT's hands was intrusted the carrying out of the new programme of the Rio Conference for the reorganization and enlargement of the Bureau. Mr. BARRETT was also Delegate of the United States to the Second Pan-American Conference in Mexico, 1901, where he was a member of the subcommittee having in charge the resolutions pertaining to the Bureau and passed at that Conference.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE BUREAU.

The following quotation from the resolutions of the Third Conference gives some idea of the scope of its work:

"The Third International American Conference resolves:

"ARTICLE 1. The Third International Pan-American Conference resolves to continue the International Union of the American Republics created by the First Conference and confirmed by the Second.

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

"1. To compile and distribute commercial information and prepare commercial reports.

"2. To compile and classify information respecting the treaties and conventions between the American Republics and between the latter and non-American States.

"3. To supply information on educational matters.

"4. To prepare reports on questions assigned to it by resolutions of the International American Conferences.

"5. To assist in obtaining the ratification of the resolutions and conventions adopted by the Conferences.

"6. To carry into effect all resolutions the execution of which may have been assigned or may hereafter be assigned to it by the International American Conferences.

"7. To act as a permanent committee of the International American Conferences, recommending topics to be included in the programme of the next Conference; these plans must be communicated to the various Governments forming the Union at least six months before the date of the meeting of the next Conference.

"8. To submit within the same period a report to the various Governments on the work of the Bureau during the term covered since the meeting of the last Conference, and also special reports on any matter which may have been referred to it for report."

ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS COVERING NEW WORK.

Further resolutions, which placed new responsibilities on the Bureau, provided that steps should be taken for housing the institution "in such a way as shall permit it to properly fulfill the important functions assigned to it by this Conference;" that a committee should be appointed in each Republic to assist the Bureau in carrying out its work; that there should be established, as subordinate to it, a special section of commercial statistics; that the Bureau should elaborate the project for providing better steamship facilities between the principal ports of the American Republics for the purpose of facilitating trade, travel, commerce, and general communication; that it should investigate the question of the Inter-Continental Railway and confer with the different Governments with a view to determining as soon as possible what concessions of land, subventions, interest guaranties, exemptions of duty on material for the construction and rolling stock, and any other concessions they may deem it advisable to grant in connection therewith; that it should make a study of the monetary systems of the American Governments for the purpose of submitting to the next Conference a report on the systems in force in each of the Governments, its history, fluctuations, and

type of exchange which have taken place within the last twenty years, including the preparation of tables showing the influence of said fluctuations on commerce and industrial development; that it should study the laws that regulate public concessions in the various Republics of America, with a view to obtaining information that might be useful to it; and that, finally, it should prepare a programme for the Fourth International Conference, which is to be held within the next five years.

THE COLUMBUS MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

One of the important features of the International Bureau, which is not yet fully appreciated, is the Columbus Memorial Library. It now contains about 13,000 volumes, covering a great variety of commercial, historical, and general information concerning the different American Republics. It is intended to enlarge this Library so that it will be the most complete collection of Americana in the world. The resolution of the Second Pan-American Conference, approved by the Third, recommends that each Government shall provide this Library with copies of all its official publications. Such a collection alone would make it invaluable for consultation and reference. To-day, it is being used by statesmen, writers, students, travelers, business men, and others who wish to obtain reliable information about any American country.

THE GIFT OF MR. CARNEGIE FOR A NEW BUILDING.

On New Year's Day, 1907, Hon. ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State of the United States, and Chairman *ex-officio* of the Governing Board of the Bureau, announced a generous gift by Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, of \$750,000, to be used in the construction of a new building or home for the International Bureau.

The different Governments supporting the Bureau, including the United States, had already appropriated about \$250,000 for the purchase of a beautiful site on the corner of Seventeenth and B streets, in the city of Washington. This location comprises 5 acres, facing the Executive Grounds on the east and Potomac Park on the south. The competition for the selection of an architect is now going on, and it is probable that the ground for this "American Temple of Peace," as Mr. CARNEGIE describes it, will be broken early in the fall of 1907.

THE PRACTICAL WORK NOW BEING DONE.

As evidence of the practical work of the Bureau under the present administration, the following facts can be cited:

1. During the first five months of 1907, the Bureau received nearly 6,000 letters from all parts of the world, asking for specific and

important information on various subjects pertaining to Latin America. In the same period there were sent out nearly 6,000 letters giving direct and special data which required careful preparation.

2. Aside from these, there were received over 2,000 letters requesting printed matter, and there were distributed over 60,000 BULLETINS, handbooks, pamphlets, and circulars.

3. Each month, the Bureau sends out 10,000 BULLETINS, of not less than 300 pages each, which contain all the latest descriptive and statistical information concerning the commerce and trade and the industrial development of the twenty-one American Republics.

4. Handbooks, averaging 200 to 400 pages each, on the principal American countries have already been published or are in process of preparation, which are distributed free or at a charge covering simply the cost of printing and paper.

5. Pamphlets and circulars containing accurate information in relation to mining, immigration, tariff, and land laws, reports of consular officers, articles and addresses by diplomats or specialists about the various countries and their characteristics are published and distributed where they will do the most good.

6. Manufacturers, exporters, and merchants wishing to exploit the markets in countries other than their own are being informed of the conditions prevailing in the field to be entered and the best ways to become acquainted with it, while persons wishing to travel for business or pleasure are told the best routes to follow.

7. In the intellectual and educational field of intercourse the systems of the universities and colleges of North and South America are being studied and an effort is being made to bring about an exchange of representative scholars and publicists.

8. The study of Spanish and Portuguese is being strongly urged in the different schools of North America and of English in similar schools and institutions of South America, while both colleges and public libraries are being provided with lists of books which will give information regarding the historical, political, intellectual, and material development of each country.

9. Practical steps have been taken to carry out in detail the programme outlined at the Rio de Janeiro Conference, as described in this sketch under the head of "Special resolutions regarding the Bureau" and "Additional resolutions covering new work." While it is somewhat difficult to advance this broad programme as rapidly as desirable, on account of the fact that neither the income nor the staff of the Bureau have yet been increased, enough has been accomplished to give an indication of the great good that will result to all the American Republics from the enlarged scope of the Bureau, which will reach its fulfillment as the different Republics increase their appropriations,

or quotas, as the staff shall be strengthened by the addition of more experts, and as the new building shall be completed and ready for occupancy.

THE LAKE MOHONK CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

The Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration held its thirteenth annual meeting on May 22-24, 1907.

On the latter date the conference was addressed by Señor Don ENRIQUE CREEL, Mexican Ambassador in the United States; Señor Don IGNACIO CALDERÓN, Minister from Bolivia to the United States; Hon. JOHN BARRETT, Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, and Hon. FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, former United States Minister to Venezuela and Assistant Secretary of State of the United States.

Under the caption "Latin America and the World," the "Tribune," of New York, comments as follows, on the distinguished speakers and the effect of arbitration verdicts and awards as evidenced by the American nations:

"Yesterday's proceedings at the Lake Mohonk Conference of International Arbitration were agreeably suggestive of the place lately filled in the world by those countries which, for lack of an entirely correct and convenient term, are commonly but not quite accurately called Latin America. A few years ago it was not as it is now. 'Mexicanized' was a term of extreme reproach, used to describe one of the worst states into which the government of a country could fall, and most of the Central and South American Republics were spoken of with either pity or contempt. A marked change has come over those countries in the last generation, and to-day they are entitled to stand as peers in the councils of the nations.

"The Mexican Ambassador, Mr. CREEL, was amply entitled to speak as he did of Mexico's record of abstention from aggressive wars, of her readiness to resort to arbitration, and of her active work for the success of the congress at The Hague. His observations on the possibilities and limitations of international arbitration at the present time were also instinct with temperance and judgment and compare favorably with the utterances which any other responsible statesmen have made in advance of and in preparation for the congress at The Hague. Nor did Mr. CALDERÓN, the Bolivian Minister, overstate the case in dwelling upon the widespread practice of arbitration among the South American Republics. We have frequently taken opportunity to remark upon that very point. If that continent was once the home

of wars and revolutions, it has of late been the chief scene of international arbitrations, the verdicts and awards of which have in nearly every case been loyally accepted without demur.

“These circumstances and considerations will invest the appearance of practically all of the Latin American countries at The Hague with special interest and with no small degree of authority. They deserve, most of them, well of the world. They have more than once set examples which other older and more pretentious nations might profitably follow. They are committed to a course at the congress which commends itself to reason and justice, and we may confidently expect that their voices, strange in a European conclave, will be welcomed and will be heard with the respect and courtesy which self-respecting powers accord to their peers.”

Ambassador CREEL spoke, in part, as follows:

“MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, and GENTLEMEN: You need not wonder that a Mexican should address you in this hall where so many eminent men have spoken. Mexico, during her entire political life, has always shown her willingness to submit all of her international differences to a friendly arbitration. Never in her wars did Mexico play the part of the aggressor. You will doubtlessly recall that it was Mexico, conjointly with the United States, who first suggested and then obtained the awakening of The Hague Tribunal from its lethargy, thereby becoming a practical institution worthy of entire faith and confidence and to which could be intrusted the adjudication of matters of vital importance.

“No one can fail to recognize the fact that the world rushes steadily onward in our times, whether it be in the solution of material problems, or political, intellectual, moral, or social questions.

* * * * *

“For a long time there has been in medicine, law, and diplomacy a school which may be called a prophylactic school, whose doctrine it is to prevent and forestall rather than to repress and punish. In olden times, at the end of a bloody and costly war, the diplomats determined which were the territories to be ceded to the conqueror and what the indemnity to be paid by the conquered one. In our day diplomacy, which, according to Mr. ROOSEVELT, is ‘a school of right and truth,’ mediates only to prevent war, to allay its hardships, to hasten its termination, thus preventing abuse on the part of the proud, haughty conqueror.

“The greatest thinkers, the most distinguished statesmen, the men who are the pride of mankind, all join now in anathematizing war as a destroyer of activities, a mowder of lives, the antagonist of industry, and the enemy of the home. Count MOURAVIEFF, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Russia, not long ago, when transmitting the views of his Sovereign, stated that the maintenance of general peace and a

possible reduction of armaments were the ideals toward which the endeavors of all governments should be directed. 'The financial charges,' continues the distinguished statesman, 'following an upward march strike at the public prosperity at its very source. The intellectual and physical strength of the nations—labor and capital—are for the major part diverted from their natural application and unproductively consumed. Hundreds of millions are devoted to acquiring terrible engines of destruction, which, though to-day regarded as the last word of science, are destined tomorrow to lose all value in consequence of some fresh discovery in the same field.

"National culture, economic progress, and the production of wealth are either paralyzed or checked in their development. Moreover, in proportion as the armaments of each power increase so do they less and less fulfill the object which the governments have set before themselves.

"To put an end to these incessant armaments and to seek the means of warding off the calamities which are threatening the whole world—such is the supreme duty which is to-day imposed on all states.'

"I do not think it amiss to stop for a moment to consider how far the noble initiative of His Majesty Alexander II has developed and how much has been accomplished by The Hague Conference.

"At a first glance, one may feel inclined to doubt its results, since the armies and navies have considerably increased, on the one hand, and, on the other, the Russo-Japanese war took place soon after the Conference.

"With regard to the first proposition we must agree that the creation of the means of defense is the *effect* of a *cause*—the danger of war—which still exists, and as long as the cause does not disappear the results are bound to continue. For this same reason, the benefits of disarmament will not be effective until the principle of international arbitration has become deeply rooted, and until the several governments have grown confident of the results of such pacific means of determining a controversy.

"The Russo-Japanese war was the result of preexisting causes, and of a state of things which was fatally destined to produce such strife.

"After this explanation, and coming back to the main point of my address, we must feel satisfied with the beneficent influence of The Hague Tribunal, as from the time when Gladstone advocated arbitration of the Alabama claims to this day great strides have been made, both in public opinion and in the mind of the statesman. This is shown by the propaganda made by the different peace congresses, the work of the Interparliamentary League, the four cases submitted to The Hague Tribunal by eight dignified, civilized states, and by

the forty-four treaties made among nations to submit certain differences to arbitration. The meetings of the Pan-American Congresses are a further proof of this fact, which is also shown in the call issued for a Second Hague Conference.

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“As for Mexico, I have to reiterate the statement that she has always upheld the principle of international arbitration. We do not believe, in Mexico, that the time is ripe for unrestricted arbitration as a means for the settlement of disputes, but we believe that certain limitations should be established in such cases as involve territorial integrity and national honor. Of course it must be understood that our aim is to arrive at the specification, in unmistakable terms, of those cases affecting national honor, by avoiding ambiguous, general, and metaphorical phrases such as *matters of vital importance*, *subjects involving questions of a special nature*, and other similar expressions which, in the majority of cases, as is well known, are nothing but a mask behind which bad faith and a quarrelsome spirit lurk.

“Later on, when by the number of adjudged cases, the methods established, and the results accomplished a perfect knowledge of the system is obtained, it may then seem prudent to continue the work until the high and noble ideal of justice has been attained.

“In my country also—and in saying this I am confident that I am rightly interpreting the general opinion—the desire exists to see the doctrine of the distinguished Secretary of State, the Hon. ELIHU ROOR, prevail—that is, that the armies and navies of the world must not be used to exact, by force, the payment of debts contracted by the claimant powers, leaving such extreme methods for cases of denial of justice and evident and notorious bad faith. Mexican statesmen have struggled for over fifty years against such methods fraught with arbitrariness. The protests entered by different secretaries of foreign relations of my country against Napoleon's intervention and the French claims of the time of Louis Philippe are still fresh in the memory of all.

“To compel, by force, the payment of a debt, when the person or the State who loaned the amount in question was fully cognizant of the economic and political conditions of the borrower, and his facilities for discharging the obligation, is a complete misapplication of the general conception and principles of credit. In such cases, one of the principal points which is always borne in mind, is the possibility that payment may not be made in due time, because of the insolvency of the debtor, hence the more or less high rates of interest and securities exacted.

“In a matter of such importance I give my cordial support to the sense of justice and right expounded by CALVO in his work on International Law, and also agree with the Drago Doctrine as expressed

in the communication which he authorized as Secretary of Foreign Relations of the Argentine Republic, on December 29, 1902.

"Any method by which countries may be led to the peaceful settlement of their international difficulties, is of the greatest and highest importance, not only for the preservation of peace but also to make international arbitration more solid and stable. It is, therefore, an all-important matter that treaties made between friendly nations should always, in provision of any disagreement, stipulate the obligation to refer to The Hague Tribunal all cases after diplomatic exertions are exhausted. The views and the influence of modern statesmen in this connection are most gratifying, as in less than four years forty-four treaties of arbitration have been signed, many of which provide for the submission to The Hague Tribunal of any differences that may arise. May such example be followed by others, and its application become more universal.

"This current of public opinion, this great love of justice which grows daily in both hemispheres, lend support to the action of the President of the United States and his Secretary of State, in asking that a group of civilized nations, decided to settle by peaceable means their differences, come together to ask justice before a permanent court formed by men who by their independence, honorability, learning, and disinterestedness, offer ample security that their judgment shall be just, right, and impartial.

"By this means the world will attain a superior organization, where day by day the necessities for armies and navies shall decrease, thus lessening the public charges; confidence shall be reestablished among governments and nations; industry shall demand the aid of idle hands and of the energies which she now lacks, and lastly peace and good will shall exert their noble influence in the development and happiness of the human family.

"The best proof that Mr. Root's views on the subject are irresistibly gaining ground lies in the fact that not a day passes without a new problem demanding solution.

"Which are the obligations and which the rights of neutrals, minutely described so as to leave no room for doubt or discussion? What rules should control the transmission of wireless messages, both in time of peace and in time of war, between private individuals, between a belligerent power and its citizens, and between the inhabitants of a neutral country? Can the right of free use of space in the air be curtailed by intercepting the hertzian waves, the wireless messages, and what are the requisite conditions for so doing?

"The attention of the new Peace Conference must also be called to the determination of such delicate points as that of declaration of war, because while some believe it to be a relic of mediæval chivalry, others hold that it is an indispensable requisite, the violation of which

imports treachery and deceit. The same applies to the use of submarine mines on the high seas, which, in my judgment, ought to be unanimously condemned, because of the damages inflicted thereby to commerce and navigation, and because of the constant menace to the merchant marine of the world from such mines as also from those that may become detached from their places. It should also be definitely determined whether neutrals having no navy to protect their coasts, may place mines in their waters to insure their neutrality.

"The Hague Conference has established very important rules in the matter of the protection to which the property of neutrals is entitled on the high seas, the necessity to defend honest commerce and to employ all possible means to the end that those engaged in the interchange of the products of the world may not suffer the contingencies and dangers of war, while performing their mission of peace and harmony.

"This, Ladies and Gentlemen, is a great deal, but certainly it is not all. There remains still, that private property on land be fully protected in time of war, specially stipulating the inviolability of railroads, which are to the social body like the arterial system; and stoppage means death.

"I am fully aware of the fact that this is not an easy matter to deal with, since railroads may transport men and other elements intended to prolong and increase war, thus reducing the probabilities of peace, or again, they may be the property of one of the belligerents. However, means could be found to arrange matters by exercising necessary vigilance so that commerce be not interrupted and both the rolling stock and other property be amply protected. The stipulations contained in article 54 of The Hague Regulations regarding war on land sadly contrasts with those on war on the seas, because of the brevity and deficiency of the former and the minute and wise provisions of the latter. I hope, however, that the learned members of the coming conferences may consider such an important subject.

"In the matter of treatment of prisoners of war, we have as precedents the code approved by President LINCOLN in 1863, the Convention of Geneva in 1864, the Brussels Convention in 1874, the resolutions of the First Hague Conference, the instructions issued by Count KATSURA, Japanese Secretary of the Interior, in the Russo-Japanese war, and other dispositions on special and particular cases. But we still need the preparation by The Hague Conference of an international code complete in all details, inspired by new advances in humanitarian sentiments, developed by the progress of civilization, which tends to minimize the suffering of the victim and to preserve human life.

"It may sound strange, but one other factor which will contribute toward the termination of war is the number of scientific inventions

capable of destroying the greatest armies, the most powerful navies, by the mere agency of a few engineers, the application of chemical formulas, and some simple mechanical contrivance.

"Nothing, however, will so effectively work toward the complete success of international arbitration as these gatherings devoted to free from all other questions, on a scientific basis, the very foundations of international law, to create public opinion, to cast the figure of Peace in the molds of altruism, to spread the gospel of Right in both hemispheres, and to write in glowing characters the glorious words: 'Justice—International Arbitration!'"

Señor CALDERÓN addressed the Conference in the following terms:

"I do not propose to speak of the powerful and noble influence in favor of the cause of international peace and justice which this great nation exercises. This is too well known, and for it mankind renders a tribute of admiration, and recognizes its influence in favor of the oppressed of all nations, and respect for their rights.

"But I am going to ask that you give me your kind attention for a few moments longer, in order to tell of the progress made by the South American Republics in the humanitarian and moral principle of international arbitration.

"Much has been said of the revolutions and the lack of order supposed to reign in these countries, by people little aware of their true conditions; and by writers, who, assuming a contemptuous air, speak of the Latin-American countries as little less than the home of savages.

"One of the wisest and most fortunate moves which has confirmed the sagacity of the illustrious Secretary of State, Hon. ELIOT ROOR, is without doubt the historic visit he made last year to the various Republics, on the occasion of the Pan-American Congress at Rio.

"Mr. Roor knew that south of the Isthmus of Panama there were young nationalities established under the same democratic principles that have served as the fundamental base of progress of the United States, and perceived that false reports and perhaps intentional misrepresentations had fostered a spirit of mistrust against this country, and he decided to correct it. His frank statements soon changed this feeling and succeeded in inspiring the confidence of the sister Republics and in assuring them of this Government's respect for their sovereignty and of its good intentions. On the other hand, he has acquainted his fellow countrymen with, and revealed to them, the progress and the true condition of these Republics.

"I can confidently affirm that the principle of international arbitration is a doctrine more generally practiced and accepted in South American countries than anywhere else. Brazil has established arbitration among her constitutional precepts and has submitted to this method of settlement territorial questions with England, France, the Argentine Republic, and other countries.

"The Argentine Republic also furnishes very conspicuous examples of respect for justice and peace. After a sanguinary conflict, in which almost all of the male population of Paraguay perished, and when that patriotic country lay at the mercy of the victors—Brazil, the Argentine Republic, and Uruguay—the Argentine Republic declared that the victory did not create rights and submitted the dispute for the possession of the territory of Villa Occidental to the President of the United States for arbitration. When President HAYES decided against the Argentine Republic, it accepted the decision in good faith. The Republic did even more, and condoned to Paraguay the war indemnity.

"In the question with Brazil over the territory of Misiones both countries submitted the matter to the arbitration of President CLEVELAND and the Argentine Republic bowed to the award, which was in favor of Brazil.

"Later, when the popular passions reached a point in which a war that might have involved all of the neighboring Republics seemed inevitable, when the armies and fleets of Chile and the Argentine Republic only waited the signal to begin the combat, both countries gave to the world a great example of good sense in submitting the long and violent disputes over their boundaries to the arbitration of the King of England. The decision of that Sovereign has been accepted and carried out, and there on one of the highest accessible peaks of the Cordilleras, dividing the two nations, the noble impulses animating them have caused to be raised one of the most beautiful monuments that has ever been erected.

"This monument is not built over the bloody spoils of martyrs sacrificed before the altar of their country; neither is it a reminder of the submission of one people to the other. It is the emblem of peace abiding within the souls of the sons of the American Republics, who have lifted up the image of Christ, the Redeemer, as a mark of tribute to His doctrines. It inspires neither revenge nor a sense of humiliation to the beholder. A symbol of love, and the pedestal of the Prince of Peace it is the eternal guide under whose inspiration must grow the human brotherhood. The inscription on the pedestal reads:

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

"Bolivia, my country, has submitted to arbitration important boundary questions with Peru, Paraguay, and Brazil. Peru also has arbitration agreements with Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, and Italy.

"The boundary disputes have been the main cause of the disagree-

ments among the Latin American Republics. Such is at present the popular sentiment in favor of arbitration that all of those questions have been submitted to that honorable way of settlement.

"The Pan-American Congresses, especially that of Mexico, have recorded this noble aspiration of the American Republics in explicit declarations.

"Uruguay and the Argentine Republic celebrated, in 1902, a general treaty of arbitration, stipulating the submission to arbitration all controversies of whatever kind and for any cause arising among them which would not affect the precepts of their constitutions.

"Besides this treaty, Uruguay has similar ones with Spain, and has approved a treaty of obligatory arbitration entered into in the Pan-American Conference in Mexico by the Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Guatemala, Salvador, Santo Domingo, Peru, and Paraguay.

"And this is the work of countries commonly considered as always playing at revolutions and without the least idea of order or justice.

"The principal efforts to popularize the adoption of arbitration must be directed toward educating public opinion, and in substituting the sentiments of justice for the false pride of brute force. We must teach the masses to respect the rights of others as the best agency for protecting our own.

"It is useless to speak of disarmament when first of all the rival nations have more confidence in their fighting strength than in the justice of their cause or the love of peace of their neighbors.

"To a certain extent the democratic doctrine of government by the people and for the people affords greater security against wars, provided the public sentiment is properly guided and the nation as a whole has a true love for fair play and honest dealing.

"When the Venezuelan ports were bombarded by the combined fleets of some of the great powers of Europe, the Argentine Republic, through her minister of foreign affairs, called attention to the great injustice and the menace to the sovereignty of the victim Republic that such action implied.

"Señor DRAGO in his famous note, among others, made the following statements: 'The acknowledgment of a debt and the liquidation of its amount must be made by the country without curtailment of its fundamental rights as a sovereign entity; but the compulsory demand at a given time, by means of force, would only be the destruction of the weak nations and the absorption of their Government with all of their faculties by the strong nations of the world. The principles acknowledged in the American Continent are different.' The illustrious HAMILTON said: 'The contracts entered into as between nations and individuals are obligations subject to the conscience of the sovereign and can not be an object of compulsory claim. They do not confer any right of action outside of the will of their sovereign.'

"Referring to the eleventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States, Señor DRAGO remarks 'that it forbids a judicial action on questions of law or equity as between the citizen of one of the States against any of them or by the subjects of a foreign power.'

"Speaking of the origin of claims he makes the very wise observation 'that the capitalists who loan their money to a foreign power always have in mind the resources of the country with which they treat, and the greater or less probability of the fulfillment of the obligations.'

"This was also Lord PALMERSTON'S point of view when he was Prime Minister of England in 1848. 'The creditor knows that in treating with a sovereign power it is an inherent condition of all sovereignty that it can not be sued as long as such action would compromise its very existence and destroy the independent action of the Government.'

"The doctrine advocated in this famous document is thus summarized: 'In a word the principle which we would like to see established is that a public debt can not warrant an armed intervention, much less the occupation of the territory of any of the American nations by a European power.'

"When it is known that in most cases the claims against some of the Republics are either shamefully exaggerated or are clearly unjust the practice of putting a nation's strength and resources behind them must be condemned.

"The arbitral awards in the claims against Venezuela, which were the cause of the bombardment of the defenseless ports, prove without the least doubt that the claims were exaggerated and unjust. On the average, the awards did not amount to 30 per cent of the amounts claimed, and in many cases they did not reach 10 per cent.

"These subjects can not be mentioned without recalling the Jecker's claim for \$15,000,000 in 1861, which was the pretext for the invasion of Mexico, while that country had only received \$750,000. This is a very typical illustration of the greater part of these kind of claims.

"Professor MAARTENS has truly said, in speaking of the note of Señor DRAGO, 'that it merited the thanks of all of the champions of right and justice in the dominion of international relations.'

"Very often the claims originate with men who, knowing beforehand the state of insecurity that exists in some of the Republics, go to them deliberately with the object of taking advantage of the political unrest and become the promoters of revolutions and obtain unlawful concessions.

"Neither should we forget that there are nations in Europe that have failed to pay their debts, but no one ever thought of pointing the cannon's mouth toward them to collect the deferred obligations.

"Thanks to the efforts of the Honorable Secretary of State, Mr. Root, the Drago doctrine will be submitted to the Second Hague Conference, and it is to be hoped that the great powers, guided by more reasonable ideas, will agree to end one of the most disgraceful practices, and establish rules that will afford justice to all.

"The advancement of the Latin American Republics is shown in the yearly increase of their foreign trade, which now amounts to nearly a billion and a half dollars per year, and that with a population of only about 50,000,000. The construction of the railways, the development of public instruction, and the opening of the wonderful resources of that continent mark an era of true progress.

"Providence has destined the whole of America to be the home of freedom.

"The enormous resources of the vast territory of each of the ten Republics of South America offer a remarkable field for the employment of all the energy and efforts of future generations. We need population—men capable of helping us do the enormous labor that our great resources require.

"The work of the hearty pioneers of the Northwest contributed to the greatness of this Nation more than all the wars have done for any of the nations of Europe. To fight for the conquest of the great store of wealth that the mountains, plains, and forests of South America offer to man is a nobler work than the idle massing of the young people in barracks consuming the revenue of a country.

"There is Bolivia, my country, with a territory equal to one-fourth of that of the United States, abounding in all kinds of minerals, especially tin, silver, copper, and gold; with prairies of rich pastures for a vast cattle industry; forests, where millions of rubber trees can supply large quantities of this useful commodity, besides other equally important products.

"The railroads now in course of construction are destined to open a great field for industrial development as profitable as any in the world, under a climate generally suitable for white emigrants. Liberal homestead laws and immigration facilities are given to all settlers who are willing to take advantage of the opportunities of self improvement that a country orderly and full of resources offers to men of all nations.

"Each of the Republics of the South is ready to welcome the life-giving current of immigration, which has so greatly helped the rapid and extraordinary accumulation of wealth and happiness in this great commonwealth.

"Let us hope that guided by the true principles of democracy and following the natural development of their intercourse in no distant epoch the South American Republics, confederated into a few powerful nations, will be the home of hundreds of millions of free men,

working peacefully for their own welfare, conquering and dominating nature's munificent gifts, free from military thralldom and in the full possession of the rights with which God has endowed our immortal souls."

Mr. BARRETT spoke as follows:

"Three facts not generally known in the United States should receive the attention of the American people in forming a true and just opinion of the Latin American Republics. Secretary ROOR's memorable visit to South America and the recent political conditions in Central America have awakened a new interest throughout the United States in her sister Republics which is in danger of being influenced by wrong impressions.

"First. Latin America, judged as a whole, is not a land of civil wars and revolutions, despite the popular idea in the United States and Europe to the contrary. It is unfair, unjust, and untrue to continue describing Latin America in these days as characteristically revolutionary, or as being a part of the world which is in a state of civil strife more than in a condition of peace. Nearly five-sixths of the total population and area of Latin America has known no serious revolution or civil war for over ten years, while the major portion of it has not been afflicted with a serious revolution, involving great bloodshed or destruction of property, in twenty years. The trouble is that so much prominence and attention has been given to revolutions in the small countries of Central and South America that both press and people of the United States and Europe have overlooked the fact that the larger and richer nations have been enjoying almost undisturbed peace for a long period of years. It is as unjust to call Latin America the home of revolutions because now and then a civil struggle breaks out in some country as it is to say that riots and bloodshed predominate all over the United States because there have been serious troubles at times in Idaho, Colorado, and Louisiana.

"Brazil, which is as large as the United States proper, the Argentine Republic, which has half the area of the United States; Chile, which is larger than the combined area of our Pacific Coast States, plus the first tier of States; Peru, which is as large as all our Atlantic Coast States from Maine to Georgia; Bolivia, which is three times as large as Texas, and Mexico, which would include our whole Central West, all enjoy such stable conditions of government, prosperity, and peace that to-day European financial papers are discussing them as providing fields for the investment of capital equally as safe as those of the United States. South America and Mexico resent keenly the constant repetition of the charge that Latin America is given over to revolutions. It is high time that the American people and press familiarized themselves with the actual facts and gave the greater portion of Latin America credit for evolving good government and

order out of disturbed conditions of the past and thereby merit the confidence of the United States in its future progress.

"Second. No group of nations in the world has done more than Latin America to promote the cause of international arbitration. In other words, the United States and the nations of Europe, Asia, and Africa combined have not by practical tests and the referring of disputes to arbitration equaled the record of Latin America in this respect. The long list of boundary disputes between the different countries of Latin America which have been adjudicated by arbitration is evidence of this contention. There have been many cases where the decision to arbitrate their cause of dispute has prevented prominent South American countries from going into an expensive war. There is no better evidence of the forward movement of Latin America in this line than the avoidance of war between the Argentine Republic and Chile just as they were on the point of engaging in a struggle that would probably have been one of the bloodiest in the history of the world and which would have reduced both countries to a state of desolation and poverty and burdened them with a public debt that would have retarded their progress a quarter of a century. Now, instead of suffering with such a fearful handicap, they are making astounding progress, not only in trade and commerce, but in general educational, intellectual, and social lines.

"Last year the Argentine Republic enjoyed a commerce with the outer world amounting to \$563,000,000, which is nearly \$100 per head of population—more than that of any other prominent nation—and which would have been impossible if she had carried on her shoulders a mighty foreign debt. In this connection it is interesting to note that the progressive Argentine Republic, with a population of only 6,000,000, enjoyed a greater commerce with the outer world in 1906 than did progressive but warlike Japan with 40,000,000 people. Chile, likewise, has gone ahead with such strides in material and political development that her trade has grown over 100 per cent in the last ten years and her people are able to recover financially from a disastrous earthquake with the same ease as the residents of San Francisco and California. What would have been her status if she had been almost ruined by a war with the Argentine Republic it is difficult to imagine.

"Third. The only great and impressive monument on the Western Hemisphere erected as a result of arbitration stands on the boundary line of the Argentine Republic and Chile amid the summits of the Andean Cordillera. At an altitude of nearly 15,000 feet, or 3 miles, above the placid level of the Atlantic and Pacific, commanding a mighty prospect of the Argentine Republic on one side and Chile on the other, and seeming to breathe forth the spirit of peace, is a dignified, gigantic, bronze statue of the Christ, which was erected by the

joint order and expense of the two Governments and was dedicated in the presence of the leading statesmen of both countries who journeyed from their homes to the cold altitudes of the Andes to witness its unveiling and to testify to their support of its everlasting significance. The very fact that the bronze out of which the statue is cast is from the molten cannon, gives additional meaning to its presence on the mountain tops. It is located on the principal pass between the two countries which is used by all travelers going back and forth, while directly under it—when the railroad is completed—will pass a tunnel—the longest in the world—that is to bring Chile and the Argentine Republic as close together in communication as they have been united by the arbitration that made this monument possible.”

TREATY OF PEACE, AMITY, AND COMMERCE BETWEEN SALVADOR AND NICARAGUA.

The undersigned, RAMÓN GARCÍA GONZÁLEZ, Secretary of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Salvador, and JOSÉ DOLORES GAMEZ, Secretary of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Nicaragua, each in representation of their respective Governments, duly authorized, as shown by the full powers they have produced, and which were found to be in proper form, after long interviews with and through the friendly mediation of Mr. PHILIP BROWN, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States near the Government of the Republic of Honduras, have agreed to conclude the Treaty of Peace, Amity, and Commerce contained in the following stipulations:

“I. The perfect harmony and relations between the signatory Governments having been altered in consequence of the late war between Honduras and Nicaragua, in which the Government of Salvador was compelled to intervene because of the alliance entered into with the Government of Honduras under the administration of General MANUEL BONILLA, and taking into consideration the powerful reasons of necessity and convenience to reestablish peace between both countries, and after thoroughly discussing the matter, have agreed and hereby mutually agree to reestablish their temporarily interrupted relations on the basis of the good faith that should exist in the friendly relations of the two sister Republics.

“II. Peace being reestablished by the present treaty, the signatory Governments agree that Nicaragua shall invite the other Central American Governments to a Central American Congress to be held in Corinto, in accordance with the proposal of the representatives of the Governments of these Republics, together with the Secretary of State of the United States, said Congress to be composed of the

representatives of the five sister Republics, and with full powers to conclude a General Treaty of Peace and Amity having compulsory arbitration for its fundamental basis, substituting the previous pacts of the same character, made in Corinto, and in San José, Costa Rica, to the end that armed conflicts between sister Republics may in future be avoided. In addition, the representatives of the five Republics shall be able to agree upon stipulations relating to commerce, navigation, and other matters they deem beneficial to Central American interests.

"III. Until the provisions of the foregoing article are complied with, it is hereby agreed that any controversy that may hereafter arise between Salvador and Nicaragua, and which might alter their friendly relations, shall be settled by means of compulsory arbitration applied by the joint action of the Presidents of the United States and Mexico, who shall have power full to appoint an umpire whose award shall be final. The President of Mexico may delegate his powers as arbitrator to the Mexican Ambassador in Washington or to such other person as he may designate.

"IV. As evidence of the sincerity with which the signatory Governments have acted and also of the confidence which they have in the compliance of what has been agreed upon, they cheerfully promise to issue, in their respective countries, a decree granting full and unconditional amnesty to such citizens as have been hostile in the late war in Honduras.

"V. Salvador and Nicaragua solemnly agree to conclude a Treaty of Commerce based on an interchange of ratifications.

"VI. The present contract shall be ratified and its ratifications shall be exchanged in the city of Managua, or in that of San Salvador, a month after the last ratification, or at an earlier date, if that be possible,

"In testimony whereof the contracting parties sign the present treaty in triplicate, jointly with Mr. PHILIP BROWN, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States near the Governments of Honduras and Guatemala, who has interposed his good offices and the moral support of the country he represents, at Amapala, April 23, 1907.

[L. s.]

RAMÓN GARCÍA GONZÁLEZ.

[L. s.]

JOSÉ DOLORES GÁMEZ.

PHILIP BROWN.

EXECUTIVE PALACE,
San Salvador, April 26, 1907.

In view of the foregoing Treaty of Peace, Amity, and Commerce, concluded at Amapala, April 23 of the current year, between the Secretaries of Foreign Relations of Salvador and Nicaragua, in representation of their respective Governments, and with the friendly

mediation of Mr. PHILIP BROWN, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States of America near the Government of the Republic of Honduras, said treaty consisting of a preamble and six articles, the Executive Power finding the same to be in accordance with the instructions given to that effect to the Secretary, Dr. RAMÓN GONZÁLEZ GARCÍA, resolves to approve said treaty in all its parts and submit it to the ratification of the National Assembly during its present sessions.

(Rubricated by the President.)

The Assistant Secretary of Foreign Relations,

CAÑAS.

RECEPTION OF THE MINISTER OF PANAMA IN THE UNITED STATES.

Señor Don JOSÉ AGUSTÍN ARANGO, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Panama near the Government of the United States, was received in his capacity as such by President ROOSEVELT on May 13, 1907. On presenting his credentials Señor ARANGO spoke as follows:

"MR. PRESIDENT: High will be the gratification I shall find in the discharge of the mission with which I have been intrusted by the Government of my country, to represent it, jointly with the honorable Minister, Señor OBALDÍA, near the Government of Your Excellency, as accredited by the autograph letter which I have the honor to place in Your Excellency's hands.

"The benevolence Your Excellency's Government has shown us since our advent to independent life has enhanced the sympathy we always had with the noble people of the United States of America, and in this lies the powerful influence which inspires the Government and people of Panama with the hope that the ties of friendship which bind us to your great Republic will ever be closer, within the bounds of the equity and justice that always signalize the acts of Your Excellency's Government.

"Permit me, sir, to offer in the name of the Government of the Most Excellent President AMADOR GUERRERO, the people of Panama, and in my own, wishes for the personal happiness of Your Excellency and for the ever growing prosperity of the people of the United States of America."

The reply of President ROOSEVELT was as follows:

"MR. MINISTER: I am pleased to receive from your hands the letter whereby your Government accredits you to act jointly with Mr. OBALDÍA in the capacity of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the Government of the United States.

"Since the advent of your country into the family of independent States, the Government of the United States has given frequent evidence of its friendly disposition; and it shall be our aim, within those bounds of equity and justice of which you speak, to still further strengthen the good relations now subsisting.

"I thank you for the personal good wishes which you express on behalf of the President, Government, and people of Panama, as well as on your own account, and beg you in turn to assure your worthy President of the high regard which the Government and people of the United States and myself entertain for him and the Panaman people."

RATIO OF TRADE VALUES BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE UNITED STATES.

According to the latest available statistics, the ratios of trade values between the various countries of Latin America and the United States are as follows:

Total imports by the Argentine Republic in 1906, are given as \$269,970,521, of which \$39,474,894, or 14.62 per cent, were of United States origin; whereas of total exports valued at \$292,253,829 only \$13,332,112, or 4.56 per cent, were sent to that country. In 1905, out of a total import valuation of \$197,974,000, \$27,902,000, or 14.62 per cent, were from the United States, that country taking \$15,167,000, or 4.87 per cent, out of a total export valuation of \$311,544,000.

Of Bolivian imports, valued in 1905 at \$13,377,000, the United States furnished \$756,000, or 5.6 per cent, and took \$27,000, or 0.13 per cent, out of a total export value of \$20,062,049. United States statistics report exports to Bolivia, in 1906 (calendar year), valued at \$242,616, but Bolivian statements quote a much larger sum.

In 1906, Brazil received \$19,000,000, or 11.46 per cent, from the United States, out of a total import value of \$165,000,000, and sent thither \$93,000,000, or 36 per cent, out of a total export value of over \$265,000,000. The 1905 figures indicate imports from the United States of \$14,961,000, or 10.33 per cent of the total (\$144,775,000), while exports thither were \$89,108,000, or 41.13 per cent, out of a total of \$216,000,000.

Total Costa Rican imports, in 1905, are reported as \$5,239,000, of which \$2,706,000, or 51.65 per cent, were from the United States, and that country received \$3,836,000, or 47.14 per cent, out of a total export value of \$8,138,000. Export figures from the United States to Costa Rica during the calendar year 1906 are placed at \$2,473,281 and imports are valued at \$4,715,510.

Guatemala's total imports are valued, in 1905, at \$6,844,000, of which \$2,707,000, or 39.55 per cent, were of United States origin, and her exports were worth \$8,238,000, of which \$2,875,000, or 34.90 per cent, went to the United States. For 1906, (calendar year), United States export values to Guatemala are placed at \$2,980,072, while imports from that country were \$2,822,020.

Total imports by Honduras in 1905 were \$2,293,000, of which \$1,690,000, or 73.70 per cent, were from the United States, while of the total exports, worth \$5,564,000, the share taken by the United States was \$4,623,000, or 83.09 per cent. For 1906, United States export values to Honduras are placed at \$1,896,204, while imports from that country were \$2,204,692.

Nicaragua's total imports were valued at \$3,202,000 in 1904, the latest year for which full statistics are available, and of that sum, the United States furnished \$1,668,000, or 52.09 per cent, while of total exports worth \$3,926,000, the United States received \$2,089,000, or 53.21 per cent. For 1905 and 1906, United States export values to Nicaragua were \$1,833,595 and \$2,041,231, respectively, and imports for the two years were \$1,433,815 and \$1,331,172.

In 1906, the United States export values to Panama were \$14,239,471 as compared with \$7,831,564 in 1905, while imports from that country were \$1,448,686 in 1906 as against \$879,145 in the preceding year.

Salvador, in 1905, took imports from abroad worth \$4,346,000, of which \$1,355,000, or 31.18 per cent, were of United States origin, and exported to the value of \$5,640,000, sending \$1,225,000, or 23.49 per cent, to that country. In 1906, United States export values to Salvador were \$1,321,765, imports being placed at \$1,216,262.

Cuba's imports in 1906 were worth \$98,530,622, of which \$47,717,618, or over 48 per cent, were from the United States, while of a total export value of \$106,258,618 that country took \$88,175,451, or over 82 per cent.

The total import of Haiti from October, 1904, to September, 1905, inclusive, were valued at \$3,871,069, of which the United States contributed \$2,746,851, or over 71 per cent. For 1906, United States export values to Haiti are placed at \$3,266,425, and imports from that country at \$1,036,330, as compared with \$2,916,379 and \$1,171,303 in 1905.

The Dominican Republic imported, in 1906, merchandise valued at \$4,065,437, the United States furnishing \$2,271,292, or over 48 per cent, the exports being reported for \$6,536,379, of which the United States took \$3,464,425, or 53 per cent. In 1905, imports by the Republic figured for \$2,737,000, the United States furnishing \$1,961,000, or 71.65 per cent, while of total exports of \$6,881,000 the United States took \$4,484,000, or 65.16 per cent.

Chile's total imports in 1905 were valued at \$71,868,000, of which

the United States furnished \$7,129,000, or 9.92 per cent, and exports were valued at \$103,223,000, the United States taking \$15,693,000, or 15.20 per cent. In 1906, United States export values to Chile were \$9,392,453, imports from that country being reported for \$18,146,232.

Export figures from the United States to Colombia in 1906 were \$2,961,671, as compared with \$3,635,417; in 1905, imports were reported as \$6,669,461 and \$6,268,939 in the two years, respectively. Colombian imports in 1904 were valued at \$14,453,000, the United States supplying \$4,936,000, or 34.15 per cent, while of exports valued at \$12,658,000, that country took \$6,837,000, or 54.01 per cent.

Ecuador's import values, in 1905, were \$7,657,000, the United States supplying \$2,210,000, or 28.86 per cent, and of exports valued at \$9,468,000 the total shipments to that country were \$2,468,000, or 27.32 per cent. In 1906, United States export values to Ecuador were \$1,834,756 while imports were valued at \$3,281,684.

Total Mexican imports in 1906 (fiscal year) were valued at \$109,884,000, of which \$72,509,000, or 65.99 per cent, were of United States origin, and exports were worth \$135,027,000, of which the United States took \$92,633,000, or 68.6 per cent.

Paraguay imported merchandise from abroad to the value of \$3,566,000 in 1904, the latest for which complete figures are available, the United States furnishing \$125,000, or 3.51 per cent, while total exports are reported at \$3,179,000 for the year in question—the percentage received by the United States not being noted. The United States reports exports to Paraguay in the calendar year 1906 valued at \$110,496, as compared with \$6,719 in 1905, the imports for the same periods being \$1,200 and \$2,205, respectively.

In 1904, Peruvian imports were valued at \$20,916,000, of which the United States supplied \$3,761,000, or 17.98 per cent, and exports were rated at \$19,790,000, of which the United States took \$1,849,000, or 9.34 per cent. United States statistics report exports to Peru, in 1906, valued at \$5,193,455, as compared with \$4,287,228 in 1905, the figures for imports from Peru in the two periods being given as \$2,933,508 and \$2,608,665, respectively.

Uruguay's import trade in 1904 was reported for \$21,938,000, the United States furnishing \$2,121,000, or 9.67 per cent, while exports were valued at \$39,793,000, the United States receiving \$2,137,000, or 5.37 per cent. United States exports to Uruguay in 1906 are stated as \$3,160,606, as compared with \$2,703,761 in 1905, the figures for imports in the same periods being \$2,453,013 and \$3,529,495, respectively.

For the fiscal year 1906, the total value of imports received by Venezuela was \$8,676,000, the United States furnishing \$2,622,000, or 30.22 per cent, while exports were valued at \$15,630,000, of which

the United States took \$4,862,000, or 31.11 per cent. In the calendar year 1906 United States exports to Venezuela are quoted at \$3,310,518, as compared with \$3,208,864 in 1905, the figures of imports for the two periods being \$7,789,893 and \$7,010,357, respectively.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT FIGUEROA ALCORTA.

In his annual message delivered to the Argentine Congress, on May 8, 1907, President FIGUEROA ALCORTA stated that prosperity and advancement in all departments of the public service were evident to the entire world, and that as regards 1906, the year was marked by complete political harmony between the Nation and the provinces. In general, public order remained intact.

The hundredth anniversary of the independence of the Republic occurs in 1910, and it is purposed to celebrate it with the completeness its historical significance demands.

The postal and telegraph services of the Republic throughout the year were in harmony with general progress, the statistics relating thereto being beyond all expectations. The total number of postal communications was 552,014,897, representing an increase of 51,627,034 over the preceding year. The telegrams numbered 9,977,887, against 8,934,652 in 1905. Revenues derived from both services amounted to \$9,086,593, an increase of \$1,086,593 over the sum estimated in the budget. The present telegraph system is insufficient to meet the demands, in spite of the extensions made, which represent a total of 398 kilometers of line and 1,668 kilometers of conductors, the total present system being 24,757 kilometers of line and 55,283 kilometers of conductors. Eighty-eight new offices were opened during the year, bringing the total thereof to 2,012. During 1907 there will be constructed a line between Saavedra and Bahía Blanca, a conductor will be added between Tucuman and Recreo, and two between San Agustín and Córdoba, besides new underground cables. The obstacles to the continuation of the construction of the new building for the General Post-Office and Telegraph Department have been removed.

The condition of public health throughout the year was satisfactory; the cases of sporadic diseases which were registered at Buenos Ayres, Rosario, and Salta were of slight sanitary importance, owing to the readiness with which they yielded to treatment. The new pharmacy act has resolved a most important medico-social problem and has begun to bear its fruits in the efficacy of the guaranties it affords to

the pharmaceutical retail trade. As a beginning in the programme of fluvial sanitary service, the works for the erection of the Corrientes Station have been initiated.

Relations of the most cordial character have been maintained with other nations. The most notable diplomatic event of the year was the visit of the Secretary of State of the United States, Mr. Root, to various South American Republics, including the Argentine Republic. The eminent statesman brought a message of peace and amity from his great Nation and its President, Mr. ROOSEVELT; Mr. ROOT himself at every opportunity expressed sincere hopes for the future peace and prosperity of these Republics. President FIGUEROA stated that he retained the most pleasant recollections of Mr. ROOT's visit and of the cordial reception accorded to him, and that the visit has given signs of bearing fruit in positive abundance.

Commercial relations with the United States are constantly increasing. The European powers in turn offer the most unequivocal proofs of friendship and goodwill. The Kings of England and Spain have raised their legations to the first grade. Sweden and Norway, since their separation, have hastened to improve the friendly relations which have always existed between the Republic and those nations. Various foreign countries with which the Argentine Republic had not previously cultivated direct relations have now accredited representatives at the capital. The relations with Paraguay and Bolivia have improved, due to the arbitration treaty signed at Buenos Aires on January 12, 1907. On the occasion of the inauguration of the new President of Uruguay, which took place on March 4, 1907, the Argentine Government deemed it just to give that nation a proof of friendship by sending a naval division to participate in the ceremony at Montevideo. The Argentine Government took part in the Pan-American Conference at Rio Janeiro, giving in this manner a further proof of friendship to Brazil. Representatives will also be sent to The Hague Peace Conference, in accordance with an invitation received in 1905, from the Russian Emperor, and more recently from the Queen of Holland. The Government has initiated a movement for the assembling of an international conference at Buenos Aires in 1910 for the purpose of rendering uniform the Code of International Law in so far as it relates to the principle of domicile. The nations that have incorporated this principle in their private legislation will be invited. Invited by the Government of the United States to take part in the Jamestown Exposition, the Executive decided to send the frigate *Presidente Sarmiento* and a delegation of officers. The mutual relations of the South American Republics continue to be most cordial. Notwithstanding the immense number of foreign residents in the country, not a single case has arisen to warrant diplomatic intervention. Relations with the Holy See have

acquired a greater degree of cordiality and the Argentine representative to the Vatican has been accredited as a First Class Minister Plenipotentiary.

The economic prosperity of the country continues unabated, and the balance sheet of the year's working shows a saving of \$5,100,000. The internal and foreign credits of the nation has been maintained and the Argentine Legation in London has more than sufficient funds to meet the service of the external debt and other expenditures abroad up to July, 1907. The internal debt has been reduced by \$12,698,460 gold, and now amounts to \$88,243,800 (national currency) and \$3,701,540 gold. The consolidated external debt was lowered by \$4,834,825, gold.

The foreign commerce of the country amounted to \$562,224,350 gold, as against \$527,998,261 in 1905. Import figures were \$269,970,521 and export \$292,253,829, the former showing an increase of \$64,816,101 and the latter a decrease of \$30,590,012 over 1905. The increase in imports was due to the exceptional crops of the three last years and the consequent increased purchasing power of the agriculturists, while the decrease in export values was due to the prevalence of disease in cattle and to atmospheric conditions coupled with the invasion of locusts.

While increased imports are usually an indication of prosperity on the part of the consuming nation, it is not, however, desirable that the greater proportion of increase should be in articles of consumption rather than of reproduction. The advance of the Argentine Republic in this regard is shown by the fact that ten years ago articles of actual consumption represented 67.2 per cent of total imports and those capable of reproduction or development 32.8 per cent. In 1906, however, the former class of imports figured for 45.5 per cent and the latter 54.5 per cent. Special attention is called to the importation of horticultural items, which President FIGUEROA ALCORTA points out might easily be raised in the Republic.

In spite of the drought and locusts, agriculture, which is the principal source of Argentine prosperity, responded to the national hopes, and, though the value of exports fell below those of the preceding year by over \$30,000,000, the general trend of commercial movements during the past five years has been decidedly upward. The five years' annual average for exports was exceeded by \$36,000,000, and shipments of wheat, linseed, and maize were far in excess of the local consumption, the proportions of export to home consumption being 3½ to 1 for wheat, 5 to 1 for linseed, and 5½ to 1 for maize.

The year 1906 was one of great development in all branches of public instruction, the number of primary schools having advanced from 5,199 in 1905 to 5,941, while teachers numbered 16,192 in 1906, as compared with 13,971 in the preceding year. The total number

of pupils registered was 557,658, against 538,732 in 1905. Higher branches of education have been encouraged, and during the year there were established in the Province of Buenos Aires four national and two normal schools; in the Province of Santa Fe a national college and a normal school, while in the city of Buenos Aires a professional school for women and an academy of fine arts were inaugurated. The industrial schools at Rosario and national college for young women at the capital are prospering. A national Department of Labor, created by the budget law of 1906-7, was organized by decree of March 14, 1907, and has entered upon its duties.

The execution of public works was retarded by the labor crisis, but the communication services by land and water have been improved and other necessary developments executed.

The railways in operation at the close of 1906 aggregated 20,814 kilometers, an increase for the year of 555 kilometers, while the few months of 1907 have added 404 kilometers to this extent. Under construction, 5,547 kilometers are reported, of which a large portion will be completed during 1907. Railway traffic indicates increased prosperity, passenger service advancing 25 per cent and merchandise transit 15 per cent. Net profits from railroad operations show, however, a gain of only 4 per cent by reason of the increased cost of labor and material, especially coal.

Rolling stock includes 2,116 locomotives, an increase of 452, and freight cars now have a capacity of 872,000 tons, an increase of 186,000 tons, while shed areas cover 748,000 cubic meters.

Work on the State lines has been pushed, especial effort being directed toward reaching the Bolivian frontier, this line being part of a vast programme of international connections. It is, however, necessary that the Argentine Congress should pass the Quiaca and Tupiza railway bill, whose completion will supplement the vast system of the Central Northern, whose outlet to a port on the San Cristobal and Santa Fe will be opened this year. This line will carry the trade of central and southern Bolivia and will facilitate exchange with the north and center of the Argentine Republic.

The completion of this line will make the Argentine nation the first in South America to fulfill one of the principal proposals of the United States at the American International Congress at Washington, namely, the construction of the great Pan-American Railway.

The channels leading to the ports of Buenos Aires, Rosario, and Uruguay have been dredged, and at Rosario \$2,083,597 have been spent on port works during the year. Other works connected with education, sanitation, irrigation, etc., are progressing; bridges have been constructed; roads repaired; drainage and waterworks completed or new systems inaugurated in Cordoba, Mendoza, Santiago, Santa Fe, and many other cities. Since 1903 \$16,694,500 have been

spent in sanitary improvements, the expenditures for last year covering \$1,392,688 in the capital and \$4,349,680 in the provinces.

President FIGUEROA ALCORTA states that all that has been accomplished in the past year is but a part of the vast programme that has been laid out for future operations for the welfare and development of the country and he urges upon Congress the necessity of providing amply for the furtherance of the measures proposed.

DESTINATION OF EXPORTS, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

The "Review of the River Plate," in its issue for April 12, 1907, publishes the figures showing the details of exportation from the Argentine Republic during the first quarter of 1907, as compared with the same period of the preceding year, the principal articles and the points of destination being furnished. In the statement in reference the average weights are as follows: 1 bale of sheepskins, 400 kilograms; 1 bale of wool, 400 kilograms; 1 bale of hair, 400 kilograms; 1 bale of goatskins, 370 kilograms; 1 bale of hay, 50 kilograms; 1 pipe of tallow, 400 kilograms; 1 hogshhead of tallow, 200 kilograms; 1 cask of tallow, 160 kilograms; 1 case of butter, 25 kilograms.

The number of dry oxhides for the first quarter of 1907 reported as shipped abroad was 515,094, as compared with 587,610 in the corresponding period of 1906, with the following destinations: United Kingdom, 2,500; United States, 308,506; France, 4,044; Germany, 69,912; Belgium, 15,283; Italy, 62,207; orders, 2,755; and other countries, 49,887.

Salt oxhides numbered 414,163 on the export lists for the first quarter of 1907, as compared with 364,553 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The following were the destinations thereof: United Kingdom, 54,378; United States, 21,686; France, 26,764; Germany, 219,580; Belgium, 77,548; Italy, 1,914; orders, 9,380; other countries, 2,913.

Dry horsehides exported numbered 23,274, as compared with 31,396 in 1906, destined as follows: France, 32; Germany, 23,242. Salt horsehides were exported to the number of 2,179, against 1,050 in the first quarter of 1906, the whole amount being destined to Germany.

The bales of sheepskins sent abroad amounted to 13,781 and 12,662 in the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, destined as follows in 1907: United Kingdom, 339; United States, 818; France, 11,358; Germany, 347; Belgium, 155; Italy, 722; Brazil, 42.

Hair to the amount of 1,147 and 830 bales was sent abroad in the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, with the following destinations in 1907: United Kingdom, 56; United States, 234; France, 31; Germany, 167; Belgium, 384; Italy, 251; Brazil, 24.

Shipments of tallow in the first quarter of 1907 aggregated 5,148 pipes, 18,619 casks, and 3,937 hogshheads, as compared with 4,390

pipes, 22,039 casks, and 768 hogsheads in the corresponding period of 1906. The countries of destination for the first-mentioned period were: United Kingdom, 1,878 pipes, 12,171 casks, and 3,837 hogsheads; France, 108 pipes; Germany, 577 pipes and 1,402 casks; Belgium, 404 pipes and 1,992 casks; Italy, 2,077 pipes and 315 casks; Brazil, 104 pipes, 785 casks, and 100 hogsheads; and other countries, 1,954 casks.

Goatskins to the amount of 699 bales were shipped abroad in the first quarter of 1907, as compared with 3,993 in the corresponding period of 1906, distributed as follows: United Kingdom, 29; United States, 507; France, 156; Belgium, 7.

Shipments of wool aggregated 195,013 bales and 185,958 bales in the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, with the following destinations in 1907: United Kingdom, 19,426; United States, 11,088; France, 82,280; Germany, 49,592; Belgium, 24,809; Italy, 2,607; other countries, 4,211.

Frozen wethers numbering 625,939 and 648,935 were shipped abroad in the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, of which in 1907, the United Kingdom took 596,775; Italy, 300; South Africa, 28,854.

The exports of oats in the first quarter of 1907 amounted to 81,779 tons, as compared with 32,384 in the corresponding period of 1906, with the following destinations: United Kingdom, 29,317; United States, 60; France, 10,068; Germany, 2,081; Belgium, 15,868; Italy, 2,646; Brazil, 3; orders, 7,974.

The shipments of wheat in 1907 and 1906 aggregated 1,118,429 tons and 963,159 tons for the first quarters, respectively, the 1907 shipments being distributed as follows: United Kingdom, 203,328; France, 20,037; Germany, 79,626; Belgium, 123,411; Italy, 6,598; South Africa, 6,118; Brazil, 73,185; orders, 450,158; other countries, 155,328.

Maize shipments aggregated 108,280 tons and 90,527 tons in the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, the destinations for 1907 being as follows: United Kingdom, 31,510; France, 15,759; Germany, 6,575; Belgium, 20,344; Italy, 891; South Africa, 204; Brazil, 1,032; orders, 22,047; other countries, 9,918.

In the first quarter of 1907 there were shipped abroad 401,120 tons of linseed, as compared with 214,407 tons in the same period of the previous year, the destinations being as follows: United Kingdom, 46,354; France, 28,721; Germany, 117,621; Belgium, 27,848; Italy, 10,721; South Africa, 57; Brazil, 4; orders, 127,780; other countries, 43,014.

Flour shipments in the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, amounted to 29,209 tons and 27,383 tons, the 1907 shipments being destined as follows: United Kingdom, 301; Brazil, 28,758; orders, 150.

Bran shipments amounted to 38,745 tons and 37,603 tons for the first quarters of 1907 and 1906, respectively, with the following destinations in 1907: United Kingdom, 950; France, 1,803; Germany, 31,221; Belgium, 1,192; Brazil, 1,000; orders, 1,698; other countries, 881.

Pollard shipments amounted to 19,640 bags in the first quarter of 1907, as compared with 16,648 bags in the corresponding period of the previous year, the destinations being as follows: United Kingdom, 13; France, 18,347; Belgium, 1,100.

Oilseed shipments for the first quarter of 1907 amounted to 24,232 bags, as compared with 43,102 bags for the same period of 1906, being destined as follows: United Kingdom, 5,000; France, 2,128; Germany, 15,600; Italy, 1,504.

In the first quarter of 1907, beef shipments amounted to 439,191 quarters, as compared with 543,931 quarters in the same period of the previous year, the destinations being as follows: United Kingdom, 425,110; Italy, 612; Brazil, 13,069.

During the first quarter of 1907, hay was sent abroad to the amount of 94,441 bales, as compared with 358,343 bales in the corresponding period of 1906, Brazil taking all the exports of this product for said quarter of 1907.

Quebracho shipments, in the first quarter of 1907, amounted to 81,556 tons, as compared with 89,278 tons in the same period of 1906, and were distributed as follows: United Kingdom, 3,338; United States, 22,998; France, 4,614; Germany, 20,672; Italy, 2,645 orders, 22,422; other countries, 4,867.

Quebracho extract was shipped abroad in the first quarter of 1907 to the amount of 10,310 tons, as compared with 17,053 tons in the same period of the preceding year, distributed as follows: United Kingdom, 1,371; United States, 5,525; France, 39; Germany, 1,574; Belgium, 488; Italy, 813; Brazil, 130; other countries, 190.

Butter shipments in the first quarter of 1907 amounted to 37,741 cases, as compared with 71,209 cases in the corresponding period of 1906, with the following destinations: United Kingdom, 30,149; France, 20; South Africa, 7,440; Brazil, 132.

CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION AT BUENOS AIRES IN 1910.

The necessary measures have been taken by the Argentine Government for the holding of a general exhibition of arts, industries, agriculture, and cattle in Buenos Aires during 1910, the centennial year of that city.

The *Comisión Nacional del Centenario* has been authorized by law to proceed with formulation of plans and the development of general interest in the matter.

RECEIPTS FROM LAND, LICENSE, AND STAMP TAXES, 1906.

According to the report issued by the chief of the Argentine Department of Land, License, and Stamp Taxation, the total receipts from this branch of the public service, during 1906, were \$21,238,512.59 paper, as compared with \$19,971,243.19 in 1905, an increase of \$1,267,069.40.

Of the total amount, \$7,211,046.25 was for the land tax, against \$6,946,085.21 in 1905; \$4,442,512.04 was for licenses, as compared with \$3,858,421.17 in 1905 and \$9,584,954.30 was for stamp taxes, against \$9,166,936.81 in 1905.

A new assessment which has been made for the collection of the land tax will doubtless result in a further increase of this source of revenue—30 per cent being the estimated increase—while the classification recently drawn up of professions, enterprises, and industries subject to the license tax indicates a material increase in that section also.

MARITIME MOVEMENT, 1906.

Entrances and clearances of vessels at Argentine ports in 1906 were: Rosario, entrances and clearances, 4,656 vessels, of 2,876,780 tons; La Plata, entrances and clearances, 1,383 vessels, of 1,410,000 tons; Bahia, Blanca, and Parana, entrances and clearances, 2,490 vessels, of 1,468,700 tons; total entrances and clearances for the four ports, 8,529 vessels, of 5,755,480 tons. The entrances for Buenos Aires were: 258 sailing vessels, of 262,931 tons, and 1,936 steam vessels, of 4,227,367 tons; total sail and steam, 2,194 vessels, of 4,490,298 tons. In the entrances into Buenos Aires the British flag covered 2,580,592 tons, the German flag 506,358 tons, the Italian flag 514,393 tons, and the French flag 309,712 tons. The American flag is not mentioned in the returns.

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN 1906.

According to figures published by the *Boletín de la Union Industrial Argentina* of April 15, 1907, the 39 sugar factories of the Argentine Republic manufactured during the year 1906 1,919,593 bags of sugar, with a total weight of 118,817,528 kilograms, as compared with 1,919,593 bags, weighing 137,090,770 kilograms in 1905; a decrease in 1906 of 224,270 bags, weighing 18,273,242 kilograms.

REDUCTION OF IMPORT DUTIES ON SUGAR.

On April 20, 1907, the Argentine Minister of Finance promulgated a decree of the President of the Republic, whereby item No. 126 of the tariff of values is altered in the following manner:

“Sugar not refined or of less than 96° of polarization, -0.06.”

The effect of this is to reduce the specific duty on the sugars mentioned by 1 cent gold per kilogram.

The report of the Minister of Finance states that the action is taken in view of a note from the Ministry of Agriculture recommending the reduction of the duties on raw sugar for refining and of the previous report of the Administration of Internal Taxes in reply to a note of the Ministry of Finance of March 12. It is stated that the stock of sugar in the Republic is insufficient for the necessities of consumption, even without a rise in price above that which is fixed by law. The maximum wholesale price fixed by Law 4288 is \$3 per 10 kilograms, put in wagons at the mills, including the tax paid, thus reducing the manufacturer's price to \$2.62½ per 10 kilograms, though the market price is now much higher. The year's stock is said to be short by about 20,000 tons, the consumption for 1906 having been 140,000 tons.

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES IN THE REPUBLIC.

Under date of April 16, 1906, a very stringent law was promulgated in the Argentine Republic regarding the sale and introduction of proprietary articles. This provides that all proprietary remedies, domestic and foreign, for external or internal use, must have the authorization of the National Department of Hygiene before they may be placed on sale in the country, in default of which they shall be treated as secret remedies and their sale prohibited.

For the purpose of obtaining such authorization it is provided that application be made to the National Department of Hygiene, the samples necessary for analysis and specimens of labels, bottles or other receptacles, and the prospectuses, advertisements, and circulars of instruction which are to accompany the preparations when sold to the public being submitted with the application. The preparation is then analyzed, its correspondence with the formula and its benefit or utility determined. The advertising matter is also scrutinized with a view to determining whether it is free from deceptive or grossly exaggerated statements regarding the composition or curative properties of the remedy. If the commission shall deem the remedy open to no objection on this score, the proper authorization will be granted.

Thereafter, the remedy may be offered to the public, but only in connection with the prospectuses and other advertisements that have been submitted to the commission. Any modification of any sort introduced into the advertising matter that accompanies or exploits the preparation shall be deemed by the commission a proper ground for withdrawing the authorization and imposing a fine provided by the law. In the case of remedies already authorized to be sold in the Argentine Republic, the space of one year is provided for compliance with the new statute.

REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

According to an official statement the receipts of the Southern Railway of the Argentine Republic during the year 1904-5 amounted to £3,350,102, and the expenditures to £1,670,625, the proportion being 49.87 per cent. In 1905-6, the receipts reached the amount of £3,896,888 and the expenditures that of £2,239,387, the proportion being 57.47 per cent. During the first half of the fiscal year 1906-7, the receipts were £1,929,679 and the expenditures £1,125,136, the proportion being 58.31; it is estimated that the proportion of expenditures during the entire fiscal year will be about 60 per cent.

Merchandise was transported on this line in the following quantities: Year ended June 30, 1904, 2,362,197 tons; year ended June 30, 1905, 3,090,703 tons; year ended June 30, 1906, 3,702,477 tons; second half of 1906, 2,110,682 tons.

The passenger traffic was as follows: Year ended June 30, 1904, 6,924,096 passengers; year ended June 30, 1905, 7,695,123 passengers; year ended June 30, 1906, 9,551,772 passengers; second half of 1906, 6,002,186 passengers.

 BOLIVIA.

MINING REGULATIONS.

On April 20, 1907, the Bolivian Government issued the following important decree:

"CONCESSIONS.

"ARTICLE 1. Unoccupied ground between mining concessions which can not form a unit—that is to say, a square of one hundred meters, even though the total may exceed the ten thousand square meters contained in said unit—shall also be considered free ground between mining claims.

"ART. 2. The grantee of said deposits, placers, blanket veins, or other surface beds who finds veins in the subsoil of the mining property which he is working must make the proper application for said veins.

"DUTIES OF ADJOINING MINE OWNERS.

"ART. 3. Whenever a more or less numerous group of mining concessions is threatened or is suffering the consequences of an inundation common to all of them, and which endangers their existence and prevents the extraction of their ores, the proper authority shall compel the grantees to jointly execute, at their own expense, the works necessary to drain the flooded mines, in whole or in part, or check the progress of the inundation.

"APPLICATIONS.

"ART. 4. The party in interest must accompany his application with a sketch clearly showing the position in which his mining claims shall be surveyed, as well as their location with regard to the adjoining mining claims.

"ART. 5. Should mining claims which are the subject-matter of an application for adjudication be located within the boundary of two or more departments and extend into the latter, the application may be filed with any of the prefects having jurisdiction, and the respective publications shall be made in the two or more departments comprised in the adjudication.

"ART. 6. The grantee of surface ores who desires to work the veins of the subsoil belonging to him shall file his application in the respective prefecture, stating that he is the grantee of the soil, setting forth the titles he may have, giving the boundaries of the property, etc., and the necessary details.

"The prefect shall issue the decree of concession, and the Administrator of the Treasury shall be advised thereof for the purpose of the payment of the titles. Said decree shall be attached to the original docket, and the certified copy that the party in interest requests shall be granted.

"ART. 7. Any third party may solicit said veins, and should the grantee of the mining claim, after being notified, fail to file his application in due form within ten days, plus the term allowed because of the distance, it shall be understood that he has waived said right.

"ART. 8. Every application should be filed on two sheets of stamped paper of the value of ten Bolivianos, in order that they may be used with the decree of adjudication and cancelled thereon.

"If the petition is made on other than the proper stamped paper the prefect shall order the payment of said stamped paper, plus four times its value, in a term which shall not exceed twenty-four hours. Should the party in interest fail to make such payment his application shall be disregarded.

"ART. 9. Inasmuch as forfeiture is not produced *ipso facto*, a previous decision being necessary to declare the forfeiture, no application shall be taken into consideration for lands previously applied for, even though the first applicant may have perfected his rights, and it is presumed that said rights have been abandoned. Should there be two or more applicants for the same mining claim the one first making application for forfeiture shall be preferred, without taking into consideration that the parties who made application for lands they considered free have the right of priority.

"SURVEY AND SETTING OF LAND MARKS.

"ART. 10. The survey, fixing of landmarks, and entry, shall be effected within seventy days from date of the first publication.

"ART. 11. In case of an opposition which shall be decided administratively or judicially, the proceedings referred to in the foregoing article shall be effected within the term of forty days from the date on which the decree ordering the execution shall have been notified to the applicant.

"ART. 12. The prefect may likewise grant a reasonable extension of time should the grantee encounter difficulties that he can not possibly overcome.

"ART. 13. The proceedings of survey and entry relating to a single mineral shall be made according to the order of priority of the applications of concession.

"The noncompliance of this strict order will only be dispensed with when the distance and isolation of the mining claims applied for do away with any fear of causing damages.

"OPPOSITIONS.

"ART. 14. When the opposition is made at the time of carrying out the survey and setting of the landmarks, the engineers or experts shall only make a provisional survey showing the location of the new application and of that alleged to have been invaded, and shall make a detailed plan of the section in litigation, which shall be attached to the proceedings.

"ART. 15. If the concession sought to be located contains a greater number of mining claims than that which is the cause of the opposition, final possession shall be given to the part in litigation, and action shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing article with regard to that portion which is affected by the litigation.

"ART. 16. In addition to the oppositions based on priority and lack of free land, the oppositions referring to the application for ores in placers, veins, winnowing, and overflow places, the purpose of which is to locate mining claims in arable land, shall be taken into consideration.

"The oppositions to the concessions of clearings, and washings or sweepings of abandoned works and mines shall be admissible if it is alleged that the latter are now being worked or are fenced and walled.

"ART. 17. For the purposes of the oppositions the Departmental Bulletin shall be considered as a genuine document only when the concession that is sought to be protected is acted upon. If the same is consolidated and has titles, a certified copy of the same as well as the authorized plan should be attached to the docket.

"ART. 18. The opposer whose opposition is admitted shall request in writing that the proceedings be forwarded to the regular courts within the term of twenty-five days from the date of the last notification, under penalty of the opposition being declared rejected.

"ART. 19. If after the expiration of the term prescribed in the foregoing article the grantee does not allege the default of the opposer and allows the forty days fixed by article 82 to elapse, his right may be declared forfeited by any person interested in the land.

"ART. 20. The term of six months allowed him to appear before the common courts, when it has not been possible to defend the property by means of the opposition, shall not affect the adjoining mine owner, who having been mentioned in the petition was not notified for the purpose of taking possession.

"ART. 21. In the cases referred to in articles 43, 46, and 58 of the rules and regulations of October 28, 1882, the peremptory term of twenty days shall be granted should there be any evidence to produce.

"APPROVAL AND REGISTRATION.

"ART. 22. Should the prefect fail to attend the operations of survey, placing of landmarks and entry, the docket shall be forwarded to him so that he may approve the same after satisfying himself that the operations were carried out in accordance with the provisions in force and that the titles have been brought down to date.

"If the docket is in proper form, the prefect shall direct that the title to the property be issued.

"ART. 23. Said approval shall be applied for within thirty days from the date on which the proceedings took place.

"ART. 24. The prefect may officially declare the nullity of possession if from an examination of the docket it should appear that such express provisions as the failure to notify adjoining mine owners, irregularity in the survey which does not correspond to the unity and grouping of the hectares, the giving of possession without previous survey, and the like, should not have been complied with.

"ART. 25. The adjoining mine owner who is prejudiced by the survey of the new mine may also request the prefecture to annul the proceedings giving possession whenever it appears that legal requisites have been infringed and as long as the decree of approval of such proceedings has not been issued. If such decree has been issued, the adjoining mine owner shall have no other recourse than an appeal to the common courts.

"TITLES.

"ART. 26. Whenever he who exploits surface ores obtains the concession of the subsoil, he shall only pay the sum prescribed for properties located on veins.

"ART. 27. For the payment of taxes the unoccupied space up to 10,000 square meters or fraction thereof shall be considered as a complete hectare; from 10,000 to 20,000 square meters or fraction thereof, two hectares, and so on.

"FORFEITURE.

"ART. 28. An application shall be considered abandoned if the survey and setting of landmarks are not made within the seventy days prescribed by law.

"ART. 29. The foregoing article shall not apply if an extension of time has been obtained, or if an opposition to the application was made.

"ART. 30. Forfeiture will also be incurred in the proceedings whenever the mine owner does not demand the survey, setting of landmarks and entry, and allows the seventy days granted by article 10 and the forty days granted by article 11 to elapse, even though he may not have been notified of the decree of adjudication.

"ART. 31. Forfeiture is incurred only by a decree for cause issued by the prefecture that made the concession.

"ART. 32. Any person in interest may denounce the abandonment of an application and cause the forfeiture of an application to be declared.

"JURISDICTION.

"ART. 33. In accordance with the fundamental law, the Department of Industry has cognizance of the appeals of the decrees issued concerning mining matters by the departmental prefectures.

"ART. 34. The supreme decrees of July 18 and November 20, 1906 are hereby repealed."

BRAZIL.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT AFFONSO PENNA.

The following is a résumé of the message presented by President AFFONSO PENNA to the Brazilian Congress at its opening session, May 3, 1907:

The President began the message by reaffirming the programme which he had announced in his inaugural message of last November, and declared that a more careful examination of public affairs has but confirmed the belief which he then expressed that the country is marching steadfastly toward its great destiny. This opinion is shared by eminent foreigners who have visited the country and by others of unquestioned authority who have been watching its development for many years. The wonderful progress which has recently been made in the capital of the Republic astonishes all who visit it.

Trade statistics show that production has increased, while the situation of the Treasury, which reflects the economic condition, is satisfactory. A breath of new life is felt stirring and impelling the national organism.

The country continues to maintain friendly relations with all nations and efforts will be made to strengthen them and make them more cordial. Referring to the Third International American Conference at Rio, whose sessions extended from July 23 to August 27 of last year, it is stated that the discussions were characterized by the greatest cordiality, and thanks to the wisdom and forethought of the Delegates in excluding from the deliberations subjects which might give rise to disagreements, the conference succeeded in realizing a work rich in results and which it is hoped will be lasting. Among its important deliberations were those bearing upon the reorganization of the International Bureau of the American Republics, which is to become more and more the material expression of this sentiment of solidarity among the peoples of our continent; a convention establishing the status of naturalized citizens who again take up their residence in the country of their origin; a convention extending the Treaty on Pecuniary Claims celebrated in Mexico in 1902; a resolution creating a special section dependent upon the Bureau of American Republics, having for its object the study of the customs legislation of the Continent; a convention for the protection of intellectual and industrial property by means of international registration; the establishment at Montevideo of a center of sanitary information that shall carry out in South America the recommendations of the International Sanitary Bureau of Washington; resolutions reaffirming the interest of the Republics in the success of the Pan-American Railway project, and recommending the study of the monetary systems in force in each of the American Republics and the fluctuations of the type of exchange which have taken place in the last twenty years. Satisfaction is expressed that the committee of jurists appointed to prepare a code of public international law and private international law will hold its first sittings at Sao Paulo. A resolution was also passed recommending the celebration of an International American Conference of the coffee-producing countries in Rio de Janeiro.

In this connection, touching on the visit of Secretary ROOT, President AFFONSO PENNA said: "It was on the occasion of the meeting of this Conference that Brazil had the pleasure of receiving a visit from the Secretary of State of the United States of America, Mr. ELMU ROOT, the worthy colleague of the great President, THEODORE ROOSEVELT, who thus had an opportunity of seeing in the different leading cities the esteem in which he is held and the sincere friendship which the Brazilian Republic feels for her great sister of the north. This visit, which began with Brazil on such a distinguished

occasion, was extended to almost all the countries of South America, and contributed greatly to the strengthening of the ties of confraternity among the nations of this part of the world."

The Government of Brazil was represented at the International Conference which was held at Geneva in June of last year, for the purpose of revising the Red Cross Convention of August 22, 1864. At this conference a convention was signed July 6, 1906, for improving the lot of the sick and wounded in the armies in campaign; both this and the 1864 convention were ratified by the Brazilian Government on December 20 last. On the same date Congress authorized the adhesion of Brazil to two of the conventions signed at the First Peace Conference of The Hague, one regulating the laws and usages of terrestrial war, the other extending to maritime war the principles of the Geneva Convention of August 22, 1864. In this connection the President stated that it is his intention to shortly send a special message to Congress asking for authority to adhere to the convention signed at The Hague July 29, 1899, for the peaceful solution of international conflicts. Brazil will be represented at the Second Peace Conference by Senator RUY BARBOSA and EDUARDO LISBOA.

A treaty establishing the boundary between Brazil, Colombia, and Dutch Guiana was concluded at Rio de Janeiro on May 5, 1906, and has been submitted to the Senate for its approval. A treaty of limits and navigation between Brazil and Colombia was signed at Bogota on April 24 last, which fixes the common frontier line from Cucuhy on the Negro River to the confluence of the Apaporis with the Japury, over the territory south of the Japury to the north bank of the Amazon. Questions regarding the dominion of territory are pending between Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, and it was therefore decided to delay the negotiations relative to this part of the line until they should be decided. The Brazilian frontier in this region, from the confluence of the Apaporis to the brook Santo Antonio, near Tabatinga, has already been recognized by Peru in the treaty of Lima of October 23, 1851, and by Ecuador in the treaty of Rio de Janeiro of May 6, 1904. On the 24th of last April there was also signed at Bogota a *modus vivendi* with Peru regarding trade and navigation of the Ica River. A treaty of navigation and commerce will shortly be concluded with Ecuador. The instructions to the Brazilian and Bolivian commissions appointed under the treaty of Petropolis to establish the boundary between the two countries were signed at Rio de Janeiro in February last, and the commissions will meet before July 6, 1907. The commissions have been instructed to determine the exact location of the so-called "*Marco da cabeceira do rio Verde*," established under the treaty of March 27, 1867, to see whether it is really near this river, or whether, as some affirm, it is near an affluent of the Paragahu.

The time set for the holding of the sessions of the Brazilian-Peruvian Arbitration Tribunal, created under the agreement of July 12, 1904, has been postponed until January 25, 1908. An agreement has been made with Peru to begin on September 30, 1907, the negotiations relative to the establishment of the frontier between the source of the Javary and parallel 2° as provided for by the treaty of Petropolis. The governments of Brazil and the Argentine Republic have approved the maps presented by the Mixed Commission charged with the demarcation of the common frontier along the Uruguay, Pepiry, Guacu, Santo Antonio, and Iguau rivers, in accordance with the award of Washington of February 5, 1895. On April 13, 1907, the Brazilian Government denounced the treaty of friendship, navigation, and commerce of January 8, 1826, between Brazil and France, to take effect July 13, 1907; also the agreements existing between Brazil and Germany, Belgium, France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, and Switzerland, relating to the collection and administration of inheritances.

On December 12, 1906, a protocol was signed at Rio de Janeiro modifying the agreement of February 15, 1879, between Brazil and the Republic of Uruguay, for the purpose of facilitating the execution by the courts of one country, of the letters rogatory sent to it by the courts of the other country, both in civil and criminal matters. This protocol will become effective as soon as it has been approved by the congresses of the two countries.

Brazil was represented at the International Wireless Telegraph Conference held at Berlin in October, 1906. A convention relating to wireless telegraphy was signed at this conference, which is to be submitted to Congress for its approval.

The President called attention to the urgent need of reorganizing the Department of Foreign Relations, increasing its personnel, which is about the same as it was fifty years ago, notwithstanding the remarkable progress which has been made in political and commercial relations with other countries.

On the subject of education, the President called attention to the great need of professional and technical education and urgently recommended the reorganization of this branch of the public service.

He is of the opinion that some changes should be made in the provisional government provided for the Acre Territory, as experience has shown it to be defective. The powers of the prefects should be more clearly defined and the judicial administration reorganized. A decree of March 8, 1907, created a commission of public works for this territory, which will have charge of the work of opening up roads, removing obstructions from rivers, erecting public buildings, and establishing agricultural and professional schools.

A revision of the Commercial Code of Brazil is recommended so as to meet the needs of the commercial and industrial development.

Statistics of the foreign trade of Brazil for 1906 show that the exports were worth 799,670,295 *milreis*, or \$265,000,000, while imports amounted to 499,286,976 *milreis*, or \$165,000,000, showing an excess of exports over imports of 300,383,319 *milreis*, or \$100,000,000. Statistics of the export trade for the first three months of the current year show a noteworthy gain over the same period of 1906.

There was a notable increase in production last year. Brazil holds the first place among the world's producers of coffee, rubber, herva-maté and cacao. There was a considerable increase in the exports of sugar, cotton, and hides. Trade statistics for 1906 show an increase of £3,374,000 in imports of raw material and manufactured articles, and a decrease of £202,640 in food products. There was an increase in exports of £8,437,000, due mainly to the greater export of coffee, herva-maté, cacao, cotton, hides, and tobacco.

Congress is urged to enact a homestead law in order to attract immigrants and establish them permanently in the country.

A geological and mineralogical service has been created for the purpose of making a study of the geological structure and mineral resources of the country. It will collect and disseminate information in regard to the mineral wealth for the purpose of promoting its development.

Regulations governing forests and waters are being prepared and will shortly be submitted to Congress for its approval.

During the year 1906, 126,683,198 pieces of mail were sent out and 245,982,419 pieces distributed, as compared with 109,109,871 pieces and 196,126,499 pieces, respectively, in 1905. There were issued 141,789 national postal drafts and 27,827 foreign drafts, amounting to over 20,000,000 *milreis*. The number of new post-offices established during the year was 127, making the total number now 2,974.

The length of the telegraph lines of the country now reaches 27,349 kilometers. A commission has been appointed to construct a telegraph line between Guyaba and Santo Antonio on the Madeira River, which is the starting point for the Madeira-Mamore Railway; branch lines will be extended from this latter point to the Acre territory.

Satisfactory progress is being made on the port improvement works at Rio de Janeiro, and it is expected that the first section of the wharf will be ready during the current year and that the entire works will be concluded by December, 1910. The plans and estimates for the port works at Bahia and Belém have been approved and work on the same will shortly be begun.

Great emphasis is laid upon the importance of developing the railways of the country. Congress is urged to make appropriations for the construction of lines connecting State railways. The branch line between Mathilde and Muniz Freire, which will connect the Leopoldina and Victoria-Minas railways, is already under way and

should be finished within two years. The survey work on the branch line from Derrubadinha, on the Victoria-Minas Railway, to Santa Inez, in Bahia, and on the line from Timbo to Propria, has been concluded; other connecting lines between the States are being surveyed. Progress is being made on the branch line of the Sorocabana Railway which extends to Itarare and on the section connecting the Sao Paulo Railway with Rio Grande. The line connecting Rio Grande with Uruguayana will soon be completed. During the year under review the railways were extended 77,420 meters, the present length of the system now aggregating 1,703,714 meters, against 1,626,294 meters in 1905. The receipts from freight traffic increased from 15,642,955 *milreis* in 1905 to 17,441,447 *milreis* in 1906. The number of passengers transported in 1906 was 21,077,932, as compared with 19,501,622 in 1905. Railway receipts in 1906 aggregated 31,156,705 *milreis*, as compared with 28,641,492 *milreis* in 1905; expenditures amounted to 30,077,284 *milreis* in 1906, against 27,823,789 *milreis* in 1905.

The Conversion Office, created by the law of December 6, 1906, for the purpose of preventing the great fluctuations in the exchange, has now been in operation several months, and the experiment thus far has been favorable to the institution. The deposits made up to the present time amount to 88,642,427 *milreis*.

The law of December 30, 1905, estimated the receipts for 1906 at 69,074,930 *milreis* gold and 223,825,000 *milreis* paper. The revenues actually collected during the year amounted to 88,651,568 *milreis* gold and 261,465,212 *milreis* paper, which is 19,576,637 *milreis* gold and 37,640,212 *milreis* paper in excess of the estimated receipts.

The expenditures for the fiscal year were fixed at 48,311,512 *milreis* gold and 286,348,218 *milreis* paper. Extraordinary credits were authorized during the year to the amount of 17,181,829 *milreis* gold and 110,863,720 *milreis* paper, making the total expenditures 66,064,333 *milreis* gold and 332,405,793 *milreis* paper.

The revenues collected during the first three months of the current year show an increase over those for the same period of 1906 of 231,742,021 *milreis*, of which 18,139,386 *milreis* represent the increase in customs receipts.

In addition to the payment of bonds of the internal loan of 1897 to the amount of 6,000,000 *milreis*, there have been redeemed since November, 1906, recession bonds to the amount of £238,660 or 3,818,560 *milreis*.

The fund for the redemption of the internal loans, paper, created by act of Congress of April 8, 1902, had on March 31 last 21,456 bonds, worth 21,441,700 *milreis*.

The amount of paper money in circulation on March 31 last was 664,667,411 *milreis*. During the month of April paper money to the

amount of 1,000,000 *milreis* was redeemed from the fund established for this purpose and burned.

The foreign debt of Brazil at the present time amounts to £69,-608,351 9s. On December 31, 1906, the paper money guaranty fund amounted to £5,015,181 1s 11d.

INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE IN 1906.

The various countries participating in Brazilian commerce during 1906 are reported as follows with respect to destination and origin of exports and imports by the "Brazilian Review" of April 30, 1907.

Total imports, exclusive of specie, were valued at £33,204,041 (\$165,000,000), the percentage supplied by the United States being 11.46, while exports totaled £53,059,480 (\$265,000,000), of which the United States took nearly 36 per cent.

The countries of origin for the imports were as follows, the 1905 figures being furnished for purposes of comparison:

IMPORTS.

Country.	1905.	1906.	Ratio in 1906.
Germany.....	£3,977,321	£4,873,140	14.676
Argentine Republic.....	3,511,141	3,508,922	10.567
Austria-Hungary.....	519,209	512,583	1.544
Belgium.....	1,086,772	1,286,116	3.874
Chile.....	41,709	44,181	.133
China.....	31,989	29,124	.088
Cuba.....	4,703	5,610	.025
Denmark.....	67,455	65,277	.196
United States.....	3,082,570	3,805,128	11.460
France.....	2,686,868	3,057,305	9.208
Great Britain.....	7,931,245	9,294,707	27.993
Greece.....	653	790	.002
Spain.....	214,518	267,596	.805
Holland.....	130,367	160,770	.484
Italy.....	993,994	1,094,826	3.297
Japan.....	10,016	14,281	.043
Paraguay.....	23,546	21,067	.063
Peru.....	12,061	2,681	.008
Portugal.....	2,183,794	2,174,690	6.552
Canada.....	156,205	170,530	.514
India.....	539,236	426,943	1.286
New Zealand.....	1,869	802	.002
Newfoundhand.....	435,357	421,397	1.269
Other British colonies.....	20,344	23,363	.070
Russia.....	27,884	39,801	.120
Sweden.....	380,114	143,414	.432
Norway.....	231,892	287,930	.867
Switzerland.....	4,325	239,287	.902
Turkey in Asia.....	5,369	5,682	.017
Turkey in Europe.....	5,369	7,245	.022
Uruguay.....	1,471,428	1,114,374	3.356
Other countries.....	46,097	41,459	.125
Total.....	29,830,051	33,204,041	.....

1350 INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Destinations reported for exports during 1905 and 1906 were as follows:

EXPORTS.

Country.	1905.	1906.	Ratio in 1906.
Germany.....	£6,750,116	£9,341,357	17.605
Argentine Republic.....	1,364,644	1,923,758	3.625
Austria-Hungary.....	1,532,399	1,821,959	3.434
Belgium.....	903,808	1,103,841	2.084
Bolivia.....	545	485	.001
Bulgaria.....	.....	5,128	.010
Channel (for orders).....	351,294	159,163	.300
Chile.....	72,670	91,914	.173
China.....	3,246	1,852	.003
Crete.....	268	.....	.....
Cuba.....	719	.....	.....
Denmark.....	110,025	113,151	.213
Egypt.....	52,349	108,636	.304
United States.....	18,369,449	18,627,520	35.107
France.....	3,285,708	6,307,470	12.285
Great Britain.....	8,208,833	8,544,904	16.104
Greece.....	12,914	16,246	.031
Spain.....	145,362	196,838	.371
Canary Islands.....	7,655	7,832	.015
Holland.....	1,324,517	1,842,982	3.473
Italy.....	414,270	510,118	.961
Morocco.....	1,600	1,178	.002
Paraguay.....	5,452	2,853	.005
Peru.....	21,311	15,618	.029
Portugal.....	261,539	312,755	.589
Madeira Islands.....	14	.....	.....
Barbados.....	12	130	.....
Canada.....	.....	672	.001
Cape of Good Hope.....	229,298	265,356	.302
Gibraltar.....	5,753	26,602	.050
Hongkong.....	1,713	.....	.....
India.....	1	.....	.....
Malta.....	2,001	12,066	.023
Newfoundland.....	.....	518	.001
Algiers.....	30,599	95,397	.180
Dahomey.....	386	303	.....
Delagoa Bay.....	2,208	4,796	.010
Cape de Verde.....	158	33	.....
Tunis.....	1,281	4,841	.010
Roumania.....	17,003	17,199	.032
Russia.....	114,545	139,024	.262
Sweden.....	.....	68,902	.....
Norway.....	33,669	31,876	.060
Tri-pol.....	250	656	.002
Asia Minor.....	91,867	130,683	.246
Turkey.....	152,763	164,286	.310
Uruguay.....	729,789	835,949	1.576
Total.....	44,643,113	53,059,480	100.000

The total tonnage for steam and sailing vessels entering Brazilian ports, in 1906, was 14,464,937 tons carried in 17,764 ships against 12,927,295 tons in 1905 and 17,072 vessels. Clearances numbered 17,770 vessels and 14,451,157 tons as compared with 17,064 vessels and 12,926,298 tons in the preceding year. Brazilian and British ships are far in excess of all others reported.

The six leading articles of export were: Coffee, £27,615,884; rubber, £14,055,911; hides, £1,953,776; herva maté, £1,856,574; cotton, £1,656,730, and cacao £1,386,441.

The United States, Germany, and France were the leading purchasers of the coffee exported, taking 317,441 tons, 176,863 tons, and 128,362 tons, respectively.

Of mangabeira rubber Germany took 256,208 kilograms, the United States 154,135 kilograms, and Great Britain 132,210 kilograms; of

manicoba rubber 1,530 tons were sent to Great Britain, 433 tons to the United States, and 375 tons to Germany, while seringa shipments were as follows: To the United States, 16,162 tons; Great Britain, 10,760 tons; France, 2,770 tons, and Germany 1,651 tons.

Tanned hides were sent to Great Britain, France, and Germany, the three leading countries, in the following quantities: 11,335 tons, 4,625 tons, and 4,221 tons, respectively, France and Germany being the leading purchasers of dry hides, taking 5,129 tons and 1,010 tons, respectively.

Cacao was exported to the United States to the amount of 8,891 tons; to Germany, 7,190 tons; to France, 5,284 tons; Great Britain, 2,020 tons, and to Holland 423 tons, other countries taking the remaining 1,324 tons out of a total of 25,135 tons shipped.

Cut tobacco was exported to the amount of 679,727 kilograms, Germany purchasing 520,243 kilograms and Great Britain 85,084 kilograms, while 22,947 tons of leaf tobacco were sent abroad. Germany taking practically the entire quantity.

Sugar exports totaled 849,963 kilograms of white sugar and 84,099 tons of other sorts, the Argentine Republic taking the bulk of the white, or 633,308 kilograms, and dividing with the United States and Great Britain the brown and other varieties.

Manufactures form the leading item on the import list, being reported for £16,426,019, or 49.5 per cent of the whole, machinery of all classes and cotton goods ranking all other articles. Great Britain and the United States are the leading competitors in imports of machinery, the first-named country occupying first place, though in one item—locomotives—there was a marked advance on the part of the United States and an equally decided decline on that of Great Britain. In cotton goods Great Britain is easily first in the market, followed by Germany, France, and the United States.

Foodstuffs and forage are quoted as worth £10,250,687, or 34.85 per cent of the whole on the import list, ranking next to machinery in value. Under this heading the leading item is covered by 122,282 tons of wheat flour from the Argentine Republic, followed by wines from Italy, codfish from Newfoundland, rice from India, and wheat flour from the United States.

Materials raw or partly prepared for use in the arts and industries form 19.23 per cent of the total imports, figuring for £6,325,800. Cotton occupies first place on this list, followed by wood and lumber in various forms and iron and steel.

PORTUGUESE ENTERPRISE IN RIO DE JANEIRO.

The permanent exposition of Portuguese products established at Rio de Janeiro under the combined commercial and Government authority of Lisbon, was opened on March 29, 1907, with consider-

able display, being inaugurated in Brazilian-Portuguese style with a collation, speech making, and entertainment, attended by the Minister of Fazenda and other Brazilian authorities and by a large number of representatives of Rio de Janeiro business circles.

While the exposition, even if it is a great success, is not likely to be of particular importance to American interests, since the goods presented come into competition with no articles from the United States, it is of importance as indicating what might be presented by the United States at the present time with profit, and the idea in its relation to possible trade campaigns elsewhere is worth consideration.

At present the exposition includes divisions as follows: Works of art; wines, liqueurs, champagnes, vinegars and wine products, olive oils, spirits, mineral waters, cork and cork products, dried and prepared fruits, dried vegetables, cheeses, salt, preserved meats and fish; preserved fruits, vegetables, etc.; photography, lithographing, ceramics, shoes, and miscellaneous.

In connection with the exposition of Portuguese products, attention is called to the museum established by the Academy of Commerce, an institution founded for education along business and commercial lines. The principal object of the museum is to collect samples of all native raw materials of industrial utility, which are classed methodically with information as to their place of origin, means of using them, how and where they can be obtained, and cost. It is planned to form duplicate collections of such materials and forward them for display in similar museums in foreign cities for the purpose of disseminating abroad a knowledge of Brazilian products. In connection with the museum there has been organized an information bureau for the collection and spread of commercial information, and a bulletin is to be published later in this connection.

IMMIGRATION AT RIO DE JANEIRO, 1906.

The number of immigrants entered at Rio de Janeiro in 1906 was 27,147, as follows: Portuguese, 16,795; Italians, 4,318; Spaniards, 4,074; Turks, 1,110; Germans, 225; Austrians, 101; Russians, 199; French, 105; English, 72; Americans, 29; Belgians, 15; Argentinas, 14; Swiss, 10; various, 80. This is a considerable increase over the previous year and marks a beginning of better things in the labor line, in the estimation of Brazilian statesmen.

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES IN THE REPUBLIC.

The "Trade-mark Bulletin" reports that a statute has gone into effect in Brazil requiring that all proprietary remedies for introduction into that country be certified by a licensed druggist in the country of manufacture.

TRADE OF SANTOS, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

For the first three months of 1907, total imports at the port of Santos are stated as 33,358:389\$ or £2,113,071, as compared with 17,646:786\$ or £1,216,813 in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Exports for the quarter were 76,011:952\$ or £4,821,956 as against 42,180:150\$ or £2,852,444 in the first three months of 1906. The trade of the port is thus seen to have practically doubled in the year.

Great Britain, Germany, the Argentine Republic, and the United States furnished the bulk of the imports, in the order named, though Great Britain is far in advance of her competitors. On the other hand, the United States leads as a receiver of exports, followed by Germany, France, Great Britain, and Holland.

Coffee, hides, rubber, and bran were the four leading items of export, the quantity of coffee exported amounting to 2,415,374 bags, as compared with 1,405,027 bags in the first three months of 1906.

RUBBER EXPORTS, FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

Shipments of rubber from Amazonas and Para, during the first three months of 1907, are valued at £5,148,282 as compared with £5,290,489 in the corresponding period of 1906.

COFFEE MOVEMENT, MARCH, 1907.

[Boletim da Associação Commercial of April 9, 1907.]

The coffee movement at the ports of Rio de Janeiro and Santos, for the month of March, 1907, compared with that of the same month of the previous year, was as follows:

	Rio de Janeiro.		Santos.	
	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.
	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
Entries.....	352,421	128,754	894,154	232,000
Shipments.....	165,547	201,672	925,943	306,230
Sales.....	271,000	103,000	1,026,027	287,548
Daily average of entries.....	11,368	4,153	28,843	7,483
Daily average of shipments.....	5,883	.....	29,809	16,330
Entries from July 1.....	3,420,013	2,488,556	12,685,392	6,300,799
Stock on hand Mar. 30.....	740,749	72,351	2,094,780	665,962

SHIPMENTS OF CARBONS.

Carbon exporters in Brazil pay a tax for doing business as follows: Firms exporting up to \$150,000 annually, \$1,500; exporting above \$150,000, \$3,000. In addition to this tax there is an export duty of 7 per cent *ad valorem*.

There are no companies engaged in mining or searching for carbons, that work being done by the natives, individually, or in small parties

working together. Prices are not controlled by any trust, but are governed by supply and demand and are subject to frequent changes. The carbon region begins about 267 miles from Bahia, and can be reached in four days, viz: Bahia to Cachoera, 45 miles by water, one day; Cachoera to Bandeira de Mello, 158 miles by rail, one day; thence to Andarahy, 64 miles, on mule back, two days.

EXPORTS FROM PERNAMBUCO, MARCH, 1907.

The *Boletim Mensal* of the Commercial Association of Pernambuco publishes the following statistics of the export movement at that port for the month of March, 1907:

Carnauba wax.....bags..	1,422	Oil.....boxes..	1,328
Mandioca flour.....do....	3,100	Do.....barrels..	955
Rubber.....barrels..	19	Sugar.....kilos..	7,104,213
Do.....bales..	13	Cotton.....do....	3,211,775
Textiles.....do....	899	Rum.....pipes..	1,260
Corn.....bags..	13,269	Alcohol.....do....	840
Skins.....bales..	138	Honey.....do....	9
Castor-oil seed.....bags..	359	Hides.....bales..	681
Coffee.....do....	970	Cotton seed.....kilos..	12,681
Soap.....boxes..	5,280		

FIBER CONCESSIONS AND INDUSTRIES.

The "Brazilian Review" states that a contract has been signed by the government of the State of Minas Geraes with the Empire Fiber Company of North America, whose capital is \$350,000, for the planting and exploitation of pita and rice by American methods. The government grants the land, while the company establishes a school where ten pupils are to be taught each year the technicalities of the business. If within four years 1,000,000 plants of pita are not growing or if within one year machinery has not been installed for the preparation of the products, the land will revert to the State, with all improvements made, without the government having to pay any indemnity.

It is reported that the two Perini fiber plantations in the State of Rio de Janeiro produced in March 200 tons of fiber and 750 tons of cellulose. English firms have offered Doctor PERINI £40 per ton for all the fiber he is able to furnish and £12 per ton for the cellulose. The Perini plant is capable of yielding three crops per year.

CHILE.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS, FIRST QUARTER, 1907.

Customs receipts at the ports of the Chilean Republic during the first quarter of 1907 show import duties worth 12,679,442 *pesos* 9 *centavos*, and export duties for 13,607,742 *pesos* 82 *centavos*, while

from other branches of the service the receipts were 608,597 *pesos* 28 *centavos*, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, when 9,883,850 *pesos* 44 *centavos* were recorded for imports duties; 13,874,104 *pesos* 26 *centavos* for exports and 507,316 *pesos* 76 *centavos* for other services of the customs, an increase as regards imports of 2,795,591 *pesos* 65 *centavos* is noted; export values declined in the sum of 266,361 *pesos* 44 *centavos*, and other branches of the service show an advance of 101,280 *pesos* 52 *centavos*.

In the aggregate, the receipts for the months of January, February, and March, 1907, show a net increase of 2,630,310 *pesos* 73 *centavos* over the same months of 1906.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE COUNTRY.

El Boletín de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril, of Santiago, Chile, publishes in its issue for April, 1907, the text of a statement sent to the Department of the Interior by the Chilean Bureau of Statistics concerning the financial status of the Republic.

According to the statement referred to, the tax rate paid by each inhabitant during the five years from 1901 to 1905 was as follows: 1901, \$11.59; 1902, \$11.56; 1903, \$11.85; 1904, \$11.93; 1905, \$11.82; annual average during the period of five years, \$11.75. In this calculation, the revenues from Government railroads and posts and telegraphs have not been taken into consideration, as the same are public utilities and not taxes. The duties on nitrate and iodine have also been omitted, as they affect only a very limited number of individuals.

Referring to the tax-paying capacity of the country, the Bureau of Statistics says that the annual tax of \$11.75 could easily be increased to a double amount, \$23.50, a tax which, compared with those paid in other countries, is not very high. In France each inhabitant pays \$36; in Great Britain, \$29.66; in Holland, \$23.17; in Italy, \$23; in Austria, \$21.78; in Denmark, \$19.78, etc.

In 1897, the total value of property subject to taxation was \$1,400,084,362; and in 1904, \$1,512,591,127, an increase of \$112,507,766.

The bank deposits in 1901, amounted to \$121,162,288 and in 1903 to \$314,240,435, an increase of \$193,078,147, or 159 per cent.

In 1901, stock companies were incorporated to the amount of £475,000; and in 1905, to that of £5,741,240, an increase of 859 per cent.

The number of industrial establishments in 1901, was 7,315; and in 1905, 10,152, an increase of 2,837, equal to 38 per cent. In 1901, there were 32,944 commercial establishments; and in 1905, 35,018, an increase of 2,074, or 6 per cent.

SURVEY OF THE LONGITUDINAL RAILWAY.

By virtue of a presidential decree, dated April 16, 1907, the Chilean Government has accepted the bid presented by the *Société d'Études de Construction et d'Exploitation de Chemins de Fer au Chili* to carry out, for the amount of 400,000 gold *pesos* of 18 shillings, the survey of the Longitudinal Railway between Ligua and Copiapo, for the alteration of the sections of said railway operated at present and situated between the same points, for the connection of the railroad from San Marcos to Paloma with the line from Ovalle to Serena, and for the survey of the branch line from Ligua to Papudo. The payment of the cost of these surveys shall be made only in case the Government should reject the bid which the company may afterwards submit for the construction and exploitation of the line in question.

THE NITRATE INDUSTRY.

The figures given below, taken from the last report presented by the manager of the Association for Nitrate Propaganda, show that the condition of the nitrate industry in Chile is not only very satisfactory but that it also enjoys a rapidly increasing prosperity due mainly to the steady growth of the world's consumption of this valuable fertilizer.

The principal source of revenue of the Republic is the export duty on nitrate, which is about \$1.22 gold per *quintal*. From 1880 (the year in which this tax was established) to December 31, 1905, the collections amounted to \$273,000,000 gold, approximately. It is reported that a large corporation of capitalists contemplates purchasing a portion of the Government nitrate lands for the price of \$73,050,000 gold.

The commercial year for nitrate transactions commences on March 1 of each year and ends on April 30 of the following. During the nitrate years 1904-5 and 1905-6, the production, exportation, and consumption of nitrate were as follows:

	1904-5.	1905-6.
	<i>Quintales.</i>	<i>Quintales.</i>
Production.....	36,661,125	37,810,552
Exportation.....	34,200,521	36,223,721
Consumption.....	33,798,013	36,393,078

A comparison of the above figures shows an increase in favor of 1905-6 as follows: Production, 1,149,427 *quintales*; exportation, 2,033,200 *quintales*; consumption, 2,595,065 *quintales*.

During the first half of 1906, the production amounted to 18,252,411 *quintales*, the exportation to 15,656,259 *quintales*, and the consumption to 25,510,285 *quintales*. In the same period of 1905 these items

were represented by 18,324,399, 15,242,870, and 24,048,106 *quintales*, respectively. The increase in the first six months of 1906 is, therefore, of 71,988 *quintales* in production, of 413,389 *quintales* in exportation, and of 1,462,179 *quintales* in consumption.

On August 25, 1906, there were 113 plants, with an estimated output of 58,019,000 *quintales*. In 1900 there were 74, with an estimated output of 30,393,000 *quintales*.

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION WITH JAPAN.

Under date of May 24, 1907, the International Bureau of the American Republics was informed through the Department of State of the United States of the official promulgation by the Government of Chile, on March 31, 1907, of a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation between that Government and Japan. The signing of the treaty in reference was carried out in Washington on September 25, 1897, by Señor DOMINGO GANA, at that time Minister from Chile to the United States, and JUSHU TORUNOSHI, Japanese Minister to the United States, the protocol explaining the most-favored-nation clause being executed on the same date, with indorsement at Tokyo October 16, 1899.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR IN 1906.

From data furnished by the managers of the sugar factories at Viña del Mar, Penco, and Membrillo, the Bureau of Statistics of Chile has issued tables showing the production and consumption of sugar in the Republic in 1906.

The factory at Viña del Mar produced, during 1906, 19,922,268 kilograms of sugar, as against 22,607,055 kilograms in 1905. With the exception of 800,000 kilograms, more or less, that were kept at the factory, the whole product was consumed in the Republic.

The production of the factory at Penco during 1906 was 18,652,208 kilograms, as compared with 12,404,812 kilograms in 1905. The sales of this factory were 17,368,515 kilograms in 1906 and 13,575,307 in 1905.

The market product, in 1906, of these two factories amounted to 36,890,783 kilograms; adding to this sum the 934,470 kilograms of refined sugar imported in 1905, the total consumption in the Republic during 1906 reached the amount of 37,825,253 kilograms, which, in a population estimated at 4,000,000, shows a consumption of 9½ kilograms, or 20½ pounds, *per capita*. "Mulhall's Statistical Dictionary" gives the following *per capita* sugar consumption of various countries: Great Britain, 69 pounds; France, 23 pounds; Germany, 15 pounds; Austria, 13 pounds; Russia, 8 pounds; Swe-

den, 18 pounds; Norway, 11 pounds; Holland, 29 pounds; Belgium, 16 pounds; Denmark, 30 pounds; Switzerland, 23 pounds; Italy, 7 pounds; Spain, 6 pounds.

In regard to the factory at Membrillo, its manager has made the following estimates as to its probable production in the years specified: 1908, 45,050 tons; 1909, 39,300 tons; 1910, 71,950 tons.

COLOMBIA.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT REYES.

The President of the Republic, Gen. RAFAEL REYES, on April 1, 1907, submitted to the National Assembly his annual message, accompanied by brief reports from the several Cabinet ministers. After congratulating the country on the state of peace and prosperity enjoyed for several years, General Reyes says:

"Our international relations have been cultivated and maintained on a footing of cordiality and correctness, toward which effective help has been given by the honorable diplomatic body at this capital and by our representatives abroad, where it is considered that Colombia has definitively come out from the era of civil wars, through which every country in the world has passed, and that she has now entered upon peace and progress. * * *

"The acute economic crisis which has weighed down the nation since the termination of the late civil war, as a result of the excessive emission of paper money, is still sharp. The Government, in order to relieve the situation, has applied the greater part of the public revenue so as to recover firmly the credit of the country abroad and by this means to attract foreign capital for the construction of railways and for other industries. In the interior of the country the Government has given its attention to the improvement of lines of communication, converting mule tracks into cart roads, repairing these and opening new ones. In this manner the public taxes have been given a reproductive and fruitful employment, which has controlled, in part, the bad economic situation, and will finally control it entirely.

"We have kept to the level of our estimates, and every day the organization of our finances and the regular administration of our public taxes is improving, to the point where we can say that these are properly managed.

"The harvests were abundant last year and promise to be so this year, which will keep the mass of the population from suffering for a lack of provisions.

"Since your last sessions the Assembly has increased the number of its members by twenty-one deputies, corresponding to the six new

departments which have been formed, and to the federal district. In this assembly all the different political groups of the country are worthily represented by the most distinguished men of Colombia.

"I have spoken incidentally of the political composition of the National Assembly, but only to give evidence of its representative elements; however, your labors will not be of a political character, as the nation has no problems of that kind pending, and as the actual institutions are accepted by all the political parties, the political labors of these parties will remain for the future, as they already are, in the fruitful field of the Administration, in which all can work for the good of the country; and this will be the principal object of the political groups: they will either change into coincident forces for doing good or they will have to disappear, for the nation can no longer tolerate within its strong organism any disrupting and opposing forces to its progress and well-being under the name of political entities. It is pleasing to me to recognize in you all the patriotic and open spirit required to accept with loyalty and frankness the postulate concerning the mission of political parties which is to-day dominant in all Colombians of good will."

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

Señor Don EUCLIDES DE ANGULO, the Minister of the Interior, in his report to the National Assembly, accompanying the message of President REYES, says:

"The failure constantly observed by the authorities of the representatives of some foreign companies domiciled abroad, and who transact business in the Republic, to appear before the magistrates or civil officers of the Government as plaintiffs or defendants, in accordance with our laws, is notorious. In fact, said companies generally have attorneys who represent them, and whenever it is necessary for them to demand the compliance of some obligation from private or juridical persons of the country, they have availed themselves of their powers of attorney and have carried on the proper proceedings to a final result, but whenever the companies themselves have been required to fulfill their own obligations the attorneys have refused to exercise the powers conferred on them, thus excluding from international jurisdiction the legal entity they represent, in order to compel their opponents either to waive their rights or to appear before foreign courts in case it was necessary to exercise them before the latter. Therefore the result has been that, on the one hand, the right of the natives was left in an undecided and inefficient state, while, on the other hand, foreigners have enjoyed all advantages in order to make effective their rights. This difficulty has been overcome by following the modern practice of nations by the issuance of legislative decrees Nos. 2 and 37 of 1906.

"The Government has kept these provisions in force, which are found in the laws of all civilized countries, because it is believed that by so doing it was rendering a tutelary service to the natives and was establishing clear rules for the exercise of the same rights of foreigners doing business in Colombia.

"Many petitions for the repeal of decrees Nos. 2 and 37 had to be rejected, and it should be added that many of said petitions, which were supported by native lawyers, aimed at the elimination of wise provisions, the object of which was to establish, with absolute clearness, the judicial status of foreign companies, and to avoid the disregard, always to be deplored, of the rights of native citizens.

"To further develop legislative decrees Nos. 2 and 37, of 1906, the Government, at the request of the parties in interest, has made several explanatory decisions, the last of which is dated February 22, and was rendered in connection with the petition made by the German subject, CARLOS ARNTZ, and published in No. 12901 of the *Diario Oficial*. There is maintained therein a sound doctrine juridically adapted to our positive law, and the Government should continue along this line, because it is the legal way, and because it is necessary to stop the old tendency to speculate with the condition of internal disorders in matters so delicate as those I have just referred to.

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"The limited companies established in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial and Civil Codes, are juridical persons by virtue of the law, and do not for their existence need authorization by the Executive, as formerly provided in article 553 of the first-mentioned Code, inasmuch as said article was repealed by law 27 of 1888, this construction having served to reject, in several instances, the petitions made to the Department for the aforesaid purpose.

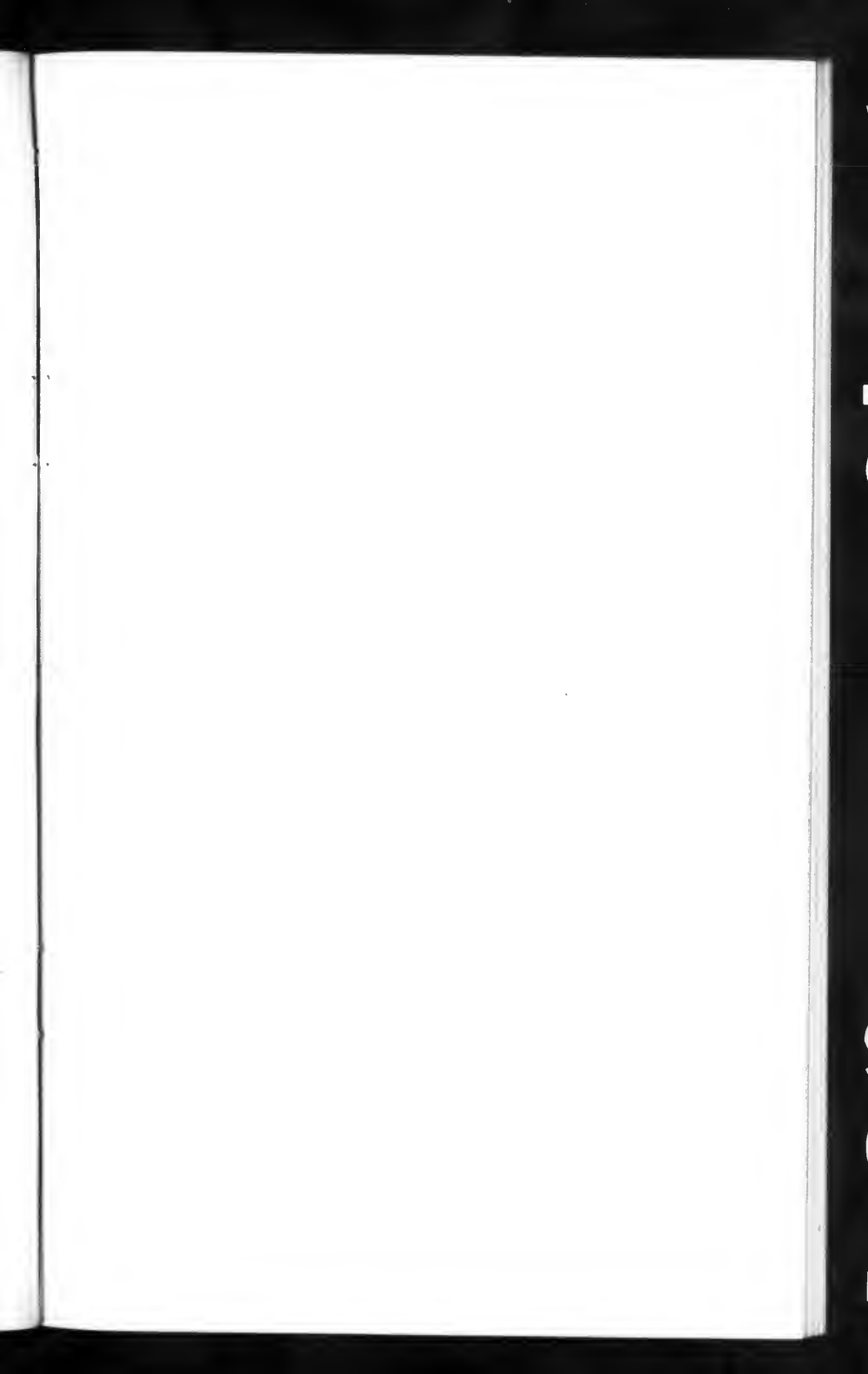
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"The Post and Telegraph report covers the period from April, 1904, when the former report was made, to the present time. The Department of Posts has operated regularly after the reorganization made in 1905, in accordance with Executive decrees 317 and 562 of said year. In conformity with that reorganization the Department of Posts has fifteen divisions in the capital of the Republic.

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"The routes existing when the previous report was made have been increased by four new ones, namely: One from Manizales to Carmen de Atrato; one from Anserma to Istmina; one from Bogota to Agua de Dios, and, lastly, one for the Atlantic, from Bogota via Girardot to Barranquilla.

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SEÑOR DON GONZALO DE QUESADA, MINISTER OF CUBA TO THE UNITED STATES.

"The establishment of a confidential agency in Panama for the purpose of receiving and dispatching the mails for the Departments of Cauca and Nariño in the southern part of the Republic, and those sent abroad from the latter places, has also given satisfactory results.

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"In 1905, there were handled 659,416 prepaid letters, representing a value in stamps of \$182,772.21, and 369,879 official communications; in 1906, the pieces of paid mail matter numbered 386,280, representing a postage value of \$101,460.57, while the official communications handled numbered 207,677 pieces."

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Señor Don A. VASQUEZ COBO, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his report to the National Assembly accompanying the message of President REYES, says:

"When our Plenipotentiary at Rio de Janeiro communicated to us the desire of Mr. ROOR, Secretary of State, to go to the port of Cartagena to make a visit to Colombia as the termination of his trip through South America, the Government prepared to receive that eminent statesman in a manner worthy of him and of the traditions of hospitality and courtesy for which the Republic is noted. The undersigned received from his Excellency the President the pleasing order to go to Cartagena, which he did, to await the arrival of the distinguished guest. Mr. ROOR arrived at that city on September 24 of last year, and was the object of the usual courtesies. On welcoming Mr. ROOR in the name of the Republic and of His Excellency the President, I said to him, among other things: 'We receive you as the herald of peace, of justice, and of concord.' Mr. ROOR, in answer to my remarks, expressed the 'sincere desire that all questions which exist between the United States of Colombia and the United States of America may be settled peacefully, in the spirit of friendship, of mutual esteem, and with honor for both countries.'

"This frank and amicable declaration, as well as the other remarks made by the distinguished Secretary of State in honor of Colombia and its illustrious Chief, inclined the Government to a further continuation of the negotiations begun in Washington by Minister MENDOZA PÉREZ. In order to carry these negotiations to a happy termination, Dr. ENRIQUE CORTÉS, a citizen who, because of his learning, tact, and long residence in European countries, seemed best fitted to continue this mission, was appointed to take the place of Dr. MENDOZA PÉREZ.

"Mr. CORTÉS proceeded to Washington and began his duties in accordance with the instructions given him by this Chancellery. In order to obtain the best results in this delicate matter, the Govern-

ment decided to appoint as the advisers of the legation, MESSRS. JOSÉ MARÍA PASOS, GABRIEL O'BYRNE, and ANTONIO R. BLANCO.

"The negotiations have been conducted in a satisfactory manner, and the Government entertains the hope that it may soon be able to announce the celebration of an agreement suitable to the honor and interests of the nation. It would be a cause of special satisfaction to me if such agreement could be concluded before the termination of your labors, in order that you may take it into consideration.

"I should mention that the distinguished diplomat, Hon. JOHN BARRETT, a loyal friend of Colombia and who took upon himself a journey through our Department with fruitful results to the country, has contributed in a large measure, with intelligence and tact, toward the good feeling existing between Colombia and the United States."

PATENTS AND TRADE-MARKS IN 1906.

According to the official publication of the Colombian Department of Public Works and Improvements, 39 patents of invention were issued, and 61 trade-marks registered, during the calendar year 1906.

TRADE OF BARRANQUILLA, 1906.

Of the foreign commerce of Colombia, amounting to some \$23,000,000 per annum, 65 per cent is conducted through the port of Barranquilla.

The total foreign trade of the port amounted to \$16,030,109 during the year 1906, an increase of \$882,955 over the year 1905. There was a decrease in the imports of \$493,826 and an increase in exports of \$1,376,779, showing a balance of trade in favor of the port of \$2,456,000, an increase of \$1,870,604 over the balance of the preceding year.

The following statement shows the value of imports through Barranquilla during the year 1906, as per countries of origin: United Kingdom, \$2,706,252; United States, \$1,217,777; Germany, \$1,127,520; France, \$1,109,686; Spain, \$208,047; all other countries, \$367,773; total, \$6,787,055; total in 1905, \$7,280,879; decrease, \$493,824. The duties levied on the foregoing imports for the year 1906 amounted to \$4,333,028, an average of 64 per cent ad valorem, and an increase of \$228,849 over the year 1905. There was an unusual amount of railroad material imported from the United Kingdom during the year, which contributed largely in obtaining for that Kingdom the first rank among the purveyors to Colombia. On the other hand, as previously reported, the imports of flour have practically ceased on account of the prohibitive duties imposed at the beginning of the year, which fact has solely affected American exporters, and caused our percentage to fall much below our usual

share. Of the total exports, the United States took 51 per cent; the United Kingdom, 20 per cent; Germany, 17 per cent; France, 5 per cent; Spain, 1 per cent, and other countries 6 per cent.

The port proper is Savanilla, also known as Puerto Colombia, but Barranquilla is the official port, wherein the custom-house, warehouses, ships' agencies, and commercial institutions are located. Barranquilla, which has a population of 50,000, is situated on the western bank of the Magdalena River, 17 miles from the Atlantic coast, to which it is connected by a railway owned by English interests. It is the capital of the new department called El Departamento del Atlantico, and is a thriving city, having more than quadrupled its population during the last three decades. While Barranquilla can boast of many flourishing industries, such as the brick (sand-lime and clay), tile, mosaic, cotton ginning, shoe, candle, soap, soda water, beer, ice, lumber, flour milling, cotton manufacture, etc., it is essentially a commercial city, being by far the greatest port in the country, and the main distributing point for the large cities of the interior, such as Bogota, Medellin, Bucaramanga, etc. Three banks—The Banco Central, Banco del Atlantico, and Banco de Barranquilla—are established here, and about 40 large business houses, making a general import, export, and wholesale trade, besides some 200 retailers in the various lines, and varying in importance from the little corner shop to the good sized general merchandise store.

During the calendar year 1906, 326 steamers visited Savanilla, with a total registered tonnage of 691,004 tons, an increase of 150,677 tons as compared with 1905. Of the ship tonnage, 274,141 was German, 245,170 was English, 99,274 was Spanish, and 25,985 was Italian. One fact to be deplored is that not even an American sailing vessel has visited the port during the year. The consular records here show that the last American vessel that called at Savanilla was on April 22, 1903—the American bark *John Stanhope*. Not one ton of American freight to Colombia is carried in American bottoms at present.

The service between the United States and Barranquilla (Savanilla) is as follows: Atlas service of the Hamburg-American Line (German), weekly—New York sailings every Saturday for Savanilla, via Jamaica, trip eight and one-half days, fare \$60, about 2,000 miles; Savanilla sailings every Tuesday for New York, via Cartagena, Port Limon, and Jamaica, trip fourteen days; Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (English), semimonthly to New York, via Colon and Jamaica, and vice versa, trip nine days, fare \$60; The Leyland and Harrison Line (Liverpool), thrice a month to New Orleans, via Colon and Kingston, trip ten days.

In the European service the Hamburg-American Line (German), has three sailings a month; Royal Mail Steam Packet Company

(English), two sailings a month; Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, (French), two sailings a month; Compañía Transatlántica de Barcelona (Spanish), one sailing a month; Compagnia Italiana de Navigazione (Italian), one sailing a month. The trip to European ports via Venezuela and the West Indies occupies about twenty days. The average freight rate to New York per ton is \$9; to European ports, \$15.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF FOREIGNERS.

The American Consulate-General at Bogota, Colombia, furnishes the following information for foreigners who intend to enter the Republic of Colombia:

Although each foreigner entering Colombia is requested to present a viséed passport, if one arrives without a pass he may gain entrance to the country by addressing himself to his resident Consul, the collector of customs, and captain of the port.

No invoice is required for or duty collected upon personal baggage, if it does not exceed 330.69 pounds in weight, and is accompanied by the owner, and is consistent with his station in life.

Foreigners coming to Colombia, however will avoid much annoyance, expense, and delay if they provide themselves with properly viséed passports, also with a consular invoice to cover their baggage if it exceeds limitation. Baggage that is in excess and not covered by a consular invoice or that is not accompanied by the owner is assessed duty at the highest rate in the tariff (\$1.50 per kilo of 2.20 pounds) and 70 per cent per kilo additional. The penalty for the absence of the invoice is 10 per cent and 5 per cent for making the inventory.

Excess baggage accompanied by the owner and by a consular invoice is assessed duty at the tariff rate of the merchandise of which it may consist.

Invoice fees.—The minimum charge for a Colombian consular invoice is \$18 on goods not exceeding \$200 in value, and the maximum fee is \$30 for each \$1,000 or additional fraction of \$1,000.

Transportation, etc.—At present and until transportation facilities are much changed and improved all perishable goods destined for the interior of the country should be so packed as to exclude moisture and in packages not exceeding 125 pounds in weight for transportation on mule back, peons, or in canoes.

All merchandise that is transported via the Magdalena River is subject to 100° F. for a period of about ten days. Merchandise, such as photographic films, pharmaceutical preparations, etc., are often ruined through insufficient care in packing. Goods destined for the interior are exposed to the downpour of the tropical rains and may accidentally be submerged in crossing mountain streams or in careless

handling in canoes. Goods may now be sent from the Magdalena River to Bogotá by the Cambao cart road, but even by this route there is no assurance of their exemption from damage by water.

IMPROVEMENTS AT CARTAGENA.

The Cartagena Water Works Company (Limited), of London, has completed its pipe lines from the springs of Turbaco to Cartagena and will soon be ready to furnish residences, etc., with a good supply of spring water. The Government palace, which covers an entire block, has been beautified and enlarged by the adding of one story and by remodeling and adorning its many rooms. The municipal electric-light plant has in use new machinery, dynamos, etc., recently received from the United States, England, and Germany, and is producing very satisfactory light for the residences and streets of the city. The light given by a small bulb costs the purchaser \$1.50 gold per month.

It is estimated that the new sugar refinery and cane plantation to be put in operation near Cartagena will cost \$800,000 gold. A building and loan association, the first one in Cartagena, has been organized by a citizen of the United States.

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES.

The Colombian Minister of Public Works and Promotion, in his annual report to the National Assembly, presented on April 1, 1907, gives a detailed account of the plan adopted by the Government for the improvement of the railroad system of the Republic. Besides utilizing many of the lines under construction, or for which contracts have been entered into, this design when carried out will establish close communication among the Departments of Cauca, Caldas, Antioquia, Cundinamarca, the Capital District, Quesada, Boyaca, Tundama, Galán, and Santander; and the extension of the system throughout the Magdalena and toward the Atlantic coast will include the Departments of Atlantico, Bolivar, and Magdalena. It is purposed to consolidate into a single line several of the railroads now under process of construction, thus: From Buenaventura, on the Pacific, to Cali; thence to Medellin, taking a northerly direction, passing through the principal cities on the Cauca River, and proceeding along the course of this river through Caldas and Antioquia; at Medellin it will connect with the railroad that is being built from Puerto Berrio, on the Magdalena River; from this port, in a southerly direction and proceeding along the left bank of the Magdalena River, to La Maria on La Dorada Railroad, which is being extended to Ambalema; a branch line will connect the latter point with the Tocaima station on the Girardot Railroad, which will ascend to Sabana to join at Facativata with the line connecting the latter with Bogotá;

thence, by means of the Northern Railroad and its extension to Chiquinquirá, now under construction, and the line terminating through Bucaramanga at a point near Puerto Wilches, the lower section of the Magdalena River will be reached, whence this stream is navigable at all times. Besides, a line passing through Quindío will establish direct communication between Cartago and Girardot, and another one will be laid out from Medellín to the Gulf of Urabá.

From January, 1906, to April, 1907, extensions have been made in the railroad system of the Republic as follows: Southern Railroad, 2 kilometers, 510 meters, and 40 centimeters; Antioquia Railroad, 19 kilometers, 339 meters, and 15 centimeters; Santa Marta Railroad, 8 kilometers; Tolima Railroad, 5 kilometers; Girardot Railroad, 4 kilometers, and about 40 more that will soon be opened to traffic; Northern Railroad (Zipaquirá to Nemecon), 15 kilometers, and La Dorada Railroad (extension), 23 kilometers.

United States Consul-General JAY WHITE, of Bogotá, transmits the following report on the construction of railways in Colombia:

"The Girardot Railway has 80 miles under operation and 205 miles contemplated or under construction. The road runs from Girardot on the Magdalena River through Hospicio, and is to connect with the Sabana Railway at Facatativa, a distance of 80 miles, and is to be completed January 1, 1908. The Antioquia Railway when finished will consist of the extension of the road from Puerto Berrio to Medellín, 78 miles. The construction of a line is contemplated to join the Dorada Railway with the "Puerto Berrio and Medellín Railway" at Providencia, 75 miles, and the extension of the line from Puerto Berrio to Barranca Bermeja, 50 miles.

"Other engineering works contemplated or in course of construction in Colombia are: The extension of the Dorada Railway from Honda to Ambalema, 66 miles; the Buenaventura Railway, to Buga, and the Cambao wagon road, from Facatativa to Cambao, on the upper Magdalena River, 75 miles. Some material is on the ground for the construction of the railway from the Ciudad Reyes, on the Gulf of Darien, to Medellín. A concession has also been granted for the extension of the Northern Railway, from Bogotá-Zipaquirá to Chiquinquirá, 40 miles.

"It is proposed to install a new sewer and water system in the city of Bogotá, relay pavements, build new hospitals, public schools, abattoirs, markets, and 2,000 workmen's model houses. The municipal improvements also contemplate the conversion of the present horse-car service into an electrical line. All the foregoing work is reported to be under the control of English concessionaires, with the exception of the Buenaventura and Colombian Central railways and the Bogotá Street Railway, which are controlled by American capital."

The *Diario Oficial* of March 15, 1907, publishes the text of the contract of February 1, 1907, approved by President REYES on February 4, between the Government and Mr. THOMAS GERMAN RIBON for the construction of the Tundama Railroad.

The Government grants to Mr. RIBON the exclusive right of construction and exploitation of a railroad from Nemocon in the Department of Quesada to Santa Rosa de Viterbo in the Department of Tundama, with a branch line from between these two points to Sogamoso.

A subsidy of \$9,990 gold per kilometer constructed and put into service is granted by the Government to be paid in Government 6 per cent bonds. In addition, a grant of 300 hectares of public lands per kilometer of road constructed is made.

The *Diario Oficial* of March 9, 1907, publishes the text of the contract of February 20, approved by President REYES February 25, 1907, between the Government and Señor CAMILO CARRIZOSA, and Señor JORGE VÉLEZ for the establishment of a line of steam navigation on the upper Magdalena between the river ports of Girardot and Arraucaplumas. The contract calls for forty-eight round trips a year and for stops at Upito, Guataque, Iguanime, Ambalema, and Camboa.

COMMERCIAL STATUS OF SANTA MARTA.

The value of the articles declared at Santa Marta for export to the United States during the calendar year 1906 amounted to \$534,942, consisting of the following items: Alligator skins, \$10,674; bananas, \$498,142; cacao, \$491; coffee, \$4,541; copper (old), \$2,927; goatskins, \$4,148; hides, \$13,999; and logwood, \$20.

Santa Marta is at present the only Colombian port exporting bananas, sending its entire output to the United States. The industry has developed wonderfully, and although yet in its infancy it is by far the greatest industry in the district, the output having increased from 171,891 bunches in 1892, the first year of any recorded export, to 1,397,388 bunches in 1906.

The present acreage devoted to bananas is about 7,000 acres, of which an American corporation owns 25 per cent, the balance belonging to individuals. All the fruit is purchased and exported by the American company, and the following prices per first-class bunch (nine hands or up) are paid the growers: From the months of August to January, inclusive, 15 cents; in February, 20 cents; in March, 25 cents; April, May, and June, 35 cents; July, 25 cents; or an average price the year around of 22.5 cents. It is believed that the general output will be increased 25 per cent during the year 1907.

The Santa Marta Railway, with an actual mileage of 93 miles, has its lines now to Fundacion and is gradually extending across the

banana belt toward the Magdalena River as fast as the lands are taken up and cultivated and expects to reach the river at a point called Tenerife in a couple of years. Santa Marta may then prove to be a serious competitor with the ports of Barranquilla and Cartagena for the foreign traffic of the country, having the advantage of a deep and well-protected harbor, more accessible than either of the other two, and of a quicker ocean service, made necessary on account of the transportation of fruit.

Santa Marta can also boast of being the only district in the country where at present coffee can be grown and exported at a profit, since it has no river transportation to pay. The total amount of banana land conveniently situated for irrigation in the whole district of Santa Marta, including Rio Frio and Fundacion, might possibly reach 50,000 acres, now awaiting transportation facilities before development.

COSTA RICA.

MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT CLETO GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

President CLETO GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ addressed, on May 1, 1907, an important message to the Costa Rican Congress, covering the following information:

"In March, 1905, a statement relating to the award on boundaries, a treaty modifying the frontier between both countries, and a convention on landmarks were signed in Panama by the Plenipotentiary of Costa Rica, Mr. LEONIDAS PACHECO, and General SANTIAGO DE LA GUARDIA, who was then Minister of Foreign Relations of the aforesaid Republic. The Panama Assembly has already approved these three conventions, except the one relating to boundaries, in which some substantial changes were made. These agreements now only lack the consideration of the Costa Rican Congress and its decision as to whether they are acceptable to us with the changes made therein.

* * * * *

"The means of communication have been and shall continue to be the object of special attention by my Administration. Without that most essential factor agriculture would be handicapped, inasmuch as the high price of transportation takes from the agriculturist what would constitute his legitimate profit, and, anticipating a loss, his enthusiasm and energy will necessarily be weakened. The lack of roads also necessarily results in the high price of provisions and affects considerably the welfare of the poorer classes, whose cost of living does not bear any proportion to the rate of wages.

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"On the other hand, the lands of the Central Plateau are commencing to show signs of exhaustion, and therefore it is indispensable

to open and establish roads that shall give easy access to the fertile and almost virgin regions of the northern and southern parts of the Republic. The inhabitants of the old lands would settle and cultivate the new ones if the opportunity of transporting their products to central markets at a rate which would leave a profit were given them. In accordance with these views, the construction of a road to General is under consideration, and the Government expects within a short time to begin work to that end. These improvements, to which it is proposed to add a telegraph line, will attract to that privileged zone the people south of San José and some from the Cartago district, who at present justly complain of the meager yield of their lands.

"There is no doubt that incalculable advantages would be derived by putting the high plateau where we live in communication with the plains of San Carlos, Sarapaquí, and Santa Clara. The construction of a railroad at least as far as Sarapaquí becomes easier every day because of the progress which the Costa Rica Railroad is making in that direction. In order to carry out the negotiations pending between the Government and the Northern Railway and the United Fruit Company, the Government has stipulated as a condition of settlement that the aforesaid section of the railroad shall be constructed.

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"The construction of the railroad to Puntarenas has continued without interruption, notwithstanding the fact that the amount of the loan negotiated had been exhausted. The amount required to complete this work—which amount will continue to be an incumbrance to the State until said work is finished—is more than three million *colones*. The plan of negotiating an internal loan for the purpose of securing funds, should, in my opinion, be abandoned, because it is impossible to raise such funds here on easy installments without positive injury to commerce and agriculture.

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"The customs receipts, estimated at 4,200,000 *colones*, for the fiscal year 1906 rose to 4,346,977.49 *colones*, an amount larger than that of the preceding year by 332,543.71 *colones*.

"The receipts from liquors, the amount of which was estimated at 1,450,000 *colones*, increased to 1,747,793.54 *colones*, or 421,571.92 *colones* more than the amount collected during the fiscal year 1905-6.

"The receipts from tobacco, calculated at 190,000 *colones*, decreased to 158,115.51 *colones*.

"The receipts from posts and telegraphs aggregated 237,635.64 *colones*, or 12,635.64 more than the amount estimated in the budget, and 25,677.56 *colones* more than the receipts of the previous year.

"The total receipts, which were estimated at 6,623,500 *colones*, rose to 6,951,209.92 *colones*.

* * * * *

"Not including the expenses for the continuation of the railroad, the expenditures of the Treasury, which were estimated on making up the budget at 6,627,731.20, rose to 7,323,775.34 *colones*. The Pacific Railway, which was assigned 703,664.28 *colones* in the budget, required, together with the rolling stock and the plant, the sum of 1,188,900.97 *colones*, or 485,236.29 *colones* more than were estimated in the budget.

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"The Interior Debt on March 31, 1906, which, together with the amount borrowed from the banks for the railway, aggregated 8,308,178.73, *colones* rose on March 31, 1907, to 8,592,086.77 *colones*, or an increase of 283,908.04 *colones*."

CUSTOMS CLASSIFICATION OF FAT COMPOUNDS.

On April 25, 1907, the Treasury Department issued the following circular to the custom-house officers of the Republic:

"CIRCULAR No. 1.

"Decree No. 15, of June 6, 1902, provides that the classification of lard or tallow shall include not only the genuine article, but also all those substances which are sold in the market under these names, made of substances wholly or partially different from the substances imitated, or of lard or tallow which have lost their original good quality.

"Manterine, vegetole, 'bombera,' etc., should be classified among such substances, these being fats, some of which have the appearance of tallow and some of lard, so that they may be sold under those names, reducing thereby the necessity of employing the national product, which the aforesaid decree was intended to protect. Therefore, in order that the law be properly applied, the necessary order should be given the classifiers to the end that manterine and other fats having the appearance of lard or tallow be classified like the genuine article they most resemble, both as to color or any other detail."

By act of the Constitutional Congress of May 21, approved by President VÍQUEZ, May 22, 1907, crude cottonseed oil intended exclusively for industrial uses will pay an import tax of 2 *centimos* per kilogram.

POSTAL CONVENTION WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

La Gaceta, of May 4, 1907, publishes the text of the convention for exchange of postal money orders between Great Britain and Costa Rica, signed by plenipotentiaries of the two countries at San José on April 26 and approved by President VÍQUEZ on April 29, 1907. The exchange office for Great Britain will be London and for Costa Rica, San Jose.

CUBA.

RATIFICATION OF THE SANITARY CONVENTION OF 1905.

The *Gaceta Oficial* of May 10, 1907, announces the ratification by Provisional Governor CHARLES E. MAGOON, of the International Sanitary Convention, signed *ad referendum* at Washington October 14, 1905.

MINES OF SANTIAGO PROVINCE.

The following table shows the number of tons of iron, copper, and manganese ores shipped from the Santiago mines and the value of same for the four years 1903-1906:

Year.	Iron ore.		Manganese.		Copper.	
	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.
1903.....	557,960	\$1,389,335	23,610	\$97,670	783	\$8,888
1904.....	376,470	849,408	20,214	82,170	10,599	235,764
1905.....	554,200	1,474,632	6,771	33,856	19,533	599,138
1906.....	636,900	2,210,331	8,300	83,000	21,558	330,236
Total.....	2,125,590	5,923,706	58,885	296,696	55,473	1,174,026

Mining is one of the principal sources of wealth of the Province of Santiago de Cuba, owing to the abundance and accessibility of the minerals. Iron is the most abundant, but copper and manganese are found in sufficient quantities for profitable exploitation. Gold, lead, zinc, and asphalt are also said to exist, but so far there has been no development of any of the mines said to contain these minerals.

Four principal companies are engaged in mining and exploiting minerals. From the mines at Daiquiri 3,536,121 tons of ore were produced to December 31, 1906. The production for the year 1906 was 510,500 tons. The ore has all been shipped to the United States except about 75,000 tons, which went to England, Germany, Belgium, and Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

A company owning several iron mines on the north coast, in the Mayari Mountains back of Nipe Bay, is about to commence the construction of a broad-gauge railroad from the mines to the bay at Cagimaya, at which place will be built two wharves and other necessary equipment for economically handling the ore and exporting it to the United States. It is estimated that it will be possible to ship 1,000,000 tons annually.

Another American company operating near the Daiquiri mines shipped its first ore in 1884, since which time about 5,000,000 tons have been produced, nearly all going to the United States. The ore is transported from the mines to Santiago Bay by rail, where the company has a fine steel pier.

Copper deposits exist throughout almost the whole of the southern portion of Santiago Province, but so far the only attempt that has been made to mine it for exportation is in the vicinity of El Cobre, about 15 miles west of Santiago. A deposit of extraordinary richness exists in this territory.

TAKING OF A CENSUS IN 1907.

The *Gaceta Oficial*, of May 8, 1907, publishes the text of the decree of the same date establishing a census bureau charged with the collection, tabulation, and publication of a census of the population, by name, age, sex, conjugal condition, race, nativity, citizenship, occupation, literacy, and school attendance of children under 18 years of age in each Province, municipality, barrio, and other civil division of Cuba, to be made during the year 1907, and as soon as the necessary preparations therefor can be made.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES IN THE REPUBLIC.

The law governing the introduction of proprietary medicines into the Dominican Republic went into effect on January 1, 1907, the text of which, as published in the Official Gazette of the Dominican Republic for June 20, 1906, and furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics by the Dominican Consul-General in the United States, is as follows:

“ART. 65. Pharmaceutical specialties (specifics) coming from foreign countries, patented or not, in order to be sold in this Republic are subject to the conditions established in this circular.

“ART. 66. To obtain permission for the sale of specifics not patented, the manufacturer will furnish, either personally or through power of attorney, to the superior council, through the Minister of the Interior:

“(a) Two bottles, boxes, or cases of the specific.

“(b) The application, which shall consist of (1) the name of the medicine, (2) the base of its composition, (3) the dose and method of administration, (4) the use to be made of it.

“For specifics patented and approved by institutions or foreign faculties it will be sufficient if the persons interested send with the application a copy of the official organ in which is published the decision granting the patent, and deposit with the secretary of the superior council the name of the medicine and the registered trademark by which it is distinguished.

“ART. 67. Simple natural products will be excepted from the conditions of this law if there is received here the method of procedure for the preparation, but in no case must there be mixed with them

other substances, nor must they be sent incased in the form of a specific.

"ART. 68. The superior council will send a copy of the certificate issued to the chancellor of the exchequer, who on the receipt of it will authorize or prohibit the introduction of the specific, notifying the custom-house officers to this effect, so that in case articles that have not been authorized are imported they may be subjected to the penalties established in the law of customs and ports regarding all articles whose introduction is prohibited.

"ART. 69. In order that manufacturers whose specifics are now on sale in the Republic may comply with the precepts designated in this law, three months' time will be allowed for those of American make and six months for those of other countries. During this time, which will commence from the day of the execution of the present law (January 1, 1907), the officers of the customs will continue to estimate and verify these medicines as they have been doing. After that time they will proceed in conformity with the above articles.

"ART. 70. The applications, which should be addressed to the superior council (*consejo superior*), shall be written on sealed paper with type, and this council will collect for certification and registration the sum of \$20 gold for the approbation granted in favor of each specialty not patented and \$10 gold for those which have been patented. These charges will be divided between the superior council and the fiscal council, and must be paid by the manufacturer or the person holding his power of attorney on receipt of notification of the approbation.

"ART. 71. The superior council will open a register in which will be placed in numerical order the name of each specific whose sale has been authorized, the date of the approbation, and the name of the solicitor."

FRONTIER DEVELOPMENT.

President CACERES on April 20, 1907, approved the following law enacted by the National Congress on March 15 for the colonization and development of the frontiers bordering on the Republic of Haiti:

"LAW REGARDING COLONIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRONTIERS.

"ARTICLE 1. The development of the frontiers bordering on the neighboring Republic of Haiti from the commune of Dajabón, inclusive, to the mouth of the river Pedernales is declared a public service.

"ART. 2. The sum of \$40,000 American gold is set apart each year in order to bring into the country, on account of the State, forty families of agriculturalists of the white race.

"ART. 3. For the installation of each family is set apart: (a) The sum of \$110; (b) 200 tareas (tarea, about 1 acre) of uncleared land for

cultivation; (c) a monthly stipend of \$30 for one year; (d) 3 shovels, 2 picks, 3 hoes, 5 machetes, and 4 axes.

"ART. 4. Immigrants taking advantage of the provisions of this law shall within two years thereafter make exhibit to the commissioner appointed by the Government for that purpose of the half at least of the land which has been granted to them in complete state of cultivation.

"In case of failure to comply with this provision the immigrant shall lose the right and privileges accruing under this law.

"ART. 5. Every agriculturalist, or his heirs, shall enjoy for fifteen years the entire production of the said land; after this time, which can not be extended, the Government shall enter into possession of the farm in order to lease it, giving the first preference to the agriculturalist who improved it, or to his heirs.

"ART. 6. Petitions to migrate to the country addressed by virtue of this law should be sent to the Minister of Foreign Relations through the respective Dominican Consuls and should be accompanied by a certificate of good character issued by competent authority; by a copy, properly legalized, of the register of birth of the father or head of the family; by enumeration of the persons in the family, specifying males and females, and a medical certificate of good health for all the family.

"Paragraph. Males of more than 45 and females of more than 35 years of age are not entitled to the benefits of this law.

"ART. 7. The consuls of the Republic, together with each petition, shall send such information as they can gather separately in respect to the petitioners.

"ART. 8. The Minister of Fomento shall prescribe such rules as may be necessary and those to which the immigrants should be subjected, and shall sign with them the proper contracts.

"Paragraph. The form of these contracts shall be formulated by the Minister of Fomento and approved by the National Congress.

"ART. 9. This law shall become effective so soon as the new Law of Public Expenditures shall be voted.

"ART. 10. This law repeals all others which may be contrary thereto, and will be sent to the Executive power as required by the Constitution."

IRRIGATION WORKS IN THE MONTE CRISTI DISTRICT.

President CACERES on March 23 approved the following resolution passed by the National Congress on March 18, 1907, for carrying into effect the plans for irrigating Monte Cristi district:

"Resolved:

"ARTICLE 1. To appropriate as a charge on the Public Treasury and for the period of two years the sum of \$75,000 annually, which

shall be set apart to meet the expenses occasioned by the irrigation of Monte Cristi district by the submersion system according to the plans prepared for that purpose and deposited in the Ministry of Fomento and Public Works.

"Paragraph. The amount above set out shall be assigned in the Law of Public Expenditures, annually voted by the National Congress, under the heading of "Fomento and public works."

"Arr. 2. The above-mentioned work is under the charge of the Executive power, which shall employ all the means which may be within its power and exercise all necessary diligence tending to bring to a happy issue and in the shortest time the realization of this so important work."

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS AT SANTO DOMINGO.

The *Gaceta Oficial* of April 20, 1907, publishes the text of the resolution of the National Congress of April 15, approved by President CACERES April 19, 1907, authorizing the municipal government of the city of Santo Domingo to contract a loan of \$600,000 gold at 6 per cent interest with a sinking fund of 1 per cent, the proceeds of which are to be employed in building an aqueduct for public and private use of the city, in modernizing the electric plant, in improvement of city streets, in building a public market and a theater. In a circular letter issued by the municipal government of Santo Domingo on April 26 correspondence in regard to the proposed improvements is invited.

ECUADOR.

RECEPTION OF UNITED STATES MINISTER.

Hon. WILLIAMS C. FOX, formerly Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, was, on April 18, 1907, received in Quito by President ALFARO as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States to Ecuador.

On presenting his credentials, Minister Fox said:

"YOUR EXCELLENCY: In the name of the Government of the United States of America I have the honor to present to Your Excellency the letter of recall of my predecessor, Mr. JOSEPH W. J. LEE, and also that which accredits me as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of my country to the Government of the Republic of Ecuador.

"The distinguished preference of my Government in conferring upon me this duty I consider not only pleasing, but also I esteem it a personal good fortune in that it gives me the opportunity to discharge the friendly duties relating to the official position I come to

occupy. Conformably to the instructions of the President of the United States, I shall do all within my power to preserve and to extend the cordial relations which happily have always existed between Eeuador and my country.

"We march together, sir, on the road of progress. Together, we recognize likewise that, although civilization came from Europe and that the aspirations of humanity are the same, we must confess that in the Western Hemisphere there are special interests, with less international complications, to assure the happiness of the peoples. Together, also, we wish for no victories but those of peace; for no territory except our own; for no sovereignty except the sovereignty over ourselves. It is our desire in the affairs of the world to maintain mutual respect and just consideration for the rights one of the other, for peace, prosperity, and progress.

"You will please, sir, to accept the cordial greeting of President ROOSEVELT and the sincere good wishes of the people of the United States, to which allow me to join the high appreciation which I entertain of the honor done me in being chosen as the official representative of my Government, near that of your Excellency."

The President of the Republic, Señor General DON ELOY ALFARO, answered.

"Mr. MINISTER: Together with the letter of recall of your distinguished predecessor, Mr. JOSEPH W. J. LEE, you have placed in my hands the credentials which invest you with the high charge of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Government of Ecuador.

"The relations between our respective countries, never interrupted and each day more cordial and solid, will make you understand, Mr. Minister, that the mission confided to your personal talents will encounter the most favorable reception from the Government and people of Ecuador.

"As director of the International Bureau of the Republics of this Hemisphere you have come to appreciate our great ideals, so I am confident that the greater part of your diplomatic labor will be found in strengthening the chains that unite the American nations, so that they may work together for the final triumph of justice and liberty.

"It has pleased me much, Mr. Minister, to hear you interpret with so much ability the ideas of your eminent statesmen in reference to the common interests of America. In accord with these fundamental principles of the Law of Nations, you encounter here a people who aspire to no other victories than those of peace, for never have they waged war; you encounter a people who wish for no other territory but their own, for never have they claimed any other; here, finally, you encounter a people who covet no sovereignty except that over themselves, for they wish to be in the right that they may be respected

and upheld in their independence and in their constant desire for their national prosperity and that of their sister nations of the continent. I beg that you will present to President ROOSEVELT my sincere wishes for his personal happiness and the prosperity of the nation he directs. In regard to yourself, be welcome, Mr. Minister, and may your pleasant stay among us make you to remember that we have learned to appreciate your merits."

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.

According to *El Registro Oficial* No. 280, of January 17, 1907, customs duties in the Republic of Ecuador are modified as follows:

The following articles of primary necessity are exempted from all fiscal and municipal taxes: Maize, barley, potatoes, beans, vetches, lentils, wheat, and sugar.

The import duty on vermicelli shall be at the rate of 1 *centavo* per kilogram.

Rice and flour imported from Peru into the Province of Loja through the land custom-house at Macara are also declared to be free of all fiscal and municipal tax.

Beer manufactured in the sea districts shall be liable to a tax of 2 *centavos* per bottle, and foreign beer shall pay a sole import duty of 3 *centavos* per kilogram, gross weight, in addition to the surtax of 100 per cent, the consumption duty thereon being abolished.

The present law shall become effective throughout the Republic six days after its promulgation in the capital.

REGULATION OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

The *Registro Oficial* of March 21, 1907, publishes the text of the decree of President Alfaro, dated March 20, 1907, reorganizing the custom-house service at Guayaquil and prescribing the duties of the several officers connected therewith.

THE EASTERN ECUADOR EXPLORATION COMPANY.

Information furnished by the United States Consul at Guayaquil states that on March 26, 1907, a contract was signed *ad referendum* by the Minister of the Interior of Ecuador authorizing the formation of the Eastern Ecuador Exploration Company, to be incorporated in London or in such place as shall be approved by the Government. The purposes of the company are:

First, to construct a railroad from Ambato to some point on the Curaray River at or below the head of navigation for this river. Second, to establish a port on the Curaray River at the terminus of the railroad. Third, to establish a regular line of steamers between the terminus of the road and the city of Para, in Brazil; also to establish lines of

steamers on any or all of the navigable rivers of the oriental region of Ecuador. Fourth, to explore the oriental region and exploit its riches, both mineral and vegetable. Fifth, to acquire temporary or permanent titles to mines, waterfalls, etc. Sixth, to procure foreign immigration and provide for the settlement in this (oriental) region of Ecuadorian farmers from other Provinces.

The term "oriental region" is defined to be all that territory lying between the eastern watershed of the eastern chain of the Ecuadorian Andes and the northeastern, eastern, and southeastern boundaries of the Republic, but the Government of Ecuador may fix the western limit of this region with greater accuracy if necessary or desirable. Plans for the railroad must be presented within one year from date of contract, and the capital which is used in the construction of the road will be repaid by the Government of Ecuador in bonds secured by special funds. When the plans for the road are accepted, permanent title will be given to the company to alternate tracts of land 4 miles wide along its entire length.

The company through, its own operations or through a subsidiary company, promises to operate a line of steamers between the terminus of its railroad and the city of Para. It will establish hotels and hospitals and an office to facilitate the immigrant in preempting a homestead; this office will furnish the services of a surveyor and an expert agriculturist to the immigrant without charge, except for actual expenses. Immigration offices will be maintained by the company in the United States, Europe, and such other places as may be convenient, and the company may contract with the immigrant for his passage and for the necessary equipment for establishing himself.

No restrictions are to be placed on the exportation of the products of the oriental region by any route, nor on the exportation of foreign-made or foreign-produced articles by way of the rivers of this region. The company obligates itself to pay market prices for the products of this region, such as rubber, quinine, etc., less the actual cost of transportation to the Amazonian market. The rights conferred are not transferable and merchants already established in this region will be protected in their negotiations. Selling firearms to Indians is prohibited unless authorized by Congress, and the liquor traffic is to be regulated and taxed. The Government will maintain order and provide for courts of justice, and in case of necessity will authorize the company to employ special police. Export duties will be the minimum charged by Brazil, Peru, or Colombia. Hydrographic and topographic maps of the oriental region must be completed by the company within five years from the time their work is begun, and such maps will become the property of the Government.

The company will have the exclusive right for five years to locate and file upon such properties as mines, rubber zones, quinine zones,

etc., and to exploit such properties as may be thus located for fifty years; in the case of vegetable products title to the land which such products occupy is not conferred. Titles to mines may be acquired by fulfilling the usual conditions required by the Government of Ecuador and exploiting such property within ten years from date of discovery. Employees of the company are prohibited by the Government from filing upon mining properties until they may have left the service of the company ten years, unless permitted to do so by the company. Provision is made for fair dealing with Indians.

At the end of fifty years the concessions granted by the contract will be canceled by the Government, but this will not affect permanent rights and titles that may have been acquired. The company is authorized to issue preferred stock at 10 per cent not to exceed \$2,433,250 in value, provided an equal amount of common stock is issued at the same time. Common stock may be increased at the discretion of the company.

CONTRACT FOR A RAILWAY FROM HUIGRA TO CUENCA.

The *Registro Oficial* of Ecuador for February 21 publishes the text of the contract executed on February 7, 1907, between the Government, as authorized by decree of the National Assembly, and Mr. EDWARD MORLEY, of England, but domiciled in Ecuador, representing also Mr. GEORGE P. ALTENBERG, of New York, for the building of a railroad from Huigra to Cuenca.

The railroad is to be constructed by a company to be known as the "Huigra and Cuenca Railway Company," to be organized in Great Britain or in the United States, and is to be a 3 feet 6 inches gauge.

Importation of machinery, tools, and construction material is to be free of all taxes.

In a letter written to the International Bureau of the American Republics, on the subject, Mr. MORLEY says:

"This railway commences at Huigra, on the Guayaquil and Quito Railway, 72 miles from Guayaquil, and extends to Cuenca, in the southern plateau of Ecuador, crossing near the town of Azogues the immense coal field in that vicinity. This coal is of good quality and easily mined. It stands on edge, and there are ten principal seams, the largest being 10 feet wide, with 6 feet of good coal, the others varying from 1 to 4 feet each. The railway will cross this coal field in three places at a distance of 70 miles from Huigra. The entire length of the line to Cuenca is 90 miles, and the construction will be easy, there being plenty of Indian labor obtainable at 40 cents good per day. Very few bridges will be necessary, and those small ones. There is also good timber for ties and mining on the line. The climate is temperate, Huigra, where the line starts, being 4,100 feet above sea level, and Cuenca, the end of the route, 8,500 feet. The

latter city is the third largest in Ecuador, with a population estimated at 50,000, but in the immediate vicinity there is a total population of 100,000. The two provinces traversed by the railway—Cañar and Azuay—have a total population of 320,000, all adjacent to the line. These two provinces are extremely rich in minerals, and several noted mines are close to the railway. Coal and iron are very plentiful.

"The Huigra and Cuenca Railway will be built first. Then it is proposed to connect Cuenca with the deep-sea port, Puerto Bolivar, 90 miles distant, and then extend the railway by way of the River Paute to deep water on the River Morona, thus connecting the Amazon with the Pacific by a short railway. The distance of this last extension will be about 150 miles, probably less when the survey is completed. The grade down to the Morona River via the River Paute is less than 2 per cent, and the country is suitable for railway work.

"When these lines are completed, the whole traffic of the Upper Amazon will pass by this railway to the Pacific, thence by way of the Isthmus of Panama to New York and elsewhere, making a saving in distance over the route down the Amazon to Para of over 3,000 miles."

GUATEMALA.

RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

President ESTRADA CABRERA, on April 18, 1907, approved the acts of the National Legislative Assembly of April 16, 1907, ratifying the convention signed at San Jose, Costa Rica, on September 24, 1906, by representatives of the governments of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica, for the establishment of a Central American Pedagogic Institute, and of an international bureau in Guatemala City.

President ESTRADA CABRERA, on April 19, 1907, approved the acts of the National Legislative Assembly of April 16, 1907, ratifying the convention adopted at the Third Pan-American Congress at Rio de Janeiro in August, 1906, in regard to patents, industrial models, literary and artistic property, etc., and the convention adopted at the same time and place in regard to international law; and on April 20, 1907, approved the act of the National Legislative Assembly of August 18, 1906, ratifying the convention in regard to pecuniary claims, and the act of same date ratifying the convention relating to naturalized citizens, both signed at the same Congress on August 13, 1906.

President ESTRADA CABRERA, on April 18, 1907, approved the following acts of the National Legislative Assembly, passed on April 16, 1907:

Act ratifying the general treaty of peace, friendship, and commerce signed at San José, Costa Rica, on September 25, 1906, between representatives of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica;

Act ratifying the convention signed on November 10, 1906, between representatives of Guatemala and the United States for the reciprocal protection of patents.

President ESTRADA CABRERA on April 22 approved the act of the National Legislative Assembly of April 19, 1907, ratifying the Geneva Convention signed on July 6, 1906, for bettering the condition of wounded and sick soldiers in the field.

DISCOVERY OF AN OLEAGINOUS PLANT.

According to press dispatches, Doctor SARDÁ has discovered recently in Guatemala a plant possessing valuable properties. Its name is *Myristica sebifera*, and its seed yields a vegetable oil that, it is claimed, has the same odor and taste of the cocoa butter, melts at 37° C., is soluble in alcohol, ether, and turpentine, may be used in the manufacture of soaps, candles, perfumes, sweetmeats, and pharmaceutical products, is a food substance, and never grows rancid.

With such properties this new oil, which its discoverer has named "*myristina*," must be worth at least \$150 gold per ton, or perhaps much more, as it is further claimed that the substance in question is made transparent without difficulty, that the soap made therefrom foams in salt water, that it saponifies alkali, and that it illuminates with greater power than other similar oils.

IMPORTS FROM NEW YORK IN 1906.

According to the annual report of the Guatemalan Consul-General in New York for 1906, the total value of merchandise shipped thence to the ports of Guatemala during the year in reference amounted to \$1,241,436.96. The export traffic of New York with Guatemala has increased considerably within the period of four years, as may be seen in the following table:

1903	\$345,472.06	|	1905	\$1,013,272.18
1904	816,745.16	|	1906	1,241,436.96

The principal articles exported during the last year were machinery, cotton goods, wool and silk, galvanized wire, hardware, agricultural implements, electric instruments and apparatus, medicines, drugs, railroad materials, furniture, leather, petroleum, paints, oils, iron pipes, paper, books, pianos, phonographs, automobiles, liquors, provisions, etc.

MEXICO.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN FEBRUARY, 1907.

According to figures issued by the Statistical Division of the Treasury Department of the Republic of Mexico, the foreign commerce of the Republic for February, 1907, and for the first eight months of the current fiscal year 1906-7, was represented by the following valuations, the figures for the corresponding periods of the preceding year being also given for purposes of comparison:

The total value of importations during the eight months under review was \$149,464,925.18 in Mexican currency, as declared in the custom-houses, an increase of \$16,144,803.39 as compared with the same period of the preceding year.

The exports for the eight months were valued at \$162,137,606.64, showing a decrease of \$18,314,977.78 as compared with the same period of 1905-6. Imports and their valuation were as follows:

IMPORTS.

[Silver valuation.]

Articles.	February--		First eight months--	
	1906.	1905.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Animal substances.....	\$1,528,635.69	\$1,257,166.89	\$13,168,152.13	\$10,540,716.72
Vegetable substances.....	2,853,555.65	2,934,800.96	19,264,235.09	20,694,877.01
Mineral substances.....	8,483,139.64	9,863,117.94	54,158,663.64	51,934,797.42
Dry goods.....	1,843,333.07	1,767,179.36	17,184,311.07	14,329,838.07
Chemical and pharmaceutical substances.....	737,550.90	598,235.93	5,639,271.65	4,855,811.07
Beverages.....	500,351.20	466,584.78	4,427,155.73	4,669,834.62
Paper and its applications.....	604,958.89	388,502.97	4,056,595.93	3,575,355.63
Machinery and apparatus.....	1,877,758.21	1,504,267.45	17,396,056.73	12,397,075.97
Vehicles.....	827,528.97	370,182.00	5,614,616.78	2,635,759.25
Arms and explosives.....	191,241.98	367,794.81	2,529,582.95	2,699,701.31
Miscellaneous.....	675,227.03	545,363.59	6,026,253.48	4,986,335.32
Total.....	20,123,281.23	20,063,196.68	149,464,925.18	133,320,121.79

EXPORTS.

[Silver valuation.]

Articles.	February--		First eight months--	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Precious metals.....	\$12,380,969.70	\$14,359,160.70	\$85,012,409.64	\$107,246,049.46
Other articles.....	9,571,753.74	9,120,504.68	77,125,197.00	73,205,534.96
Total.....	21,952,723.44	23,479,665.38	162,137,606.64	180,452,584.42

The details for the export trade during the period in reference show the following classification and figures:

Articles.	February—		First eight months—	
	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7	1905-6
Mexican gold coin.....			\$29,990.00	
Foreign gold coin.....			7,531.00	\$4,835.98
Gold in bars.....	\$1,600,980.00	\$2,417,636.51	13,006,356.83	20,392,971.13
Gold in other forms.....	390,196.35	410,614.28	3,645,113.72	1,810,633.38
Total gold.....	1,991,176.35	2,828,270.79	16,688,991.55	22,208,440.47
Mexican silver coin.....	3,947,217.00	4,193,298.00	18,338,877.00	33,801,126.00
Foreign silver coin.....	13,591.00	3,701.00	96,400.00	79,870.62
Silver in bars.....	5,321,634.15	6,692,837.04	41,941,656.87	45,136,330.25
Silver in other forms.....	1,107,331.20	641,053.87	7,946,504.22	5,930,262.12
Total silver.....	10,389,793.35	11,530,889.91	68,323,418.09	85,037,608.99
Total gold and silver.....	12,380,969.70	14,359,160.70	85,012,409.64	107,246,049.46
Antimony.....	134,178.00	93,103.00	942,045.00	688,652.96
Copper.....	1,495,334.00	3,284,069.50	16,725,047.00	20,258,902.23
Marble.....	22,918.00		43,998.00	73,098.00
Plumbago.....	9,600.00	14,200.00	66,220.00	65,621.51
Lead.....	304,717.00	570,643.23	2,452,358.56	3,046,295.77
Zinc.....	9,073.00	5,384.00	900,056.12	148,211.59
Other metals.....	12,975.74	43,194.50	1,086,756.42	268,754.34
Total.....	14,369,765.44	18,371,754.93	107,229,080.74	132,395,586.26
Vegetable products:				
Coffee.....	874,156.00	1,352,653.60	3,376,778.34	4,741,026.10
Cascolate and tanning barks.....	394.00	690.00	8,218.60	20,747.00
Rubber.....	665,839.00	176,631.72	3,427,772.00	870,858.74
Chicle.....	314,985.00	183,080.03	1,235,980.00	851,387.40
Beans.....	57,449.00	57,372.90	516,303.00	520,653.72
Fruits.....	16,133.00	13,182.00	206,455.43	223,870.90
Chick peas.....	61,701.00	82,684.00	2,755,585.00	1,866,884.75
Guayule.....	8,600.00	9,798.00	32,399.00	41,139.00
Horse beans.....			2,550.00	110,540.00
Hemiquen.....	1,612,660.00	835,008.00	22,002,680.77	19,037,456.00
Ixtle.....	337,213.00	279,356.00	2,715,718.00	2,455,519.88
Woods.....	403,972.00	78,614.88	1,558,631.50	1,317,008.74
Melzo.....	934.00	24,310.20	4,037.80	58,206.20
Mahogany.....	4,718.00	18,007.87	51,550.00	54,987.87
Dyewoods.....	56,606.00	56,801.50	308,116.12	286,885.20
Xacaton.....	142,418.00	106,921.00	1,125,906.00	1,241,364.00
Leaf tobacco.....	57,637.00	106,820.32	1,029,823.35	650,411.06
Vanilla.....	144,476.00	123,501.00	1,091,876.00	2,629,321.99
Other vegetables.....	1,476,278.00	146,440.05	2,695,825.20	992,228.53
Total.....	6,236,238.00	3,651,203.07	44,741,295.51	37,971,187.17
Animal products:				
Cattle.....	35,268.00	185,064.00	873,922.00	2,173,012.50
Skins and hides.....	849,126.00	805,570.60	6,235,053.03	5,203,676.85
Other animal products.....	57,591.00	47,455.50	416,182.99	340,316.43
Total.....	941,985.00	1,038,090.10	7,525,158.02	7,717,005.78
Manufactured products:				
Sugar.....	116,037.00	90,246.00	433,205.00	359,878.00
Flour and pastes.....			607.00	
Rope.....	65,319.00	75,956.00	472,437.00	352,321.00
Dressed skins.....	651.00	30,782.00	32,255.00	157,487.00
Straw bales.....	55,938.00	76,077.00	451,601.80	374,136.29
Manufactured tobacco.....	27,758.00	28,063.64	322,057.60	226,803.19
Other manufactures.....	64,948.00	47,751.20	373,936.32	306,589.50
Total.....	330,651.00	357,878.84	2,136,189.72	1,867,368.07
Miscellaneous articles.....	74,084.00	60,738.44	505,882.65	501,500.14

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

Country.	February—		First eight months—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Europe.....	\$6,587,371.76	\$5,413,491.18	\$53,431,408.75	\$46,456,781.43
Asia.....	188,609.79	93,411.06	1,595,364.59	932,192.95
Africa.....	24,070.00	246.18	171,852.59	15,969.56
North America.....	13,293,074.79	14,513,198.09	93,935,112.01	85,501,190.38
Central America.....	1,326.42	3,386.49	19,100.56	22,360.71
South America.....	15,963.74	16,701.36	133,081.24	181,327.05
West Indies.....	12,864.73	17,817.42	120,405.64	156,050.09
Oceania.....		4,944.00	58,599.80	52,249.62
Total.....	20,123,281.23	20,063,190.68	149,464,925.18	133,320,121.79

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

Country.	February—		First eight months—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Europe.....	\$6,423,719.84	\$8,087,674.52	\$44,964,292.12	\$54,566,551.37
Asia.....			796.00	
North America.....	15,368,539.60	15,040,200.08	114,943,596.21	122,253,027.02
Central America.....	36,534.00	82,851.46	579,982.31	806,958.71
South America.....		8,310.32	78,779.00	51,027.32
West Indies.....	123,930.00	260,629.00	1,570,161.00	2,775,020.00
Total.....	21,952,723.44	23,479,665.38	162,137,606.64	180,452,584.42

MODIFICATION OF EXPORT DUTIES.

In accordance with the provisions of the Mexican Budget for the fiscal year 1907-8, promulgated May 22, 1907, export duties on certain specified articles are modified as follows:

Campeche or dyewood, \$0.50 per ton of 1,000 kilograms; mulberry wood, \$0.25 per ton of 1,000 kilograms; zacatón root, at the rate of 70 centavos per 100 kilograms gross; chicle, at the rate of 2 centavos per kilogram net; guayule, leaf, in natural state or crushed, 15 pesos per ton of 1,000 kilograms gross; henequen, leaf, 50 centavos per 100 kilograms net; ixtle, leaf, 50 centavos per 100 kilograms net; deer and goat skins, \$2.25 per 100 kilograms gross; hides of cattle and others, 75 centavos per 100 kilograms gross.

POSTAL RECEIPTS, NINE MONTHS, 1906-7.

The movement of the Mexican mail service for the nine months ending March, 1907, as reported by the chief of the postal bureau in the Department of Communication and Public Works, shows total receipts from this source of fiscal revenue amounting to \$2,984,014.85, as compared with \$2,714,637.74 in the same period of the preceding year. An advance of \$269,377.11 is thus shown, or 9.92 per cent.

TRADE WITH GALVESTON IN 1906.

According to the annual report of the Mexican Consul at Galveston, Texas, for the year 1906, the commercial movement between that port and various Mexican Gulf ports during the period covered shows a considerable increase over the previous years. The value of merchandise exported from Galveston to Mexico during the year in reference was \$2,413,934, the principal articles being maize, lumber, oils, lard, machinery and hardware, cotton, hogs, wheat, and cattle. The importation of Mexican products into Galveston, in 1906, was valued at \$3,356,487, the greater part of which being for henequen, \$2,247,771; other imports consisted of coffee, palm-leaf hats, fine woods, etc.

During the year under review, 123 steamers were cleared from Galveston to the following Mexican Gulf ports: Tampico, Vera Cruz, Progreso, Coatzacoalcos, Campeche, Frontera, and Laguna del Carmen.

SILVER BASIS OF THE STAMP AND CUSTOMS TAXES, JUNE, 1907.

The usual monthly circular issued by the Treasury Department of the Mexican Government announces that the legal price per kilogram of pure silver during the month of June, 1907, is \$42.73, 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.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS FIRST NINE MONTHS, 1906-7.

The Mexican customs receipts for the first nine months of the fiscal year 1906-7 (July to March, inclusive) aggregated \$39,587,950.58 as compared with \$34,922,201.65 in the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year. Import duties are recorded as \$37,986,921.80; export dues, \$813,514.89, and port dues, \$787,513.89.

SISAL AND MANILA HEMP IN AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been informed by the Mexican Consul-General in Budapest that the Hungarian Government, with the purpose of facilitating the introduction into the country of manila and sisal cordings, has ordered that the customs duties thereon shall be modified.

Ropes and twines which formerly paid entry dues ranging from 12 to 83 *crowns* per 100 kilograms, according to their thickness, will henceforth be dutiable only at the rate of 12 *crowns* per 100 kilograms, without regard to thickness.

This order became effective on April 1, 1907, and it is anticipated that similar measures will be taken by Austria.

CUSTOMS DUTIES DURING FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1906-7.

Mexican customs receipts for the month of April show a total of \$4,690,884.92 (national currency), of which \$83,129.81 were for exports and \$4,607,755.11 for imports. The port of Vera Cruz led all others as a port of entry, with \$1,616,384.85, while Progreso, with \$41,578.07, held first rank as a point of shipment abroad.

Total customs duties received at the various ports of the Mexican Republic during the first ten months of 1906-7 (July, 1906-April, 1907) aggregated \$44,399,698.33 as compared with \$38,088,862.52 in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

Receipts from imports are credited with \$42,594,676.91 as compared with \$36,554,590.06 in 1905-6, and export duties were \$896,644.70 and \$751,770.24 in the two periods in reference, respectively.

FISHING CONCESSION ON THE PACIFIC COAST.

The Mexican official journal publishes the text of a contract between the Ministry of Fomento and Señor ENRIQUE OROZCO, by which certain fishing rights on the Pacific coast of the Republic are conceded to the concessionaire. The district included is situated on the west coast of the peninsula of Lower California, between 23° 30' and 29° N.

The concessionaire undertakes to establish, within two years from the date of the signing of the contract, at least one factory for the canning and preserving of the fish products. An important clause in the contract directs that within a period of two years an establishment for the sale of the canned products shall be opened in the capital. It is further stipulated that not less than 25 per cent of the preserved products of the factory shall be placed on sale, and that they shall be sold at prices not exceeding half those at which similar imported foreign products are sold in the City of Mexico.

The contract also provides that all the machinery necessary for preserving the fish and for the manufacture of the various packages in which it may be offered for sale shall be allowed to enter free of duty.

IMPROVED STEAMSHIP SERVICE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The "Mexican Herald" for May 2, 1907, states that from May 4 the Mexican-American Steamship Company inaugurated a fast express service between New Orleans and Tampico and Veracruz, which is an advance over any previously existing service between the southern cities of the United States and Mexico.

According to the new schedule, twenty-one days will be required for the round trip between New Orleans, Tampico, and Veracruz, instead of twenty-seven days as previously.

A ship will leave New Orleans every Saturday, and this regular schedule will enable connecting rail lines to depend on the service. Business men of New Orleans will thus be able to compete successfully for Mexican trade, a weekly service making quick deliveries a possibility.

URANIUM ORE IN GUERRERO.

A large deposit of uranium ore has been recently discovered in the State of Guerrero and crystallized specimens have been identified by Prof. JOSÉ AGUILAR, Director of the Geological Institute of Mexico, as torbernite, a hydrosulphite of copper and uranium. It is the first time that this rare mineral has been observed in the Republic.

The world's total production of uranium in 1906 was but 11 tons, and ores from 5 to 8 per cent are quoted at 50 cents gold per pound, or \$1,000 per ton.

RAILROAD FROM QUERETARO TO GUANAJUATO.

By virtue of a contract entered into on the 12th of January, 1907, and published in the *Periodico Oficial* of the State of Tabasco, of April 13, 1907, Mr. MANUEL RUBIO ARRIAGA has been authorized by the Mexican Government to construct and exploit a railroad line between the States of Queretaro and Guanajuato; starting from the capital of the former and terminating at the town of Acambaro in the latter. The whole line must be completed within seven years from the date of the contract. The concessionaire has made a deposit of 10,800 *pesos* in bonds of the Consolidated Public Debt in order to guarantee the fulfillment of the terms of the contract.

MARKET FOR HENEQUEN IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The Consul-General of Mexico in the Argentine Republic is endeavoring to establish direct shipments of henequen from his country to the latter Republic. Large quantities of this fiber are annually received from the United States markets and it is now purposed to establish an importing company in South America which shall work in harmony with an exporting association in Mexico, and which shall be the distributing depot for Mexican henequen throughout Brazil, Uruguay, and Chile. Factories have already been established in the Argentine Republic for the elaboration of henequen into twine, rope, etc.

PREMIUMS AT THE ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION.

In the *Boletín de la Secretaría de Fomento* received by the International Bureau of the American Republics on May 19, 1907, from the Mexican Government is published an account of the ceremonies attending the distribution of the various awards received by Mexican

exhibitors at the St. Louis Exposition. In a total of 2,285 national exhibits, 1,677 received premiums, of which 474 were gold medals, 516 silver, 618 bronze, and 69 first prizes.

The industrial advance of the Republic as evidenced by its standing at various Expositions is shown by the fact that at Paris in 1889 31 per cent of her exhibits received awards; in Chicago, 1893, 32 per cent; in Paris, 1900, 51 per cent; in Buffalo, 1901, 71 per cent, and at St. Louis, 73 per cent.

Agricultural exhibits received the bulk of premiums, and of 859 exhibitors 754 were awarded prizes; liberal arts following, with 277 awards out of 327 exhibitors; and manufactures third, with 223 premiums and 391 exhibits.

TRADE OF CIUDAD JUAREZ, 1906.

When the free zone was abolished in June, 1905, it was feared that the abolition would have a tendency materially to lessen the volume of trade conducted through this port. On the contrary, according to a report made by United States Consul LEWIS A. MARTIN, the trade has very materially increased—both imports and exports. The business prospects in the district were never more encouraging or the various industries more active, and there never was a time when the customs officials were handling more revenues from imports and exports.

The imports in 1906 amounted to \$8,130,794, an increase, as compared with those of 1905, of \$1,484,558; while the exports amounted to \$8,815,378, an increase of \$4,046,662 over those of 1905. The imports by articles, as far as they can be designated from the customs returns, were as follows:

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
Arms and explosives.....	\$156,228	Machinery—Continued.	
Boards and deals.....	800,225	All other.....	\$818,926
Cattle.....	106,694	Shoes.....	153,507
Chemicals.....	147,706	Stationery.....	74,018
Coal and coke.....	127,534	Vehicles:	
Cotton-seed oil.....	386,634	Railway cars.....	51,816
Horses.....	48,962	Carriages.....	135,859
Iron.....	127,205	All other.....	23,591
Ironware.....	242,537	Other merchandise.....	1,912,730
Machinery:		Total merchandise.....	5,955,794
Agricultural.....	68,634	Mexican gold coin.....	2,175,000
Electrical.....	111,827	Total imports.....	8,130,794
Sewing machines.....	91,044		
Locomotives.....	272,000		
Mining.....	98,115		

Of the foregoing, \$7,334,810 worth was drawn from the United States, \$443,839 from Germany, \$194,455 from the United Kingdom, and \$138,490 from France. The exports for 1906 were made up as follows: Minerals, \$7,110,088; vegetables, \$930,861; animal products, \$738,434; all other products, \$35,995; total exports, \$8,815,378, of which \$8,295,970 went to the United States.

A number of new manufacturing enterprises are being established. One recently started turns out brooms and mattresses from corn shucks, and from the refuse shucks they make daily 600 packages of cigarettes. A large building-brick factory is starting up at Sabinas with machinery from St. Louis, and will make 30,000 bricks daily. A sash and door factory has just been completed.

CONSULAR TRADE REPORTS.

The Consul-General of Mexico at New York reports that during the month of April, 1907, twelve vessels proceeding from Mexican ports entered the harbor of New York City, bringing 86,828 packages of merchandise. During the same month the vessels clearing from the port of New York numbered 16, carrying 206,507 packages of merchandise, consigned to Mexican ports. The imports in detail from Mexico at New York in April, 1907, were as follows:

Articles.	Quantity.	Articles.	Quantity.
Henequen.....bales..	6,385	Lead bullion.....bars..	20,833
Coffee.....sacks..	14,918	Sarsaparilla.....packages..	739
Hides.....bales..	7,373	Vanilla.....boxes..	99
Hides.....loose..	4,436	Alligator skins.....do..	60
Ixtle.....bales..	4,998	Bones.....packages..	31
Goatskins.....do..	2,477	Honey.....barrels..	229
Deerskins.....do..	244	Cedar.....logs..	184
Rubber.....do..	5,348	Mahogany.....do..	74
Leaf tobacco.....do..	1,321	Jalap.....sacks..	160
Cigars.....boxes..	50	Copper.....bars..	4,041
Broom root.....bales..	617	Coin.....boxes..	207
Chicle.....do..	3,197	Silver ingots.....bars..	483
Erstete.....logs..	3,374	Garlic.....sacks..	1,397
Teal marble.....slabs..	49	Oranges.....box..	1
Hair.....bales..	50	Mexican dollars.....boxes..	84

The Mexican Consul at Nogales, Arizona, reports that during the month of April, 1907, the following merchandise was imported through the custom-house of Nogales from the State of Sonora, Mexico:

	Gold.		Gold.
Cane sugar.....	\$229	Natural feathers.....	\$277
Refined sugar.....	69	Fresh fish.....	25
Leather belts.....	64	Lead ore.....	835
Portland cement.....	24	Potatoes.....	2
Rawhides.....	12,477	Cheese.....	9
Fresh meat.....	22	Ready-made cotton clothing....	8
Articles not specified.....	167	Common salt.....	22
Beans.....	11	Leaf tobacco.....	683
Canned fruits.....	6,026	Wheat.....	2
Cattle.....	14,740	Silver bars.....	129,528
Preserved vegetables.....	215	Gold bars and dust.....	144,959
Corn.....	13		
Oranges.....	3,763	Total.....	314,470

1390 INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

The value of the merchandise shipped through the custom-house of Nogales, Mexico, to the State of Sonora in April, 1907, was \$396,647.91, and consisted of the following merchandise:

	Gold.		Gold.
Animal products.....	\$65,460.17	Paper and paper products....	\$6,127.49
Vegetable products.....	40,104.63	Machinery and apparatus....	69,939.96
Mineral products.....	82,149.42	Vehicles.....	10,204.77
Textiles, and manufactures		Arms and explosives.....	14,465.47
thereof.....	58,169.61	Miscellaneous.....	20,029.65
Chemical products.....	21,043.62		
Spirituous beverages.....	5,953.12	Total.....	396,647.91

The aforesaid merchandise came from the following countries:

United States.....	\$353,054.12	Austria.....	\$537.88
France.....	3,039.22	Canada.....	253.26
Germany.....	12,538.48	Japan.....	2,681.34
England.....	11,742.42		
Spain.....	12,801.19	Total.....	396,647.91

The Mexican Consul at Philadelphia advises that the shipments of merchandise from that port to the Mexican ports of Tampico and Veracruz during the month of April, 1907, amounted to \$102,460, and consisted of coal and powder invoiced at \$74,285 and \$28,175, respectively.

The Mexican Consul at Philadelphia advises that the shipments of merchandise from Philadelphia to the Mexican ports of Tampico and Veracruz during the month of May, 1907, amounted to \$95,555.74, and consisted of petroleum and coal invoiced at \$66,836.49 and \$28,719.25, respectively.

Receipts of merchandise at San Diego, California, from Mexican ports are reported by the special deputy collector as furnished by the Mexican Consul for the months of January, February, March, and April, as follows:

Merchandise.	Value.	Merchandise.	Value.
JANUARY.		MARCH.	
Cattle.....	\$30,462	Products of the United States returned.....	\$2,260
Horses.....	290	Copper ore.....	500
Swine.....	75	Beeswax.....	740
Products of the United States returned.....	2,839	Tea.....	380
Pine nuts.....	101	Horses and mules (18).....	1,025
Miscellaneous.....	567	Cattle (547).....	7,863
Total.....	21,334	Sheep.....	1,707
FEBRUARY.		Mexican onyx.....	2,000
Cattle (709).....	10,303	Panocha.....	828
Horses.....	590	Miscellaneous.....	419
Mexican onyx.....	13,302	Total.....	17,827
Products of the United States returned.....	6,921	APRIL.	
Bran.....	1,205	Cattle (173).....	1,899
Gold bullion.....	391	Horses (17).....	785
Beeswax.....	351	Sheep (500).....	1,500
Wool blankets.....	108	Mules, swine, and goats.....	394
Fresh beef.....	93	Gold bullion.....	1,506
Hides of cattle.....	92	Bran.....	1,168
Ginno.....	65	Beeswax.....	351
Miscellaneous.....	325	Hides of cattle (4,282 pounds).....	621
Total.....	33,746	Products of the United States returned.....	60,704
		Panocha.....	290
		Miscellaneous.....	211
		Total.....	78,372

Shipments from San Diego to Mexican ports for the first quarter of 1907 were as follows:

	Pieces.	Value.
January.....	5,005	\$9,666
February.....	2,357	7,804
March.....	5,153	14,660

EXPLOITATION OF IRON PROPERTIES.

President DIAZ, on May 21, 1907, promulgated the act of Congress approving the contract made on February 1, 1907, by the Minister of Fomento granting a concession to the company "A. B. Adams, incorporated," to explore for iron ores in the districts of Jamiltepec, Tlaxiaco, Teposcolula, Nochixtlán, Huajuapam, Justlahuaca, and Juquila, in the State of Oaxaca. The text of the contract is published in the *Diario Oficial* of May 30, 1907.

NICARAGUA.

REDUCTION OF EXPORT DUTY ON COFFEE.

According to information furnished by the United States consul at Managua, the decree published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for April, page 885, concerning the rate fixed by the Nicaraguan Government for the duty to be paid on coffee exports from the Republic, reduces the duty on that commodity 20 per cent.

Previously the duty was 40 cents gold per quintal, while the decree in reference, issued February 24, 1907, fixes it at \$2 national currency. At the rate of exchange indicated in article 3 of the decree (630 per cent), this would be equal to a fraction less than 32 cents gold per quintal (100 pounds).

The text of the decree follows:

The President of the Republic, taking into consideration the unexpected fall in the price of coffee in foreign markets, and being duly empowered, decrees:

ARTICLE 1. From the publication of the present decree, the export duty on each quintal of coffee shall be 2 pesos in national currency, instead of 40 cents gold now being paid.

ART. 2. This decree shall remain in force during the existence of the cause that necessitated its issue.

ART. 3. For the purpose of carrying out this law the gold bonds issued for payment of above duty shall be received at their equivalent in national currency, the exchange being effected at the rate of 630 per cent.

ART. 4. All the regulations established in the decrees of January 27, 1894, and October 22, 1904, will remain in full force.

PANAMA.

ORGANIZATION OF A BUREAU OF STATISTICS.

A general statistical office for Panama was organized on May 10, 1907, under the direction of Señor Don LEON FERNÁNDEZ GUARDIA, which will have in charge the collection and publication of the vital, commercial, and agricultural statistics of the Republic.

APICULTURE IN THE REPUBLIC.

The *Gaceta Oficial* of Panama for March 6, 1907, publishes the contract made by the Secretary of Fomento on March 5, and approved by President AMADOR on March 6, 1907, with Señor VICTOR VARGAS GAMALLO, for the introduction of bee culture in the Republic.

APPOINTMENT OF A DELEGATE TO THE CONVENTION OF JURISCONSULTS.

The *Gaceta Oficial* of April 5, 1907, publishes the text of the decree of President AMADOR GUERRERO, dated April 1, appointing Dr. BELISARIO POERAS, delegate from Panama to the Convention of Jurisconsults to meet during the year in Rio de Janeiro, according to the resolution of the Third International American Conference, to prepare codes of public and of private international law for submission to the convention.

PARAGUAY.

INCREASED PORT FACILITIES.

A movement to secure an improvement in the handling of imported merchandise at the Paraguayan custom-house is reported as due to increasing shipments.

Representatives of the commerce of Paraguay have placed in the hands of the Minister of Finance a memorial soliciting that measures be taken for the construction of various provisional sheds for the deposit of merchandise in order that the cargoes which are on their way to the port of Asuncion, representing more than 7,000 tons, may be placed in them after their arrival. The lighting of the custom-house deposits by electricity; establishment of an official gold exchange for the collection of custom-house duties for a reasonable and prudent time, and a dislodgment of the occupants of fiscal lands needed for the improvements are other measures to be carried into execution.

Paraguayan commerce is continually on the increase, and for some time there has been a great need for better accommodations at the custom-house.

PERU.

LAND AND IRRIGATION LAWS.

The forest lands of Peru are in what is known as the "*Montaña*," which is the most extensive territory of the country. It offers a wide field for emigrants by reason of the fertility of its different districts, the variety of its products, and the special franchises conferred by the laws. The emigrant enjoys the same civil rights as the native-born inhabitants, and can readily become a proprietor of *Montaña* lands under the provisions of the law of December 21, 1898, which establishes as methods of acquisitions: (1) By purchase, at the rate of 5 soles, \$2.50 American gold, per hectare (2.47 acres); (2) by contract for colonization; (3) by rental of 1 sol, or 50 cents American gold, per year per hectare; (4) by free grants—only, however, in respect of lots of not over 2 hectares. But it should be noted that, as the law seeks to promote the cultivation of the *Montaña* lands, there is nothing whatever to prevent any person who may have received and cultivated one lot from acquiring others successively, subject to the same obligation with regard to cultivation. The spirit of the law is such that, in carrying it into effect, the Government endeavors to give the colonists every possible facility and advantage.

On the western slope of the Andes and in the coast region, where irrigation is more or less necessary, the granting of public lands is governed by the irrigation law of October 9, 1893, which provides as follows:

"ARTICLE 1. The Executive power is authorized to make irrigation concessions or contracts with strict subjection to the prescriptions of this law.

"ART. 2. Concession shall only be granted for the utilization of waters when these belong to the public. They may be applied to the irrigation of cultivable lands, and must in no way directly or indirectly affect the right of third parties.

"For the purposes of the law the following are regarded as belonging to the public domain:

"(1) Rivers.

"(2) Torrents, springs, and permanent and periodical streams, presuming always that they have not been subject to previous appropriation.

"ART. 3. The waters referred to in the preceding article may be conceded to the occupiers of uncultivated lands pertaining to the State. In either case, the right to the waters will be perpetual. When the property in the waters is conceded to associations or individuals in order to irrigate lands belonging to private owners, the proprietors of the waters and of the lands will enter into such agree-

ments between themselves as they may deem necessary for the purpose of irrigation.

"If, in the contract, the payment of an annual sum be stipulated for against the use of the waters, such charge can not extend beyond a period of ninety years. On the expiration of this period, the lands shall be exempt from the obligation of paying such annual sum, and the control of the water reservoirs and other works exclusively connected with the irrigation shall pass free of all charge to the irrigation service.

"ART. 4. Petitions presented to the Government for the acquisition of the rights hereby accorded shall set forth—

"(a) The designation of the waters and the method of utilization to be employed.

"(b) The precise jurisdiction of the lands to be irrigated.

"(c) The period within which the work is to be executed.

"(d) The security to be given in order to guarantee its execution.

"(e) The documents showing any right the petitioner may have over the land in case the concession solicited is for irrigation.

"(f) The tariffs upon which owners of land will be required to pay the respective fee (or annual sum) in cases where the concession solicited is for the irrigation of lands belonging to third parties.

"(g) The plan, descriptive report, and estimated cost and income of the enterprise.

"ART. 5. Immigration enterprises will enjoy the following advantages:

"(1) Exemption from import duties on machinery, ironwork, and other material which the enterprise may introduce for the construction of hydraulic works, and exemption from the payment of the alcabala tax on the lands of private individuals purchased for the same.

"(2) The property in the uncultivated lands of the State, or of municipalities which may be adequately irrigated.

"(3) Exoneration from every direct impost during the first three years in favor of all settlers cultivating the irrigated lands.

"(4) Power to alter the course of waters not privately owned, to improve their utilization by means of dams, and to execute the works necessary to connect the public with the irrigation system.

"ART. 6. The contractors shall have the right to use gratuitously public lands when necessary for the construction of dams, aqueducts, and other works indispensable for the irrigation. If the lands required for these works are private property, the Government in virtue of the present law shall declare the work to be of public utility and effect their expropriation in conformity with the laws.

"ART. 7. In case of the work not being carried into execution, the security which may have been deposited with the State shall be forfeited in favor of the latter.

"ART. 8. No concession can be transferred without the consent of the Government.

"ART. 9. The contractor remains subject to the laws of the Republic and shall be incompetent to put forward any claim whatsoever otherwise than before the tribunals therein constituted.

"ART. 10. All concessions with respect to irrigation, granted anterior to the last twenty years, which have not been utilized up to date, are null and void."

PETROLEUM SHIPMENT TO THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

In March, 1907, the British merchant steamer *Circassian Prince* sailed from Callao for Lobitos (oil wells in the north of Peru) to take on 3,000 tons of crude petroleum for a firm which has already placed the order in Buenos Ayres, and it is expected that in view of the price obtained regular shipments of the article will be made.

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES IN THE REPUBLIC.

The medical faculty, which is vested with power to legislate in the matter, has recently issued a decree whereby it is provided that all proprietary medicines introduced into the Republic of Peru shall be subjected to an examination by a pharmacy commission.

Specifics, together with the formula for their compounding, must be submitted to this commission, whose findings, given in the form of a certificate, authorize or prohibit the sale and use of the medicines throughout the Republic.

This decree, it is understood, applies at present only to those proprietary preparations that have not already been introduced to the public or already invoiced to some purchaser in the Republic.

SALVADOR.

IMPORT TRADE DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1906.

During the third quarter of the year 1906, imports of merchandise at the various ports of the Republic of Salvador were reported as follows:

Through Acajutla, 160,158 parcels were received, valued at \$1,930,723.98; through La Libertad, 31,570 parcels, valued at \$494,940.19; and through La Union, 65,498 parcels, valued at \$700,501.56, the sum total being 257,226 parcels, worth \$3,126,165.73.

The origin of the imports reported was: From Great Britain, \$1,063,679.92; United States, \$979,746.08; France, \$267,387.57; Germany, \$334,177.35; and Belgium, \$120,634.94.

The leading item of import was cotton textiles, valued at \$1,041,661.47.

INTERNAL DEBT OF THE REPUBLIC.

In his report made to the National Assembly on April 26, 1907, by the Salvadorean Minister of the Treasury, the total internal debt of the country is stated as follows:

Payable in gold, \$3,550,232.18; payable in silver, \$1,590,533.84; Salvadorean bonds, \$3,397,775.81 silver.

PAN-AMERICAN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

Press advices state that President FIGUEROA recently approved the concession secured by J. M. NEELAND for the construction of the Pan-American Railway of Central America, work to begin not later than September 1, 1907. The total length of the road will be 450 kilometers, and it will run through the richest agricultural region of the State of Salvador. The capital for the construction of the road will be furnished by capitalists from the United States and Holland. The company is capitalized at \$7,000,000 gold. The road will be known as the Pan-American of Central America, and its completion is expected in four years. The construction of the road will be slow, as the greater part of the route is mountainous.

The principal traffic of the line will be coffee, and as the State of Salvador alone produces 2,000,000 bags yearly it will be exceedingly heavy. Another large factor in the traffic will be sugar. From La Union ships will convey this traffic to the United States. La Union is on the Bay of Fonseca, which has been pronounced by Humboldt and other competent authorities the finest natural harbor in the entire Western Hemisphere.

PAYMENT OF IMPORT DUTIES IN GOLD.

The *Diario Oficial* of Salvador for March 26, 1907, publishes the following decree signed by President FIGUEROA on March 22, 1907:

"The Executive Power of the Republic of El Salvador, considering: "That by virtue of agreements made with various state creditors it has been agreed to reduce to American gold the debts in their favor, and it being indispensable therefore to dictate the means necessary in order to make payment in this kind of money, it is decreed:

"SOLE ARTICLE. From the 1st of next April the imposts with which imported merchandise is taxed, that is, the 8 *pesos* silver per 100 kilograms referred to in article 573 of the present tariff, shall be reduced to \$3.70 American gold and shall be collected in cash or in bank drafts at sight on the United States.

"Given in the Executive Palace at San Salvador, March 22, 1907."

INCREASED DUTY ON AGUARDIENTE.

On and after April 1, 1907, the tax on each bottle of aguardiente sold from Government deposits, both with regard to the regular quotas and to additional purchases, was increased 25 cents silver.

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 April, 1907, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the ten months ending April, 1907, 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 month, are not received by the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for April, for example, are not published until some time in June.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

	April—		Ten months ending April—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Cocoa (<i>Cacao; Coco ou cacao; Cacao</i>):	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Central America.....	1,184	3,453	13,417	43,078
Brazil.....	79,006	207,645	1,133,236	2,377,042
Other South America.....	182,509	173,152	1,547,086	1,484,504
Coffee (<i>Café; Café; Café</i>):				
Central America.....	708,192	2,195,355	5,255,128	5,750,497
Mexico.....	318,047	349,206	2,021,082	1,247,914
Brazil.....	1,968,701	5,086,062	45,574,561	50,750,119
Other South America.....	776,449	697,566	8,285,200	7,775,460
Copper (<i>Cobre; Cobre; Cuirre</i>):				
Mexico.....	1,588,979	1,899,436	15,144,790	15,859,252
Cuba.....	8,708	29,425	65,746	97,006
South America.....	75,334	35,066	485,373	831,723
Fibers:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (<i>Algodón en rama; Algodao en rama; Coton non manufacturé</i>):				
South America.....	38,157	23,598	339,023	562,497
Sisal grass (<i>Henequén; Henequen; Henequen</i>):				
Mexico.....	1,277,206	982,347	11,944,259	12,463,677
Fruits:				
Bananas (<i>Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes</i>):				
Central America.....	461,409	422,330	3,588,400	4,139,475
Cuba.....	133,837	203,343	497,756	803,258
South America.....	52,429	15,871	340,852	13,861
Oranges (<i>Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges</i>):				
Mexico.....	1,844	4,768	49,115	41,809
Cuba.....	2,371	137	10,149	7,983

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IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

	April—		Ten months ending April—	
	1905.	1907.	1905.	1907.
<i>Hides and skins (Cueros y picles; Couros e pelles; Cuiris et peaux):</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Mexico.....	367,297	500,527	3,336,011	4,092,177
Cuba.....	21,967	32,422	128,453	260,047
Brazil.....	125,319	135,648	1,590,176	1,620,670
Other South America.....	725,458	817,940	9,412,916	9,548,388
<i>India rubber, crude (Goma elástica; Borracha cruda; Caoutchouc):</i>				
Central America.....	58,546	48,723	642,629	652,403
Mexico.....	170,949	527,289	567,295	2,182,988
Brazil.....	2,342,555	3,110,769	21,088,077	28,875,152
Other South America.....	56,786	79,619	1,026,397	1,161,135
<i>Iron ore (Mineral de hierro; Mineral de ferro; Mineral de fer):</i>				
Cuba.....	216,963	189,710	1,550,520	218,995
<i>Lead, ore (Plomo; Chumbo; Plomb):</i>				
Mexico.....	225,598	182,287	2,508,419	2,132,953
<i>Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (Azúcar, inferior al No. 16 del modelo holandés; Assucar, não superior ao No. 16 de padrão holandês; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16):</i>				
Mexico.....	2,735	1,629	31,342	166,948
Cuba.....	9,361,916	10,082,743	46,126,398	50,107,710
Brazil.....			308,140	912,381
Other South America.....	62,622	47,413	2,018,240	1,927,145
<i>Tobacco and manufactures (Tabaco y sus manufacturas; Tabaco e sus manufacturas; Tabac et ses manufactures):</i>				
Cuba.....	1,265,870	1,159,501	14,755,770	15,608,610
<i>Wood, mahogany (Caoba; Mogno; Acajou):</i>				
Central America.....	57,485	19,281	467,336	397,653
Mexico.....	51,682	22,762	330,243	526,079
Cuba.....	23,766	19,916	103,149	150,629
<i>Wool (Lana; Lã; Laine):</i>				
South America—				
Class 1 (wooling).....	879,672	1,326,413	6,339,056	4,038,829
Class 2 (combing).....	8,477	92,966	199,014	412,897
Class 3 (carpet).....	50,512	37,624	589,615	575,423

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

<i>Agricultural implements (Instrumentos agrícolas; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles):</i>				
Mexico.....	61,956	64,127	432,592	393,589
Cuba.....	21,412	16,049	164,556	65,159
Argentine Republic.....	134,465	108,673	4,656,249	3,428,080
Brazil.....	13,962	12,607	82,344	106,200
Chile.....	8,888	16,031	291,581	344,919
Other South America.....	14,623	17,722	263,740	192,041
<i>Animals:</i>				
<i>Cattle (C ganado vacuno; Gado; Rétail):</i>				
Mexico.....	51,180	47,932	504,850	716,811
Cuba.....	167,104	27,187	1,578,503	355,727
South America.....	12,179		99,324	47,992
<i>Hogs (Cerdos; Porcos; Pores):</i>				
Mexico.....	15,033	11,035	132,542	171,960
South America.....		206	1,320	1,282
<i>Horses (Caballos; Chevallos; Chevaux):</i>				
Mexico.....	22,304	31,893	246,852	381,472
<i>Sheep (Ovejas; Ovelhas; Brebis):</i>				
Mexico.....	19,016	17,056	52,026	78,118
<i>Books, maps, etc. (Libros, mapas, etc.; Livros, mappas, etc.; Livres, mappes, etc.):</i>				
Central America.....	4,421	6,982	46,700	45,261
Mexico.....	26,602	25,504	367,729	251,150
Cuba.....	24,204	26,737	282,963	271,660
Argentine Republic.....	9,088	7,272	63,469	77,295
Brazil.....	2,562	13,547	105,764	81,042
Chile.....	15,154	1,666	157,914	229,856
Other South America.....	10,122	7,654	74,812	98,521

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

	April--		Ten months ending April--	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (Maiz; Milho; Mais):				
Central America.....	Dollars. 8,398	Dollars. 9,015	Dollars. 100,646	Dollars. 31,530
Mexico.....	74,067	73,861	772,539	942,000
Cuba.....	71,004	124,107	1,025,435	1,184,830
South America.....	1,048	774	17,806	8,320
Oats (Avena; Aveia; Avoine):				
Central America.....	6,837	1,656	30,603	23,827
Mexico.....	6,455	1,745	31,408	44,680
Cuba.....	25,312	19,438	202,797	288,374
South America.....	1,740	424	21,705	10,406
Wheat (Trigo; Trigo; Blé):				
Central America.....	315	2,550	35,594	28,003
Mexico.....	126,108	383,410	1,608,776	1,038,099
South America.....	75,360	21,906	461,942	359,099
Wheat flour (Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé):				
Central America.....	151,960	167,034	1,515,351	1,420,112
Mexico.....	9,234	18,372	147,114	117,741
Cuba.....	239,176	251,005	2,710,859	2,520,882
Brazil.....	105,804	127,645	1,049,185	1,128,442
Colombia.....	6,018	11,530	489,679	134,111
Other South America.....	417,955	86,767	2,187,787	1,623,325
Carriages, etc.:				
Automobiles (Automóviles; Automoviles; Automobíles):				
Mexico.....	91,881	64,409	293,002	692,652
South America.....	9,748	11,214	61,780	170,270
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carraagens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures wagons et leurs parties):				
Central America.....	24,950	309,114	1,029,915	1,544,883
Mexico.....	71,995	244,073	835,739	1,909,439
Cuba.....	80,557	42,885	924,668	679,639
Argentine Republic.....	29,481	181,240	355,863	1,842,013
Chile.....	13,814	25,110	404,931	146,207
Other South America.....	3,377	79,256	298,839	598,634
Cycles and parts of (Bicicletas y sus accesorios; Bicycles e partes; Bicyclettes et leurs parties):				
Mexico.....	7,361	6,318	71,186	79,202
Cuba.....	2,461	3,153	30,860	30,595
Argentine Republic.....	688	1,769	13,315	16,203
Brazil.....	1,387	1,453	7,840	10,184
Other South America.....	1,238	1,262	14,093	17,229
Clocks and watches (Relojes de pared y bolsillo; Relogios de bolso e parede; Horloges et montres):				
Central America.....	1,671	1,740	15,077	14,707
Mexico.....	23,209	5,188	66,409	42,345
Argentine Republic.....	9,838	18,800	61,800	65,999
Brazil.....	3,763	8,735	59,432	79,180
Chile.....	2,240	5,918	58,657	41,297
Other South America.....	2,048	4,258	40,042	34,522
Coal (Carbón; Carvão; Charbon):				
Mexico.....	225,486	332,206	2,484,096	2,713,367
Cuba.....	88,076	246,054	1,596,206	1,788,169
Copper (Cobre; Cobre; Cuirre):				
Mexico.....	87,635	124,647	1,058,715	831,118
Cotton:				
Cotton, unmanufactured (Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton non manufacturé):				
Mexico.....	37,365		1,590,995	36,413
Cotton cloths (Trifidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé):				
Central America.....	143,711	142,561	1,320,144	1,430,323
Mexico.....	21,012	19,332	231,008	213,183
Cuba.....	63,243	97,069	629,847	895,296
Argentine Republic.....	23,942	10,214	256,369	213,666
Brazil.....	53,336	44,103	524,301	369,037
Chile.....	63,382	48,022	789,622	861,164
Colombia.....	86,986	74,565	528,299	709,083
Venezuela.....	47,077	19,041	321,222	367,880
Other South America.....	31,938	59,772	382,218	457,489
Wearing apparel (Ropa de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Vêtements de coton):				
Central America.....	30,912	64,823	226,085	339,218
Mexico.....	27,984	34,349	244,409	247,921
Cuba.....	21,614	40,516	211,137	301,041
Other South America.....	13,001	6,443	76,312	87,399

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EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

	April—		Ten months ending April—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Fibers:				
Twine (<i>Bramante; Barbante; Ficelle</i>):	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Argentine Republic.....	10,086	12,781	2,165,240	1,121,956
Other South America.....	12,871	12,991	209,418	218,023
Electric and scientific apparatus (<i>Aparatos electricos y cientificos; Aparatos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques</i>):				
Central America.....	19,061	32,498	171,392	237,406
Mexico.....	131,708	96,747	846,100	1,104,109
Cuba.....	43,552	33,188	568,937	544,353
Argentine Republic.....	36,328	34,328	286,450	366,394
Brazil.....	142,710	71,280	628,506	699,402
Other South America.....	29,894	64,843	459,162	689,540
Electrical machinery (<i>Máquinas eléctricas; Machines électriques; Machines électriques</i>):				
Central America.....	2,347	11,110	19,185	56,486
Mexico.....	135,129	71,264	850,435	1,016,584
Cuba.....	42,816	4,601	445,358	84,000
Argentine Republic.....	24,513	5,262	109,168	118,631
Brazil.....	85,077	50,825	234,204	459,983
Other South America.....	10,851	4,805	132,584	142,886
Iron and steel, manufactures of:				
Steel rails (<i>Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier</i>):				
Central America.....	37,056	191,849	545,649	361,568
Mexico.....	74,617	159,743	1,211,539	1,026,581
Other South America.....	170,861	316,252	3,023,618	2,605,457
Builders' hardware, etc. (<i>Materiales de metal para construcción; Ferragems; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier</i>):				
Central America.....	24,228	33,975	288,817	298,328
Mexico.....	127,555	222,477	1,350,138	1,640,130
Cuba.....	67,630	80,931	972,980	708,440
Argentine Republic.....	50,162	63,971	575,140	675,823
Brazil.....	30,620	46,353	345,533	423,405
Chile.....	18,399	24,834	189,666	270,631
Colombia.....	7,300	9,270	53,893	62,976
Venezuela.....	3,008	2,434	33,217	49,210
Other South America.....	126,733	89,820	699,865	724,634
Sewing machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de coser y sus accesorios; Machines de coser e accesorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America.....	14,068	12,567	102,918	109,341
Mexico.....	73,260	79,721	546,640	673,759
Cuba.....	28,151	35,426	256,590	282,907
Argentine Republic.....	29,196	37,772	607,450	396,933
Brazil.....	17,267	40,235	168,834	371,948
Colombia.....	4,273	6,130	53,379	60,177
Other South America.....	37,072	26,093	318,751	326,706
Steam engines and parts of (<i>Locomotoras y accesorios; Locomotifs e accesorios; Locomotifs et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America.....	456,117	11,307	823,755	1,115,672
Mexico.....		52,640	298,600	1,112,517
Cuba.....		31,225	650,421	733,820
Argentine Republic.....		2,505	189,651	407,453
Brazil.....	4,250	344,731	255,958	578,161
Other South America.....	46,751	64,572	307,117	639,304
Typewriting machines and parts of (<i>Mecanógrafos y accesorios; Machines de escribir e accesorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America.....	1,905	2,868	43,165	36,586
Mexico.....	38,111	32,358	274,234	316,544
Cuba.....	3,538	9,724	59,792	56,108
Argentine Republic.....	4,830	9,200	81,413	90,471
Brazil.....	6,764	5,993	52,925	52,587
Colombia.....	772	1,912	9,669	14,923
Other South America.....	7,502	18,954	114,075	166,819
Pipes and fittings (<i>Cañerías; Tubos; Tuyaux</i>):				
Central America.....	44,266	30,416	523,116	485,198
Mexico.....	159,565	75,822	1,256,263	1,006,224
Cuba.....	22,736	49,233	520,192	482,038
Argentine Republic.....	15,174	9,666	107,226	92,859
Other South America.....	14,969	7,675	163,149	192,904
Leather, other than sole (<i>Cuero distinto del de suelas; Couro, não para solas; Cuir, autres que pour semelles</i>):				
Central America.....	14,943	23,657	152,357	183,806
Cuba.....	13,170	11,511	191,894	104,620
Argentine Republic.....	22,581	13,784	280,273	193,732
Brazil.....	21,537	14,263	121,277	111,636
Other South America.....	21,828	9,412	189,957	200,425

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

	April		Ten months ending April	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Boots and shoes (Calzados; Calçados; Chaussures):				
Central America.....	53,448	54,282	344,229	479,638
Mexico.....	135,459	120,808	1,280,910	1,255,441
Colombia.....	5,251	2,339	40,785	33,752
Other South America.....	26,672	29,004	254,275	325,077
Meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé):				
Central America.....	5,509	6,811	37,520	56,822
Mexico.....	1,725	1,791	22,807	22,950
Cuba.....	589	1,583	21,382	16,086
Other South America.....	2,798	1,635	36,088	34,032
Beef, salted and pickled (Carne de vaca salada ó adobada; Carne de vacca, salgada; Bœuf salé):				
Central America.....	12,536	10,495	90,212	116,355
South America.....	25,825	8,122	219,740	197,416
Tallow (Sebo; Sebo; Suif):				
Central America.....	10,098	8,285	134,082	108,637
Mexico.....	2,059	437	80,064	20,239
Cuba.....	86	15,429	7,970	37,182
Chile.....	4,500		51,204	54,172
Other South America.....	2,773	2,432	44,850	44,119
Bacon (Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé):				
Central America.....	4,768	6,325	22,200	31,540
Mexico.....	3,557	6,869	37,765	52,571
Cuba.....	56,200	64,360	372,949	512,575
Brazil.....	15,549	15,552	144,139	158,882
Other South America.....	2,406	709	13,464	12,324
Hams (Jamones; Presuntos; Jambons):				
Central America.....	10,721	10,905	79,639	120,154
Mexico.....	5,591	10,797	103,472	99,711
Cuba.....	43,323	62,754	414,613	502,820
Venezuela.....	4,654	1,829	42,058	37,323
Other South America.....	4,546	3,013	60,245	49,170
Pork (Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc):				
Cuba.....	41,597	75,233	492,729	614,342
South America.....	17,358	14,981	196,298	212,681
Lard (Manteca; Banha; Saindoux):				
Central America.....	33,605	76,456	378,928	576,201
Mexico.....	21,662	70,834	486,446	576,166
Cuba.....	269,778	243,010	2,248,934	2,432,510
Brazil.....	98,324	150,577	227,458	1,005,724
Colombia.....	10,030	13,318	67,563	145,760
Chile.....	6,554	9,123	294,476	46,000
Venezuela.....	25,082	6,888	313,334	182,550
Other South America.....	86,286	30,500	508,457	446,756
Butter (Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre):				
Central America.....	15,419	15,707	105,948	141,572
Mexico.....	14,976	11,878	109,088	125,137
Cuba.....	7,644	5,245	41,135	60,829
Brazil.....	10,203	2,366	117,195	62,366
Venezuela.....	13,084	2,373	96,288	45,182
Other South America.....	5,480	4,238	33,684	44,788
Cheese (Queso; Queijo; Fromage):				
Central America.....	6,407	7,220	57,205	68,528
Mexico.....	3,661	2,659	37,281	35,895
Cuba.....	1,241	3,250	10,898	19,884
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (Resina, alquitran, etc.; Resina e alcatrão; Résine et goudron):				
Cuba.....	4,412	4,963	56,979	69,133
Argentine Republic.....	45,898		387,007	338,583
Brazil.....	64,031	43,324	529,272	539,452
Other South America.....	14,768	19,162	264,572	208,574
Turpentine (Aguarras; Aguaraz; Térébenthine):				
Central America.....	1,032	2,068	39,272	30,928
Cuba.....	5,911	5,210	58,493	71,614
Argentine Republic.....	15,111	15,156	181,093	162,154
Brazil.....	14,541	6,809	99,251	125,898
Chile.....	2,457	7,800	63,121	86,313
Other South America.....	4,033	6,206	46,944	62,692
Oils:				
Mineral, crude (Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos minerales, crus; Huiles minerales, brutes):				
Mexico.....	72,368	23,333	557,833	891,209
Cuba.....	64,557	86,923	380,891	431,375

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EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

	April—		Ten months ending April—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
<i>Refined or manufactured (Aceites refinados ó manufacturados; Oleos refinados ou manufacturados; Huiles raffinées ou manufacturées):</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Central America.....	33,014	21,577	227,510	230,850
Mexico.....	53,558	7,731	175,689	213,654
Cuba.....	28,511	62,233	286,574	464,688
Argentine Republic.....	27,495	135,841	1,617,920	1,801,860
Brazil.....	236,249	207,586	2,301,265	2,503,243
Chile.....	80,806	90,425	682,954	716,738
Other South America.....	73,975	119,259	900,942	1,038,303
<i>Vegetable (Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetales; Huiles végétales):</i>				
Central America.....	3,014	5,099	26,569	43,467
Mexico.....	52,350	69,006	678,150	826,428
Cuba.....	28,880	27,565	156,836	212,976
Argentine Republic.....	2,093	4,348	20,363	58,028
Brazil.....	51,569	80,708	180,691	357,664
Chile.....	3,932	17,399	18,629	78,861
Other South America.....	14,655	30,578	133,249	149,750
<i>Paper (Papel; Papier; Papier):</i>				
Mexico.....	909	4,574	29,892	44,211
Cuba.....	9,640	18,276	107,347	164,781
Argentine Republic.....	5,315	19,980	187,623	233,574
Brazil.....	6,406	270	32,560	13,858
Chile.....	12,294	22,791	124,964	143,095
Other South America.....	5,653	5,190	78,853	80,772
<i>Paraffin (Parafina; Paraffin; Paraffine):</i>				
Central America.....	3,210	3,839	49,631	54,078
Mexico.....	38,619	56,771	496,275	528,390
South America.....	2,891	5,302	24,497	51,013
<i>Tobacco, manufactured (Tabaco en rama; Tabacco no manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé):</i>				
Central America.....	6,845	3,056	65,983	64,532
Mexico.....	5,478	8,054	76,049	105,585
Argentine Republic.....	586	4,800	44,094	42,145
Colombia.....	987	1,577	8,472	12,868
Other South America.....	9,006	4,914	66,920	77,256
<i>Tobacco, manufactures of (Tabaco elaborado; Tabaco manufacturado; Tabac manufacturé):</i>				
Central America.....	4,231	8,920	49,396	67,913
<i>Wood, and manufactures of:</i>				
<i>Wood, unmanufactured (Madera sin labrar; Madeira não manufacturada; Bois brut):</i>				
Central America.....	55,046	54,286	413,789	521,809
Mexico.....	100,800	145,208	816,104	1,138,878
Cuba.....	15,953	10,921	142,161	113,525
Argentine Republic.....	35,069	4,967	163,401	134,599
Other South America.....	2,736	4,617	126,582	278,061
<i>Lumber (Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction):</i>				
Central America.....	112,329	59,334	583,274	1,009,971
Mexico.....	186,784	154,171	1,476,130	1,799,970
Cuba.....	187,254	236,001	2,021,635	2,002,103
Argentine Republic.....	266,356	251,082	2,856,380	5,182,625
Brazil.....	81,782	181,620	352,004	1,116,671
Chile.....	60,309	191,970	518,481	1,015,009
Other South America.....	76,742	146,544	631,810	1,173,004
<i>Furniture (Muebles; Mobles; Meubles):</i>				
Central America.....	41,266	25,857	299,804	245,670
Mexico.....	85,360	86,811	680,790	772,080
Cuba.....	53,558	76,351	627,745	483,748
Argentine Republic.....	10,564	44,409	255,275	359,929
Brazil.....	3,052	6,165	38,897	60,341
Chile.....	9,650	1,692	61,812	62,319
Colombia.....	3,031	1,312	18,680	12,746
Venezuela.....	4,534	1,767	18,639	12,746

FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR APRIL, 1907.

The foreign commerce of the United States, for April 1907, as shown by the statement issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor, made large gains over the corresponding month of 1906, the

imports amounting to \$129,554,075 and the exports to \$157,444,281, as against \$107,318,081 for imports and \$141,946,383 for exports in April, 1906.

For the ten months' period ending with April, 1907, imports show a recorded value of \$1,195,399,276, as compared with \$1,020,873,178 in the same period of the preceding year, while exports are valued at \$1,608,344,680, against \$1,488,282,130 in the first ten months of the preceding year.

Taking the exports by classes, an actual decrease both for the month and the ten months' period is noted in "foodstuffs in crude condition" and in "foodstuffs partly or wholly manufactured" compared with a year ago. The reduction in the former for April was slight, being from \$13,770,221 to \$13,659,742, but for the ten months the value declined from \$158,574,113 to \$140,493,914. These include cereal grains and live food animals, meat and flour and meal coming under the head of partly or wholly manufactured foodstuffs. In this class also the decline was slight for the month and relatively greater for the ten months. The figures for April are \$28,199,706 in 1906 and \$28,031,915 in 1907, and for the ten months the decrease is from \$294,546,844 to \$287,610,553. The percentage that these foodstuffs constitute of the total exports fell from 30.89 to 26.96 for the longer period.

There was a considerable increase in the export of crude materials for manufacture over 1906 from \$38,691,927 to \$44,615,629 for the month, and from \$446,012,207 to \$542,520,911 for the ten months. The part that raw cotton played in this advance may be seen in the separate figures for that material. They were \$31,797,617 for April last year and \$36,032,382 for April this year, and \$366,265,727 last year and \$450,626,586 this year for the ten months ending with April. In manufactures for further use in manufacturing the increase for the month was from \$19,443,958 to \$22,681,453, and for the ten months from \$184,482,087 to \$214,322,749. Herein copper and mineral oil and some of the important items of iron and steel exports figure prominently. Copper alone shows a gain from \$6,059,076 to \$7,284,931 for the month, and from \$62,520,350 to \$73,395,587 for the ten months. Total exports of iron and steel, not including ore, increased from \$14,933,495 to \$17,684,863 for April, and from \$131,214,260 to \$149,710,569 for ten months of the fiscal year. This includes both manufactures "ready for consumption," like machinery and builder's hardware, and those for further use in manufacturing, like pig iron, bars, steel billets, etc. The table for leather and leather goods is similarly mixed, the total for ten months showing a gain from \$32,995,147 to \$37,971,149.

The interesting feature in imports is the increase in materials of manufacture. For those in crude condition the increase for the

month was from \$41,157,156 to \$46,208,637, and for the ten months from \$345,013,144 to \$401,310,942. Manufactures for further use in manufacturing increased from \$18,810,834 to \$23,476,930 for April, and from \$178,052,977 to \$227,945,850 for ten months. The two together for the ten months constitute 52.64 per cent of all imports, against 51.24 a year ago. The most important imports of raw materials are hides and skins, raw silk, india rubber, and wool. For ten months ending with April imports of hides and skins increased only from \$66,681,774 to \$66,711,687. Raw silk increased from \$47,064,022 to \$63,565,043, india rubber from \$40,846,762 to \$53,577,526, and wool from \$33,425,262 to \$35,010,575. A considerable amount of copper and of iron and steel in various forms was imported. Of the latter the imports amounted to \$32,795,503 for ten months, against \$23,296,873 for the corresponding period a year before.

Of manufactures "ready for consumption" imports were worth \$24,205,423 in April last year and \$28,966,427 this year, but in the same month exports of this class were valued at \$40,589,137 last year and \$45,201,876 this. For the ten months imports of these articles amounted to \$259,118,881 last year and \$303,678,867 this, and exports show an increase in the same period from \$377,974,240 to \$397,127,671. These constitute 25.40 per cent of the total imports and 25.01 per cent of the exports. Exports of cotton manufactures for ten months fell from \$45,172,807 to \$28,166,449, while imports increased from \$53,730,480 to \$62,532,292. The largest gain in exports of manufactures is in products of iron and steel.

Total trade values for the periods in reference, with the various grand divisions of the earth and with the countries of Latin America, were as follows:

Countries.	April.			
	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
North America.....	\$23,740,170	\$28,537,136	\$27,739,448	\$32,877,450
Central American States:				
Costa Rica.....	505,336	799,361	212,369	227,636
Guatemala.....	326,420	1,195,364	291,173	259,596
Honduras.....	156,486	169,394	160,236	111,414
Nicaragua.....	157,397	44,296	146,946	161,253
Panama.....	77,915	138,561	1,333,914	1,923,262
Salvador.....	43,824	406,013	109,069	119,809
Total Central American States.....	1,327,398	2,753,294	2,253,707	2,802,880
Mexico.....	4,564,427	5,243,982	5,264,743	6,088,226
Cuba.....	11,488,832	12,372,389	3,848,049	4,343,584
Haiti.....	100,342	78,545	337,611	182,879
Santo Domingo.....	247,649	503,424	195,278	223,965
Total West Indies.....	12,709,137	14,294,431	5,489,620	5,823,038
South America:				
Argentina.....	1,713,924	1,933,950	1,380,413	2,357,926
Bolivia.....			21,971	133,700
Brazil.....	4,655,887	8,834,049	1,580,308	2,012,997

Countries.	April.			
	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
South America—Continued.				
Chile.....	\$583,347	\$1,639,680	\$851,204	\$928,219
Colombia.....	618,547	390,443	241,251	259,800
Ecuador.....	178,102	169,679	175,829	144,651
Falkland Islands.....				
Guyana:				
British.....	844	18,226	163,273	62,079
Dutch.....	67,278	63,458	66,951	19,051
French.....	4,875	3,540	18,962	40,960
Paraguay.....		1,163	4,270	22,235
Peru.....	110,036	751,626	448,327	478,318
Uruguay.....	43,907	444,784	173,474	373,218
Venezuela.....	663,528	686,938	337,877	183,962
Total South America.....	8,640,275	14,937,516	5,464,119	7,047,176
Europe.....	53,083,080	61,353,259	98,965,059	103,132,801
North America.....	23,740,170	28,337,136	27,739,418	32,877,450
South America.....	8,640,275	14,937,516	5,464,119	7,047,176
Asia.....	17,010,873	18,831,026	7,530,418	9,085,366
Oceania.....	3,161,224	3,499,733	2,984,750	3,380,207
Africa.....	1,082,450	2,395,405	1,696,256	1,023,251

Countries.	Ten months ending April.			
	Imports.		Exports.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
North America.....	\$187,843,758	\$207,093,897	\$251,994,103	\$283,819,230
Central American States:				
Costa Rica.....	3,919,591	4,022,810	1,854,313	2,023,053
Guatemala.....	2,548,912	2,865,893	2,407,439	2,451,558
Honduras.....	1,280,546	1,747,192	1,325,877	1,501,707
Nicaragua.....	1,182,183	838,251	1,552,268	1,081,171
Panama.....	846,326	1,398,088	9,866,660	12,933,407
Salvador.....	737,356	962,484	1,208,286	1,184,829
Total Central American States.....	10,514,914	11,834,418	18,214,833	21,775,725
Mexico.....	41,952,052	46,773,302	47,926,765	54,085,688
Cuba.....	66,024,615	73,259,855	40,432,395	40,826,489
Haiti.....	1,011,266	908,117	2,901,045	2,458,043
Santo Domingo.....	2,156,914	2,270,762	1,666,399	2,172,814
Total West Indies.....	77,771,079	87,061,666	55,361,979	56,584,086
South America:				
Argentina.....	14,740,490	13,421,819	26,617,860	28,040,713
Bolivia.....			119,545	724,300
Brazil.....	71,402,677	85,902,325	11,808,311	15,361,665
Chile.....	13,056,961	14,878,545	6,921,564	8,565,873
Colombia.....	5,740,180	5,356,523	2,975,340	2,566,444
Ecuador.....	1,999,562	2,444,520	1,567,404	1,363,864
Falkland Islands.....			1,166	
Guyana:				
British.....	1,000,109	1,197,104	1,424,445	1,521,762
Dutch.....	571,451	481,478	451,212	431,447
French.....	38,383	26,772	266,943	287,062
Paraguay.....	750	2,337	38,805	145,045
Peru.....	2,047,352	3,805,017	4,219,400	5,172,877
Uruguay.....	2,191,842	2,609,160	2,345,750	2,898,402
Venezuela.....	6,813,573	6,438,100	2,634,581	2,516,863
Total South America.....	119,611,330	136,563,640	61,422,326	69,626,317
Europe.....	526,601,810	626,952,921	1,038,294,833	1,129,161,441
North America.....	187,843,758	207,093,897	251,994,103	283,819,230
South America.....	119,611,330	136,563,640	61,422,326	69,626,317
Asia.....	153,775,605	182,921,685	91,191,191	76,982,333
Oceania.....	21,051,094	23,729,578	28,748,010	34,765,690
Africa.....	11,039,581	18,137,532	16,631,637	13,989,609

WOOL IMPORTS FROM LATIN AMERICA DURING 1906.

Figures covering imports of wool, hair of the alpaca, goat, and other like animals, by the United States, during 1906, show the following as regards receipts from Mexico and South America:

For clothing: From Mexico 1,364 pounds were received, valued at \$183; from the Argentine Republic, 30,145,400 pounds, valued at \$6,645,684; from Brazil, 38,523 pounds, worth \$6,694; from Chile, 383,531 pounds, worth \$60,536; from Peru, 23,198 pounds, worth \$5,711, and from Uruguay, 3,829,868 pounds, worth \$847,985.

Carpet wools: From Mexico, 3,403 pounds, valued at \$234; the Argentine Republic, 5,747,772 pounds, valued at \$781,396; Brazil, 76,075 pounds, valued at \$4,528; Chile, 247,012 pounds, valued at \$25,300; Uruguay, 3,995 pounds, worth \$458, and from Venezuela, 6,569 pounds, valued at \$367, while other South American countries supplied 1,884 pounds, valued at \$124, making total receipts from South America 6,083,307 pounds, with a valuation of \$812,173.

URUGUAY.**FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1906.**

Figures issued by the Statistical Bureau of the Republic of Uruguay state that the imports for the half year January-June, 1906, amounted to \$17,052,581, an increase over the same period of the preceding year of \$2,356,098 gold. Exports are given as \$20,178,400, an increase of \$1,874,786 over 1905.

Great Britain supplied the bulk of the imports, though her percentage of 30 per cent of a few years ago has declined to 27 per cent. Germany has advanced to second place, with 16 per cent; France, third, with 12.3 per cent; United States fourth, the Argentine Republic fifth, and Italy sixth.

Of the exports France is the principal purchaser, taking about \$5,000,000 out of the total \$20,000,000. Belgium and Germany each take about \$3,000,000; the Argentine Republic and Brazil, \$2,800,000 and \$1,800,000, respectively, while the United States is only reported for \$750,000 for the half year.

INDORSEMENT OF THE PROJECTED BOARD OF JURISCONSULTS.

Through the Department of State of the United States, the International Bureau of the American Republics was informed under date of May 10, 1907, that on March 27, 1907, the President of the Republic of Uruguay had formally approved the Convention signed on August 23, 1906, in the city of Rio de Janeiro in regard to the assem-

bling of an international board of juriconsults, subject to final action of the General Assembly.

This board is to be composed of one representative from each of the signatory States, nominated by the respective government, and is to meet for the purpose of preparing a project of a code of international private law and another of international public law.

One of the provisions of the convention was that the nominations of the members of the board be communicated to the Government of Brazil before April 1, 1907, and the President of Uruguay, pending the favorable action of the National Congress in the matter has designated Dr. GONZALO RAMIREZ as the Government's representative.

Doctor RAMIREZ was the organizer of the Montevideo Legal Congress and is a publicist of note, being professor of international private law in the University of Uruguay.

VENEZUELA.

TRADE OF CARUPANO FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

According to the bulletin for the first quarter of 1907, published by the Chamber of Commerce of Carupano, the foreign trade of that port during said period amounted to 1,920,912 *bolivares*, as compared with 1,467,438 *bolivares* in the same period of 1906. The 361,953 kilograms of merchandise imported during the first quarter of 1907 were valued at 258,123 *bolivares*, as against 295,354 *bolivares*, value of 408,995 kilograms of merchandise imported in the corresponding quarter of 1906. One million one hundred and seventy-two thousand and eighty-four kilograms of merchandise, valued at 1,662,789 *bolivares*, were shipped abroad during the quarter in reference, as compared with 1,129,354 kilograms, valued at 1,165,055 *bolivares*, exported in the same period of 1906. The fiscal revenues collected at the custom-house during the first three months of 1907 made a total of 368,695.74 *bolivares*, the principal item being "import duties," which are credited with the amount of 189,662.26 *bolivares*.

TRADE OF CIUDAD BOLIVAR FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

The port of Ciudad Bolivar, for the first three months of 1907, reports a total valuation of imports of 1,767,572.90 *bolivares*, and of exports 1,149,350 *bolivares*. On the foregoing, customs duties amounting to 1,159,887.15 *bolivares* were collected.

Balata rubber was the leading item of export, 150,987 kilograms valued at 643,412 *bolivares* being shipped. Other items were: gold, 174,904 *bolivares*; hides, 146,744 *bolivares*, and 700 heifers worth 70,000 *bolivares*.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1906.

In a report on Venezuela for the year 1906, the British Minister at Caracas states that the imports amounted to \$8,750,500 and exports to \$15,763,950. Taking the returns of the past four years, imports may be said on the whole to be decreasing, while exports are almost stationary.

Of the foreign goods imported into Venezuela, about equal values were received from the United States and from Great Britain and her colonies, who sent about 27 per cent and 26 per cent, respectively, Great Britain thus gaining considerable ground as compared with 1905, when the proportions were 28.2 per cent and 23.3 per cent. The third country in importance to supply Venezuela with goods is Germany, whose trade seems somewhat on the decline, having sunk from a position about equal to that of Great Britain to some 17 per cent in 1906.

The principal articles of importation are: From the United States, cereals and kerosene oil; from Great Britain and her colonies, coal, textiles, and hardware; from Germany, rice and cement.

The chief article of export from Venezuela is coffee, which at present amounts to about 40,000 tons per annum, or 45 per cent of the total value of the export trade, followed in value by cocoa, cattle and hides, balata and gold.

TRADE OF PUERTO CABELLO IN 1906.

Foreign trade through the port of Puerto Cabello in 1906 showed some improvement, but was below the figures of two previous years. The following table, prepared from the most reliable figures obtainable, forwarded by the United States Consul, gives the value of imports by countries:

Countries.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Countries.	1904.	1905.	1906.
England.....	\$818,987	\$444,308	\$535,346	Spain.....	\$141,321	\$100,397	\$94,439
United States....	474,722	428,146	522,648	Italy.....	81,135	45,920	46,246
Germany.....	459,404	271,606	300,907	Total.....	2,306,919	1,474,523	1,656,968
France.....	191,037	116,838	16,549				
Holland.....	140,293	67,308	140,133				

The foregoing table shows that the United States is the only country which made a gain over the figures of 1904; the sales of England decreased almost a third, those of Germany show a considerable falling off, while France all but lost the market.

The following table shows the exports, by articles, from Puerto Cabello in 1906:

Articles.	Pounds.	Value.	Articles.	Pounds.	Value.
Cocoa.....	2,065,733	\$237,915	Woods.....	202,275	\$770
Coffee.....	28,079,407	2,176,265	All other articles.....	884,896	41,463
Copra.....	147,545	3,650			
Deerskins.....	78,542	11,172	Total.....	33,255,066	2,749,264
Divi-divi.....	150,827	1,096	Cattle.....number..	71,806	1,201,008
Goatskins.....	663,359	102,597	Total.....		3,950,272
Hides.....	1,019,838	173,327			
Old copper.....	21,584	1,009			

The following shows the exports to the United States in 1906:

Articles.	Pounds.	Value.	Articles.	Pounds.	Value.
Bones.....	250,152	\$1,080	Hides.....	822,138	\$152,919
Calfskins.....	1,225	211	Orchids.....	728	128
Cocoa.....	135,578	23,343	Tonka beans.....	2,504	599
Cocoanuts.....	437,104	2,198	All other articles.....	3,525	533
Coffee.....	3,871,899	347,669	Total.....	6,633,242	687,775
Deerskins.....	64,061	11,073			
Goatskins.....	1,065,656	148,222			

By comparing the foregoing table with the table of imports it may be seen that Venezuela sent to the United States through Puerto Cabello \$687,775 worth of goods and bought in return \$522,648 worth, leaving a balance of trade in its favor of \$165,127. The United States has no rival in the imports of wheat flour, lard, and kerosene, and leads all other countries in hams, barbed wire, and patent medicine.

The only public work of any importance undertaken during the year in this district was the construction by the Government of a dry dock and machine shops. The dock is one of 3,000 tons; it is being built by an American firm and by American workmen. The principal machinery of the shops and the entire electric-light plant of the works are of American manufacture.

FREE IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN ARTICLES.

On April 18, 1907, President CASTRO, for the purpose of protecting the alcohol distilling industry, deemed advisable to order the free entrance through the custom-houses of the Republic, for two years from the aforesaid date, of the following articles:

Alcohol heating apparatus and their motors.

Lamps especially constructed for alcohol and which do not operate with any other agent, as well as their attachments not adaptable to other lamps.

Alcohol burners for lighting purposes and their attachments, such as manchons or incandescant covers.

Tale and glass chimneys for said lamps and devices used for lighting the same.

IMPORTATION OF POSTAL PACKAGES.

On April 23, 1907, President CASTRO issued the following decree:

"ARTICLE 1. In order to regulate the internal service of postal packages, the number shall not exceed four packages of 5 kilograms each of the same article, brought in the same vessel, for each importer, without prejudice to the tariff duties and other imposts now in force.

"ART. 2. Whenever the importer introduces a greater number of kilograms in postal packages containing the same merchandise on the same vessel he shall pay, in addition to the duties and imposts now in force, 20 per cent of the tariff duties on the total weight of the same merchandise.

"ART. 3. Importers of postal packages are granted the foreign term provided by the Treasury regulations, counting from the date of this decree."

BOOK NOTES.

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

In the opening paragraph of his article on South America—the land of to-morrow—published in "The Munsey Magazine" for June, 1907, Mr. JOHN BARRETT states that the ignorance prevailing generally throughout the United States in regard to this great southern continent is almost appalling. Further, that more attention is given by the press of Europe to South America in a week than by all the papers of the United States in a year. It is with the purpose of dispelling some of this ignorance that the article in reference was prepared. The writer treats his subject *con amore*, and details facts to support his statement that South America has many extraordinary features of natural and artificial development that surprise the uninformed. The vast areas and resources of the southern half of the Western Hemisphere are more or less matters of current knowledge, but that the city of Rio de Janeiro spent, in 1906, more money for public improvements than any city in the United States except New York; that Buenos Aires is the largest city in the world south of the equator, ranking second only to Paris as a Latin city; that it contains as the home of a newspaper the finest and costliest office building in the world; that its opera house is the most magnificent in the Western Hemisphere; its leading clubhouse, the handsomest and largest in the world, and its dock system the most extensive in all America, while at Lima, in Peru, and at Cordoba, in the Argentine

Republic, are universities far antedating Harvard and Yale. These features of national life are neither generally known nor appreciated. It is from its commercial aspects that South America is called the land of to-morrow, and figures are furnished showing the immense strides made during the past few years by Argentine, Brazilian, Chilean, and other national governments in bringing the native products into the markets of the world. That the United States does not take its logical position in this commerce is largely due to differences of language and lineage, which disadvantages have, however, been overcome in other instances and have never yet formed an insuperable barrier to trade intercourse. Illustrations of public buildings, industrial works, and municipal monuments amply indicate the esthetic side of life in South America.

As secretary and subsequent member of the Board of Commissioners appointed in 1884 to study intercontinental trade conditions in America, Mr. WILLIAM ELEROY CURTIS speaks authoritatively in his "Brief History of the Reciprocity Policy," published in the May (1907) number of the "Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science." Following the abortive effort to secure reciprocal trade relations with Canada, the United States Government made its first active endeavor to extend its commercial relations in Latin America through a treaty with Mexico in 1882, which, however, expired by limitation on May 20, 1887, without the necessary measures being taken for its enactment. Equally unsuccessful were efforts directed toward Cuba, Porto Rico, and Santo Domingo, and it was not until the Board of Commissioners above mentioned made their tour of Central and South America in 1884 that any tangible results were obtained. As an outgrowth of the international conference recommended by the Commission, the International Bureau of the American Republics was established, and interest in Latin America and its trade possibilities was greatly augmented. Reciprocally advantageous commercial measures were inaugurated with nearly all the Republics of Central and South America and with the British and Spanish colonies in the West Indies, and negotiations with Mexico were renewed. Under these conditions the exports of the United States to Latin America increased from \$63,000,000 to \$103,000,000. Subsequent legislation altered tariff conditions, and though concessions have been made covering certain specified items of commerce, reciprocity has not taken a prominent place in the policy of the United States Government.

With special reference to the needs of the Spanish-American traveler, a directory and guide of the city of New York has been prepared and issued by JULIO ACEVADO as the organ of the general Spanish-American agency in that city. In addition to a map and general

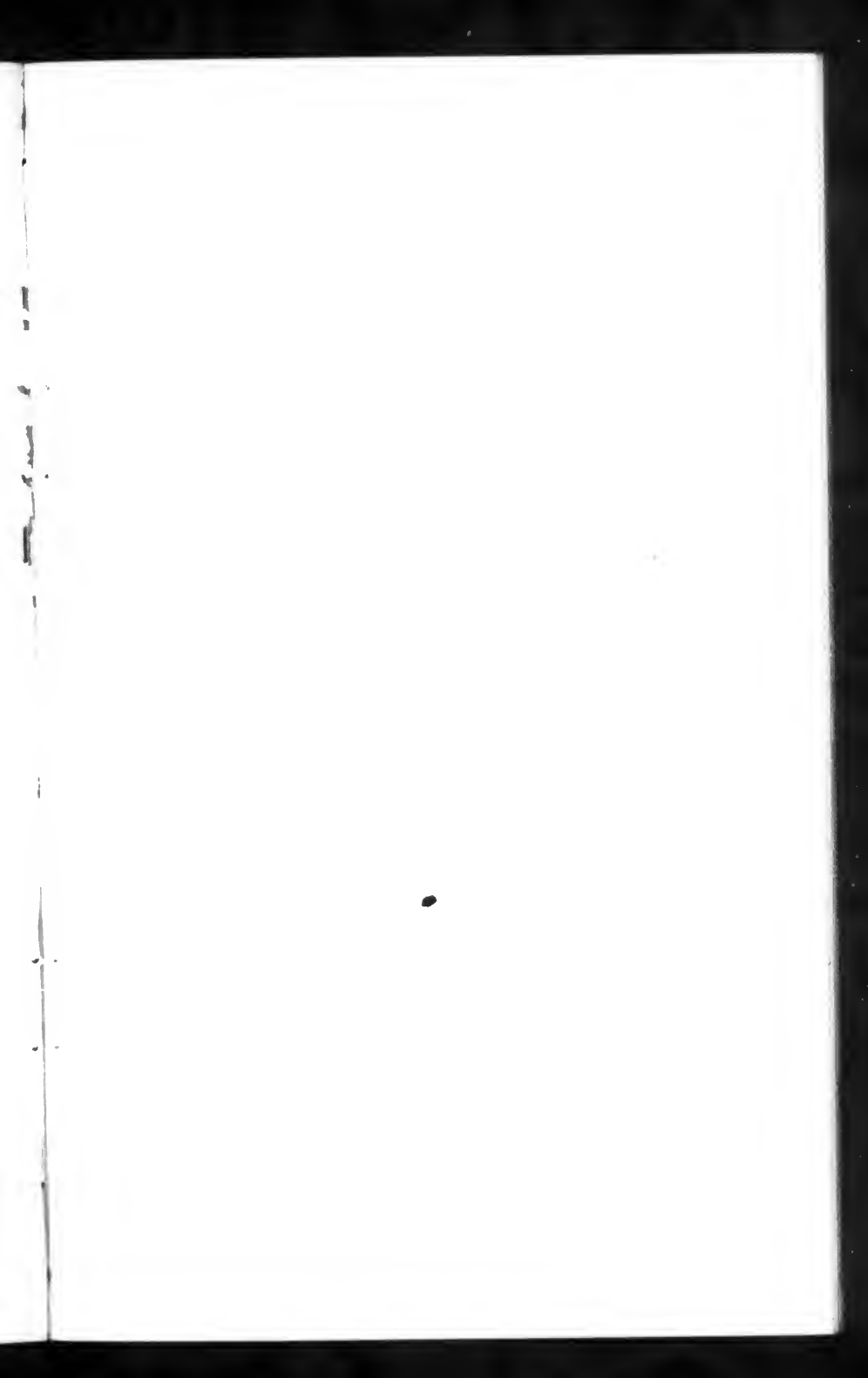
description of New York, the volume contains information as to means of communication, piers, places of amusement and general interest, while the vocabulary of phrases in Spanish and English is a valuable aid to the traveler. The prices charged for telegrams, messenger service, etc., are recorded, and monetary equivalents expressed in the currency of the United States and in that of the various countries of Latin America. The bulk of the volume is devoted, however, to a business directory in which may be found the names and addresses of persons and of commercial and manufacturing houses where Spanish is spoken and where there is more or less interest or connection with the Spanish or Spanish-American people. The information is carefully classified and indexed, so that it is readily available.

From the *Imprenta Nacional* of Bogota, Colombia, comes Volume V of the Library of National History (*Biblioteca de Historia Nacional*), embracing the papers written by Padre Fray PEDRO DE AGUADO on early Colombian settlement and history. Though now published for the first time, they were prepared in the sixteenth century, and have formed the source of authoritative information to students and historians.

A report presented by the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Agriculture, and Industries of Quito, dated March 2, 1907, has been forwarded to the Columbus Memorial Library by Mr. WILLIAMS C. FOX, United States Minister to Ecuador, as the initial publication of that body. The governmental and other reports contained therein indicate a forward movement in the economic conditions of the Republic.

"Dun's Review" for June, 1907, is issued as a special Cuban number and is devoted very largely to setting forth the conditions that exist at present in the Island Republic. Apart from a consideration of the commercial, industrial, and political status of the country, the climatic and artistic values of the "Pearl of the Antilles" are described.

"Costa Rica" as described in the personal journal of SEGARRA Y JULIA, 1907, forms an interesting and instructive volume of travels recently received by the Columbus Memorial Library. Written in a light, almost colloquial style, it narrates with charm and veracity the impressions and experiences of the writers in a trip from sea to sea in Central America.





SEÑOR DON EPIFANIO PORTELA, MINISTER OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED STATES.

BOLETÍN MENSUAL

DE LA

OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS,

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Son tantos los informes que se piden de todas partes del mundo relativos al trabajo, esfera de acción y atribuciones de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se ha creído conveniente incluir en esta edición del BOLETÍN un bosquejo general de dicha Oficina, el cual contiene datos suficientes para contestar á la mayoría de las preguntas que se han hecho. Aun los que están más ó menos al corriente no sólo de lo que la Oficina ha hecho, sino de lo que se propone hacer, pueden encontrar en este resumen algunos datos que demuestran la importancia, oportunidad y responsabilidad de la Oficina, que hasta ahora no han podido apreciar.

LA AMÉRICA LATINA EN LA CONFERENCIA DE LAGO MOHONK.

Acaso el rasgo más notable de la Conferencia del Lago de Mohonk, sobre el arbitraje internacional, celebrada del 22 al 24 de mayo, fué la importancia que en ella se le reconoció á la América Latina. En ninguno de las doce reuniones anuales anteriores se demostró semejante interés en lo que los países de Centro y Sudamérica han hecho en pro del arbitraje internacional. Los discursos del Embajador CREEL de México, y del Ministro CALDERÓN de Bolivia, fueron de los más notables, importantes y significativos que se pronunciaron en dicha Conferencia, y han llamado mucha la atención en todos los Estados Unidos, como lo prueban los comentarios que de ellos han hecho los principales periódicos. El Honorable FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, ex-Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Venezuela y antiguo Subsecretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, y el Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, pronunciaron también breves discursos y aludieron á los varios esfuerzos que la América Latina ha hecho en pro de la paz y del progreso. En esta edición del BOLETÍN se publican extractos de algunos de los discursos que fueron pronunciados en el Lago Mohonk.

EL NUEVO MIEMBRO DEL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO.

La Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas da la bienvenida como miembro de su Consejo Directivo al Señor Don JOSÉ AGUSTÍN ARANGO, nuevo Ministro de Panamá en los Estados Unidos, que fué recibido oficialmente por el Presidente ROOSEVELT el 13 de mayo. El Director de la Oficina conoce bien al Señor ARANGO, se honra con su amistad, y ha tenido ocasión de utilizar sus buenos consejos cuando el Director estuvo en Panamá como Ministro de los Estados Unidos. El nuevo Ministro es uno de los hombres más prominentes de la joven República, y ha de ser un digno representante en Washington de los ideales de aquélla. Al mismo tiempo el Director aprovecha esta oportunidad para expresar el sentimiento que le causa la partida del Señor Ministro OBALDÍA, que siempre se tomó un gran interés en los trabajos y en el bienestar de la Oficina. Sin embargo, el Ministro saliente va á Panamá á asumir mayores responsabilidades que las que tenía en Washington, puesto que ha de hacer las veces de Jefe Ejecutivo de Panamá durante la próxima ausencia del Presidente AMADOR.

EL EMBAJADOR CREEL ES OBJETO DE HONORES EXCEPCIONALES.

Es de esperarse que el honor excepcional que el pueblo del Estado de Chihuahua le ha conferido al Embajador de México, Señor ENRIQUE C. CREEL, eligiéndole Gobernador, no sea causa de que el Señor CREEL se retire permanentemente de Washington. No sólo ha demostrado el Embajador CREEL un interés práctico en la mayor esfera de acción y en los trabajos de esta Oficina, habiendo cooperado para que los esfuerzos de ésta redundaran en beneficio tanto de México como de los Estados Unidos, sino que en brevísimo tiempo ha hecho todo lo posible con el fin de que en todos los Estados Unidos se conozca y respete á México más que nunca. En verdad, es un raro honor para un hombre ocupar el doble cargo de Embajador de su país y Gobernador de uno de sus principales Estados, y no podría presentarse una prueba mejor de cómo le estiman en su propio país, no sólo el Gobierno en general, sino el pueblo de una región especial situada á gran distancia de la capital.

EXPOSICIÓN CENTENARIA DE BUENOS AIRES EN 1910.

En esta época en que las exposiciones que han llegado á constituir un rasgo importante en la vida nacional de los Estados Unidos, es muy interesante notar que el Gobierno de la República Argentina se prepara para celebrar en Buenos Aires en 1910, centenario de la independencia argentina, una gran Exposición de artes, industrias, agri-

cultura y ganado. El Congreso argentino ha aprobado una ley que prescribe el nombramiento de una Comisión Nacional, que ha de preparar planes para la Exposición y despertar un interés general en ella, no sólo en la Argentina, sino en el orbe entero. Como quiera que esta proyectada Exposición acaba de anunciarse, ni los Estados Unidos ni Europa han tenido tiempo para consagrarle mucha atención, pero es de esperarse que si las naciones extranjeras son invitadas para tomar parte en dicha Exposición, los Estados Unidos no dejarán de hacer una abundante asignación para ser debidamente representados. La República Argentina crece con tanta rapidez, y se está convirtiendo en un factor tan importante en el comercio del mundo, que los fabricantes y exportadores de los Estados Unidos no deben dejar de aprovechar esta oportunidad para dar á conocer sus productos. Si la generalidad de los americanos que de otra manera no se interesarían en la Exposición de Buenos Aires, recordaran que dicha ciudad tiene en la actualidad más de 1,000,000 de habitantes y que el valor del comercio extranjero de la República Argentina el año pasado ascendió á \$563,000,000, ó sea un promedio de cerca de \$100 por cada habitante, se convencerían de que no debe perderse la oportunidad que los Estados Unidos tienen para fortalecer su comercio con dicho país. No hay para qué decir que la Exposición ha de tener un gran éxito. La República Argentina es tan progresista y el pueblo de Buenos Aires es tan enérgico, que están seguros de que la Exposición ha de ser una de las mejores de su clase que hasta ahora se han llevado á cabo en el mundo. Puede agregarse, de pasada, que el año de 1910 sería el más propicio para que los americanos que desean ver la América del Sud hicieran una visita á esa parte del mundo. En relación con lo que queda expuesto ha de ser interesante leer los extractos que se publican del mensaje del Presidente de la República Argentina, leído el 8 de mayo de 1907 en la sesión inaugural de la Asamblea Cuadragésima sexta. El Presidente llama la atención hacia muchos puntos que merecen ser tomados en consideración por los que están interesados en los asuntos latinoamericanos, y sobre todo en el progreso que se advierte en la República Argentina.

REGLAMENTO DE MINAS DE BOLIVIA.

Á la Oficina se le hacen constantemente preguntas relativas á las leyes y reglamentos de minas en los diferentes países latinoamericanos. En esta edición el BOLETÍN publica íntegro un nuevo decreto que el Gobierno Boliviano expidió el 20 de abril de 1907, relativo á las concesiones, solicitudes, mediciones y amojonamiento de terrenos mineros, oposiciones, aprobaciones, títulos registrados y jurisdicción. La Oficina se propone publicar en su BOLETÍN, de tiempo en tiempo, todos

los nuevos reglamentos de minas ó los cambios que ocurran en las antiguas leyes y que se dicten en las diferentes Repúblicas americanas, á fin de que el creciente número de interesados en la industria minera en el mundo entero esté al corriente de las condiciones mineras de cada país.

PROGRESO Y PROSPERIDAD DEL BRASIL.

El mensaje del Presidente ALFONSO PENNA, del Brasil, que fué leído en la sesión inaugural del Congreso Nacional el día 3 de mayo, debieran leerlo detenidamente todas las personas que observan y siguen el movimiento de avance del más grande de los países latino-americanos. Los extractos que de dicho mensaje se han tomado y que aparecen en este BOLETÍN muestran que aquel país avanza rápidamente en todos los órdenes de su desarrollo, y que tiene un gran porvenir. El Presidente del Brasil declara que un examen minucioso de los asuntos públicos confirma la creencia que expresó en un mensaje anterior, de que el país avanza constantemente hacia un porvenir brillante, y que de idéntica manera piensan extranjeros prominentes que han visitado el país, han estudiado sus recursos naturales y han venido observando su constante progreso durante muchos años. El Presidente PENNA dice que el maravilloso progreso que se ha alcanzado en Río de Janeiro ha sido el asombro de todos los que le han visitado. La estadística comercial demuestra que la producción se ha aumentado, en tanto que la estadística relativa al Tesoro Nacional, que es el reflejo de las condiciones económicas, resulta muy satisfactoria. El Presidente hace especial mención de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, de la visita del Secretario Root á Sudamérica, y de la participación del Brasil en la Conferencia de La Haya, y alude también á la celebración de un tratado sobre límites con Colombia, así como al progreso que se está logrando en el arreglo de cuestiones con el Ecuador, el Perú, Uruguay y Bolivia. Encarece mucho la conveniencia de desarrollar los ferrocarriles del país, y recomienda que el Gobierno preste su ayuda y cooperación para llevar á cabo las diferentes empresas. Los datos estadísticos relativos al comercio extranjero del Brazil en 1906, muestran que el valor de las exportaciones ascendió aproximadamente á \$265,000,000 y el de las importaciones ascendió á \$165,000,000, ó un comercio extranjero que representa un valor total de \$430,000,000, ó sea un aumento de \$60,000,000 á \$70,000,000, respecto de 1905.

ESTADO FINANCIERO DE CHILE.

En este número del BOLETÍN se publican extractos tomados de una publicación financiera de Santiago, que contiene una relación que fué enviada por la Oficina de Estadística al Departamento Interior de

Chile, la cual muestra que el estado financiero de dicha progresiva República es muy satisfactorio. Por ejemplo, el valor total de la propiedad imponible en 1904 ascendió á \$1,512,591,127, ó sea un aumento de \$112,507,766, respecto del valor que dicha propiedad tenía en 1897. Según los últimos informes, los depósitos en los bancos ascendieron á \$314,240,433, ó sea un aumento de \$193,078,147, ó un aumento de 159 por ciento respecto de los depósitos del 31 de diciembre de 1901. En 1905 las sociedades por acciones que se incorporaron representaban un capital de \$25,000,000, ó sea un aumento de un 800 por ciento, respecto de 1901. En 1905 el número de establecimientos industriales ascendía á 10,152, contra 7,315 en 1901, al paso que en 1905 había 35,018 establecimientos comerciales, contra 32,944 en 1901.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE REYES DE COLOMBIA.

Colombia avanza tan rápidamente para figurar en primera fila en el concierto de las naciones, que no cabe duda de que los extractos que se reproducen en este número del BOLETÍN, tomados del mensaje del Presidente REYES, leído el 1° de abril ante la Asamblea Nacional de dicha República, han de leerse con mucho interés. La proximidad de Colombia á los Estados Unidos, su situación, tanto respecto del Atlántico como del Pacífico, la admirable variedad de sus recursos naturales, y la fortuna de tener un Ejecutivo que reúne cualidades de estadista tan notables como el Presidente REYES, están demostrando al mundo entero que Colombia constituye un campo muy propicio para llevar á cabo un gran progreso material.

OTROS RASGOS DE ESPECIAL INTERÉS.

En el exordio del BOLETÍN no hay espacio para hacer comentarios sobre todos los asuntos que ofrecen especial interés de cada uno de los países, pero se llama la atención al mensaje del Presidente de Costa Rica, leído en el Congreso Costarricense el 1° de mayo de 1907, hacía el informe sobre minas de la Provincia de Santiago de Cuba, las prescripciones relativas á la colonización ó irrigación de la República Dominicana, la recepción oficial del Ministro de los Estados Unidos, Señor FOX, por el Presidente ALFARO, del Ecuador, el comercio de Guatemala con Nueva York en 1906, las condiciones comerciales mineras y generales de México, la organización de la Oficina de Estadística de Panamá, los medios mejorados de comunicación en los puertos del Paraguay, las nuevas leyes agrarias y de irrigación del Perú, el comercio general de los Estados Unidos con la América Latina, el comercio extranjero de Venezuela y la proporción del valor del comercio entre la América Latina y los Estados Unidos.

DESCRIPCIÓN DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL AMERICANA.

La Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas está establecida en Washington, D. C., y se sostiene por las cuotas que contribuyen todas las Repúblicas del hemisferio occidental, no sólo con el fin de fomentar el comercio y el tráfico, sino de desarrollar entre aquéllas una mejor inteligencia, y relaciones y trato más íntimos, desde el punto de vista material, docente, intelectual y social.

Esta organización es única en su especie. No es una dependencia de ningún Departamento del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos— como suponen algunos—sino una oficina independiente tanto de los Gobiernos de la América Central y del Sud como del de los Estados Unidos. La rige un Consejo Directivo compuesto de todos los representantes diplomáticos en Washington de las Repúblicas Americanas, presidido por el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos. Este Consejo Directivo, á su vez, elige el Director, que es el funcionario administrativo principal, y responsable al Consejo Directivo de la dirección de la Oficina. El Director es un funcionario de veintiuna Repúblicas, pero, como quiera que la Oficina radica en Washington, dicho Director es postulado, como cuestión de cortesía y precedente, por el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, y entonces es elegido por el voto de los Embajadores y Ministros de los demás países.

Los fondos para el sostenimiento de la Oficina se obtienen por medio de asignaciones de las Repúblicas Americanas, hechas en proporción con el número de sus habitantes, de manera que la nación que tenga el área más pequeña se interesa tanto en el apoyo de la Oficina como los países mayores, como los Estados Unidos, por ejemplo. Con arreglo á la población, las veintiuna Repúblicas representadas por el Consejo Directivo, siguen el orden siguiente: Los Estados Unidos, el Brasil, México, la Argentina, Chile, el Perú, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Cuba, Haití, Guatemala, Ecuador, Salvador, Uruguay, Paraguay, República Dominicana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica y Panamá.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE LA OFICINA EN 1890.

La Oficina se estableció en 1890 por la acción de la Primera Conferencia Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas, que se celebró en Washington, en 1889-90, y fué presidida por el Señor JAMES G. BLAINE. El establecimiento de dicha Oficina obedeció al deseo manifestado por los delegados, de disipar la ignorancia que á su juicio existía en los Estados Unidos acerca de sus Repúblicas hermanas, y á su vez entre estas últimas acerca de los Estados Unidos.

Primeramente se le denominó "Oficina de Información," y sus fundadores se proponían poner al corriente á los fabricantes, exportadores, importadores, comerciantes, y á todas las clases del pueblo, que desearan obtener datos fidedignos para el fomento del comercio, de informes que diesen por resultado una nueva era en las relaciones materiales de las Repúblicas Americanas.

El primer Director de la Oficina fué el distinguido periodista, Señor WILLIAM E. CURTIS. En poco tiempo el Señor CURTIS hizo que la Oficina adquiriese una importancia tal, que desde luego fué reconocida en todos los países como una institución útil y práctica. Hasta la Segunda Conferencia Pan-Americana, celebrada en México en 1901, sucedieron al Señor CURTIS en dicho cargo los Señores CLINTON FURBISH, JOSEPH P. SMITH, FREDERIC EMORY y W. W. ROCKHILL, que en la actualidad es Ministro de los Estados Unidos en China. El plan y esfera de acción de la Oficina fueron ensanchados en la Conferencia Mexicana, á fin de que se convirtiese en una agencia para poner en práctica las resoluciones de esta reunión internacional.

En 1905, cuando el Señor ROCKHILL fué á China, le sucedió el Señor WILLIAM C. FOX, que en la actualidad es Ministro de los Estados Unidos en el Ecuador. Bajo las varias administraciones de estos diferentes directores, la influencia y utilidad de la Oficina creció gradualmente, pero le faltaba el interés directo y sincero apoyo de todos los Gobiernos interesados en ella, á fin de que ésta resultase una institución tan poderosa y útil como se deseaba, en beneficio de todas las naciones que la apoyan. Se necesitaba una nueva fuerza para darle mayor influencia, popularidad y valor práctico.

LA VISITA DEL SECRETARIO ROOT Á SUDAMÉRICA.

Cuando el Señor ELIHU ROOT se hizo cargo de la cartera de Estado, comprendió inmediatamente que era necesario hacer algo sobre una base nueva y más amplia, para fomentar relaciones diplomáticas, comerciales y sociales más íntimas entre los Estados Unidos y sus Repúblicas hermanas. Por consiguiente, la administración del Presidente ROOSEVELT resolvió que el Señor ROOT hiciese un viaje á Sudamérica, y que en la Tercera Conferencia Pan-Americana, celebrada en Río de Janeiro en el verano de 1906, se tomasen las medidas conducentes para reorganizar la Oficina Internacional y ensanchar su esfera de acción y utilidad. En las discusiones que se efectuaron en Washington en las sesiones del Consejo Directivo antes de la Conferencia de Río de Janeiro, los representantes latinoamericanos á su vez demostraron que se hacían cordialmente partícipes del interés que el Secretario de Estado se tomaba por la América latina y en los planes de la Oficina, lo cual, cuando la Conferencia se celebró, dió por resultado que aprobase unánimemente resoluciones que harán que la Oficina se convierta en una institución poderosa y práctica para

fomentar el comercio internacional americano, para facilitar medios de contacto mutuo en las cuestiones políticas, de educación é intelectuales, y para desarrollar una amistad más general y un trato más íntimo.

RESOLUCIONES ESPECIALES RELATIVAS Á LA OFICINA.

Las siguientes resoluciones aprobadas en la Tercera Conferencia dan una idea del alcance de sus trabajos:

“La Tercera Conferencia Internacional Americana, resuelve:

“ARTÍCULO 1º. Continuar la Unión Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, creada por la Primera Conferencia y confirmada por la Segunda.

“Los fines de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, que representará dicha Unión, son los siguientes:

“1º. Compilar y distribuir datos comerciales y proporcionar informes al respecto.

“2º. Compilar y clasificar todo lo referente á los Tratados y Convenciones entre las Repúblicas Americanas y entre éstas y otros Estados no Americanos.

“3º. Informar sobre asuntos de educación.

“4º. Informar sobre las cuestiones designadas por acuerdos de las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas.

“5º. Contribuir á obtener la ratificación de las resoluciones y convenciones adoptadas por las diferentes Conferencias.

“6º. Dar cumplimiento á todas las resoluciones que le hayan impuesto ó le impongan las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas.

“7º. Funcionar como Comisión Permanente de las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas, proponiendo proyectos que pudieran ser incluídos entre los temas de la próxima Conferencia; estos proyectos deberán ponerse en conocimiento de los diferentes Gobiernos que forman la Unión seis meses, por lo menos, antes de la fecha en que deba reunirse la próxima Conferencia.

“8º. Presentar con la misma anticipación á los diferentes Gobiernos una memoria acerca de los labores de la Oficina en el período comprendido desde la última Conferencia, y también informes especiales sobre cada uno de los asuntos cuyo estudio se le hubiere encomendado.”

RESOLUCIONES ADICIONALES QUE COMPRENDEN NUEVOS TRABAJOS.

Otras resoluciones, por virtud de las cuales la Oficina asume nuevas responsabilidades y gastos adicionales, prescriben que se den los pasos debidos para alojar la institución “de tal manera que pueda desempeñar debidamente las importantes funciones que esta Conferencia le ha designado;” que se nombre una comisión en cada

República para ayudar á la Oficina á llevar á cabo su trabajo; que como una dependencia de ella se establezca una sección especial de estadística comercial; que la Oficina debe idear un proyecto para proporcionar mejores medios de comunicación por vapores entre los puertos principales de las Repúblicas Americanas, con el fin de facilitar el tráfico, los viajes, el comercio y la comunicación general; que debe investigar la cuestión del Ferrocarril Intercontinental y consultar los diferentes Gobiernos, á fin de determinar, tan luego como sea posible, las concesiones de terreno, subvenciones, garantías de intereses, exenciones de derechos sobre el material de construcción y rodante, y cualesquiera otras concesiones que juzguen conveniente hacer en relación con dicho ferrocarril; que debe estudiar los sistemas monetarios de los Gobiernos americanos con el fin de presentar á la próxima Conferencia un informe sobre los sistemas vigentes en cada uno de los Gobiernos, su historia, fluctuaciones y tipos de cambio habidos en los veinte últimos años, incluyendo la preparación de tablas que muestren la influencia que dichas fluctuaciones han ejercido en el comercio y en el desarrollo industrial; que debe estudiar las leyes que rigen las concesiones públicas en las varias Repúblicas de América, con el objeto de obtener informes que puedan serle útil; y finalmente, que debe preparar un programa para la Cuarta Conferencia Internacional que se ha de celebrar dentro de los próximos cinco años.

LA BIBLIOTECA DE COLÓN.

Uno de los rasgos importantes de la Oficina Internacional, que aún no ha sido apreciado cumplidamente, es la Biblioteca de Colón, que en la actualidad contiene como 13,000 volúmenes, que comprenden una gran variedad de información comercial, histórica y general acerca de las diferentes Repúblicas americanas. Se intenta ensanchar esta biblioteca de manera que llegue á ser la colección más completa de obras sobre América en el mundo. La resolución de la Segunda Conferencia Panamericana, relativa á este asunto, que fué aprobada por la Tercera, recomienda que cada Gobierno envíe á esta biblioteca copias de todas sus publicaciones oficiales. Bastaría esta colección para que fuese de inestimable valor como biblioteca de consulta. En la actualidad la utilizan los estadistas, escritores, estudiantes, viajeros, hombres de negocios, y otras personas que desean obtener informes fidedignos acerca de cualquier país americano.

LA DÁDIVA DE CARNEGIE.

El día 1° de enero de 1907 el Honorable ELIMU ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos y Presidente *ex-officio* del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina, anunció una generosa dádiva hecha por el

Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE, de \$750,000, que se han de emplear en la construcción de un nuevo edificio ó local para la Oficina Internacional.

Los diferentes Gobiernos que sostienen la Oficina, incluso los Estados Unidos, ya habían asignado como \$250,000 para la compra de un sitio hermoso en la esquina de las calles Diecisiete y B, en la ciudad de Wáshington. Este terreno comprende cinco acres que dan al Parque del Ejecutivo por el este, y al Parque del Potomac por el sud. En la actualidad se verifica el concurso para escoger un arquitecto, y es probable que el terreno para este "Templo de Paz Americano," como lo denomina el Señor CARNEGIE, sea roturado á principios del otoño de 1907.

NOMBRAMIENTO DEL DIRECTOR BARRETT.

En diciembre de 1906, el Señor JOHN BARRETT, que á la sazón era Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Colombia, como lo había sido antes de aquella fecha en Siam, Argentina y Panamá, respectivamente, fué unánimemente elegido Director de la expresada Oficina por el Consejo Directivo, para sucederle al Señor WILLIAMS C. FOX, que había sido nombrado Ministro de los Estados Unidos en el Ecuador. Al Señor BARRETT se le confió la ejecución del nuevo programa de la Conferencia de Río de Janeiro para reorganizar y ensanchar la Oficina. El Señor BARRETT también fué delegado de los Estados Unidos á la Segunda Conferencia Panamericana en México en 1901, en la cual fué miembro de la subcomisión encargada de las resoluciones relativas á la Oficina que fueron aprobadas en dicha Conferencia.

EL TRABAJO PRÁCTICO QUE SE ESTÁ HACIENDO EN LA ACTUALIDAD.

. Los siguientes hechos pueden citarse como una prueba del trabajo práctico de la Oficina que se está haciendo bajo la actual administración:

1°. Durante los cinco primeros meses de 1907, la Oficina recibió cerca de seis mil cartas de todas partes del mundo, solicitando informes especiales ó importantes sobre varios asuntos pertenecientes á la América latina. En el mismo período de tiempo se enviaron cerca de seis mil cartas suministrando datos directos y especiales, cuya colección exigía una detenida preparación.

2°. Además de las precitadas cartas, se recibieron más de dos mil cartas pidiendo el envío de impresos, y se distribuyeron más de sesenta mil BOLETINES, manuales, folletos y circulares.

3°. Cada mes la Oficina envía diez mil BOLETINES que constan por lo menos de trescientas páginas cada uno, y que contienen los últimos informes descriptivos y estadísticos acerca del comercio y tráfico, y del desarrollo industrial de las veintiuna Repúblicas americanas.

4°. Ya se han publicado ó están en vías de preparación varios manuales, cada uno de los cuales consta de un promedio de 200 á 400 páginas, que tratan de los principales países americanos, y los manuales se distribuyen gratis ó á un precio que cubre nada más que el costo de impresión y del papel.

5°. Se publican folletos y circulares que contienen informes relativos á las leyes de minas, inmigración, aranceles y leyes agrarias, informes de los funcionarios consulares, artículos y discursos de diplomáticos ó de especialistas sobre los varios países y sus rasgos característicos, los cuales se distribuyen dondequiera que puedan ser más útiles.

6°. Á los fabricantes, exportadores y comerciantes que desean explotar los mercados de otros países, se les están proporcionando informes acerca de las condiciones que prevalecen en el campo en que se proponen entrar, así como de la mejor manera de llegar á conocerlo, en tanto que á las personas que desean viajar con fines comerciales ó por recreo se les indican los mejores itinerarios que deben seguir.

7°. En cuanto al campo intelectual y docente, se están estudiando los sistemas de las universidades y colegios de la América del Norte y del Sud, y se están haciendo esfuerzos para que haya un canje de hombres eruditos y publicistas.

8°. En las diferentes escuelas de la América del Norte se está recomendando con urgencia el estudio del español y el portugués, y lo propio se hace en las escuelas ó institutos análogos de la América del Sud, al paso que tanto á las bibliotecas de los colegios como á las públicas se les están proporcionando listas de libros que dan informes relativos al desarrollo histórico, político, intelectual y material de cada país.

Ya se han tomado medidas prácticas para llevar á cabo por completo el programa trazado en la Conferencia de Río de Janeiro, según se ha descrito en este bosquejo con el título de "Resoluciones Especiales Relativas á la Oficina," y "Resoluciones Adicionales que Comprenden nuevos Trabajos." Por más que es un tanto difícil poner en práctica este amplio programa con la rapidez que sería de desear, á causa del hecho de que aún no se han aumentado ni la renta ni el personal de la Oficina, sin embargo, se ha hecho ya lo suficiente para dar una idea del gran beneficio que han de recibir todas las Repúblicas americanas de la mayor esfera de acción de la Oficina, que ha de llevar á cabo su amplio programa á medida que las diferentes Repúblicas aumenten sus asignaciones ó cuotas, que el personal se refuerce mediante la adición de otros empleados peritos, y así que el nuevo edificio se termine y esté listo para ocuparse.

LA CONFERENCIA DEL LAGO MOHONK SOBRE ARBITRAJE INTERNACIONAL.

La Conferencia del Lago Mohonk sobre arbitraje internacional celebró su decimatercera reunión anual del 22 al 24 de mayo de 1907.

Los Señores ENRIQUE CREEL, Embajador Mexicano en los Estados Unidos; IGNACIO CALDERÓN, Ministro de Bolivia en los Estados Unidos; JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, y FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, ex-Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Venezuela y ex-Subsecretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, pronunciaron discursos en la reunión del 24 del precitado mes.

Con el título de "La América Latina y el Mundo," el periódico "La Tribuna" de Nueva York, hace los siguientes comentarios acerca de los distinguidos oradores que se acaban de mencionar y del efecto producido por los fallos arbitrales en las naciones americanas:

"Las deliberaciones que se efectuaron ayer en la Conferencia del Lago Mohonk sobre el arbitraje internacional sugirieron, de una manera agradable, el papel que en el mundo hacían recientemente esos países, que por falta de un vocablo enteramente correcto y adecuado, se denominan comúnmente, pero no con absoluta propiedad, la 'América Latina.' Esto no era así algunos años ha. El vocablo 'mexicanizado' era sumamente repugnante y empleábase para describir uno de los peores estados á que el Gobierno de un país podía descender, y se hablaba de la mayor parte de las Repúblicas de Centro y Sudamérica con lástima ó con desdén. Estos países han experimentado un notable cambio en la última generación, y en la actualidad tienen derecho á figurar en primera fila en los consejos de las naciones. El Señor CREEL, Embajador Mexicano, tenía un perfecto derecho á hablar, como lo hizo, del hecho histórico de que México se ha abstenido de emprender guerras agresivas, de haber estado siempre dispuesto á aceptar el arbitraje, y á dar fe de su obra activa en pro del éxito del Congreso de La Haya. Las observaciones que el Embajador hizo acerca de las probabilidades de éxito y las limitaciones del arbitraje internacional en la época actual, estaban saturadas de moderación y buen juicio, y pueden compararse favorablemente con las manifestaciones hechas por cualesquiera otros estadistas caracterizados con anterioridad al Congreso de La Haya y al hacerse los preparativos para éste. El Señor CALDERÓN, Ministro de Bolivia, tampoco exageró el caso cuando aludió á la generalización del arbitraje entre las Repúblicas Sudamericanas. Con frecuencia hemos tenido ocasión de referirnos á ese mismo hecho. Si bien es verdad que hubo un tiempo en que dicho continente fué el teatro de guerras y revoluciones, no es menos cierto que en estos últimos tiempos ha sido el lugar principal de arbitrajes internacionales cuyos

fallos arbitrales casi en todos los casos han sido lealmente aceptados sin protestas.

“Estas circunstancias y hechos han de hacer que la concurrencia de casi todos los países latinoamericanos á La Haya revista especial interés y no poca autoridad. La mayor parte de ellos merecen el respeto del mundo. Más de una vez han dado ejemplos que bien pudieran imitar con provecho otras naciones más antiguas y que tienen mayores pretensiones. Han adoptado una norma de conducta en dicho Congreso que se basa en la razón y la justicia, y debemos esperar con confianza que la voz de esos países, por más que sea extranjera en un conclave europeo, será bien recibida y oída con el respeto y la cortesía que las potencias que se respetan á sí mismas otorgan á sus iguales.”

El Embajador Señor CREEL dijo, entre otras cosas, lo siguiente:

“SEÑOR PRESIDENTE, SEÑORAS Y SEÑORES: No podéis extrañar, en verdad, la presencia de un mexicano en esta tribuna, ungida por la palabra de tantos oradores insignes: México ha manifestado durante toda su existencia política su buena voluntad para sujetar sus disputas internacionales á amistosa mediación, en sus guerras no ha asumido nunca un papel de agresor y fué el primer país que, lo recordáis bien, en unión de los Estados Unidos se propuso, y lo consiguió, sacar al tribunal de La Haya del letargo en que yacía, hacerlo práctico y concederle fe y crédito, encomendándole la resolución de un asunto de vital importancia.

“No cabe duda que el mundo camina de prisa en nuestra época, así en la solución de los problemas de orden material, como en la de los políticos, intelectuales, morales y sociales.

* * * * *

“Mucho tiempo hace que así en medicina, como en penalidad y en diplomacia hay una escuela profiláctica que trata de evitar y prevenir más bien que de reprimir y de castigar. Antiguamente aparecían los diplomáticos al fin de una lucha cruenta y dispendiosa, para resolver qué provincias se habían de adjudicar al vencedor y qué indemnización había de pagar el vencido; ahora interviene la diplomacia que, según la expresión de Mr. ROOSEVELT, es ‘escuela de bien y de verdad’, para impedir las guerras, suavizarlas si acaso se efectúan y hacerlas concluir en plazo breve, impidiendo los abusos del ganancioso, activo y soberbio.

“Los más eminentes pensadores, los estadistas más distinguidos y los hombres mejores con que se enorgullece ahora nuestra especie están de acuerdo para anatematizar la guerra como destructora de actividades, segadora de vidas, negadora de la industria y contraria á la existencia humana, correcta y sensata. El Conde MOURAVIEFF, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Rusia, dijo no hace mucho, al comunicar las ideas de su soberano, que el mantenimiento de la paz

general y una posible reducción de los armamentos, constituían el ideal á que debían tender todos los esfuerzos de los gobiernos. ‘Como las cargas fiscales, continúa el notable hombre de Estado, siguen una marcha ascendente, atacan á la prosperidad pública en su fuente misma; las fuerzas intelectuales y físicas de los pueblos, el trabajo y el capital, se hallan en su mayor parte distraídos de su natural aplicación y se consumen improductivamente. Se destinan centenares de millones de pesos á adquirir espantosas máquinas de destrucción que se piensa son la última palabra de la ciencia, y esas mismas máquinas pierden todo su valor al aparecer un nuevo descubrimiento que las nulifica. La cultura nacional, los progresos económicos, la producción de las riquezas están paralizados ó falseados en su desarrollo.

“Á medida que aumentan los armamentos de las potencias, responden menos á los fines que los gobiernos se habían propuesto con ellos.

“Poner un hasta aquí á los armamentos incesantes y buscar los medios que aminoren las preocupaciones del mundo entero, constituye el deber supremo para todos los Estados.’

“Conviene detenernos á examinar hasta qué punto ha prosperado la hermosa iniciativa de S. M. Alejandro II, y hasta qué punto ha sido fructífera la Conferencia de La Haya.

“Á primera vista pudiera dudarse de los resultados, ya que, por una parte, los ejércitos y las armadas de las potencias se han aumentado considerablemente, y por la otra, á raíz de dicha Conferencia surgió la guerra ruso-japonesa.

“En cuanto al primer punto, es necesario convenir en que la creación de los medios de defensa son el efecto de una causa—el peligro de guerra—que subsiste, y mientras esa causa no desaparezca, tendrán que continuar produciéndose los resultados. Por lo mismo, los beneficios del desarme no podrán venir hasta que no haya echado raíces más hondas el principio del arbitraje internacional, y hasta que los gobiernos no hayan eriado confianza en los resultados de esa forma pacífica de concluir las controversias.

“Por cuanto á la guerra ruso-japonesa, fué el efecto de causas pre-existentes y de un orden de cosas que, fatalmente, tenía que producir esa conflagración.

“Explicados los hechos, y volviendo al asunto principal, debemos estar satisfechos con la saludable influencia del Tribunal de La Haya, pues desde la época en que Gladstone patrocinaba la causa del arbitraje en el asunto del Alabama, hasta nuestros días, mucho se ha avanzado en la opinión pública y en el criterio de los hombres de Estado, como lo prueban los trabajos de propaganda emprendidos por diferentes Congresos de Paz; las labores de la Liga Interparlamentaria; los cuatro casos que ocho naciones serias y cultas han sometido al Tribunal de La Haya y los cuarenta y cuatro tratados que se han

celebrado entre naciones, sujetando á arbitraje ciertas diferencias. Así lo indican las reuniones del Congreso Pan-Americano y lo justifica la convocatoria para la segunda Conferencia de la Haya.

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“Por cuanto á México, repito que siempre ha estado conforme con el principio del arbitraje internacional. En mi país no se cree que haya llegado el momento de que ese medio de zanjar diferencias sea absoluto, y por lo mismo se opina que deben establecerse restricciones tales como las referentes á la integridad del territorio y al honor nacional. Por de contado que nuestra tendencia es á especificar claramente los casos concernientes al honor nacional, y evitar frases ambiguas, generales y metafóricas, como la de *asuntos de vital importancia, negocios en que se versen cuestiones de índole especial* y otras por el estilo, pues bien sabido es que tales expresiones suelen ser en la mayor parte de los casos el refugio ordinario de la mala fe y del deseo de trabar pendencia.

“Más tarde, cuando el número de casos juzgados, los métodos establecidos y los resultados alcanzados suministren perfecto conocimiento del nuevo sistema, quizás parezca prudente continuar avanzando hasta conseguir realización completa del noble y elevadísimo ideal de justicia que perseguimos.

“También en mi país (creo interpretar la opinión allá reinante) se desearía predominara la doctrina del eminente Secretario de Estado, Mr. ELMHU ROOR, á saber: que los ejércitos y las flotas de los países no sirvan como exactores para reclamar á mano armada el pago de las deudas contraídas por las naciones reclamantes, dejándose tal extremo para los casos de denegación de justicia ó de notaria y probada mala fe. Más de cincuenta años lucharon los estadistas mexicanos contra este procedimiento, fecundo en arbitrariedades, y frescas se hallan aún las protestas que contra la intervención napoleónica y las reclamaciones francesas del tiempo de Luis Felipe suscribieron los diferentes Ministros de Relaciones de mi país.

“En efecto, compeler por la fuerza al pago de una deuda, cuando el particular ó el Estado que facilitaron la cantidad cuya solución se pretende, tuvieron conocimiento de la situación económica y política del prestatario y de las facilidades que tuviera para hacer el pago, es subvertir completamente las nociones acerca de la materia y las leyes generales del crédito. Nada menos uno de los factores que para estos casos se tiene presente, es la posibilidad de que el pago no se efectúe oportunamente por insolvencia del deudor, circunstancia que hace que el rédito sea más ó menos crecido y mayores ó menores las seguridades exigidas.

“Sobre punto tan importante, yo me adhiero de buena voluntad al criterio de justicia y de derecho que precisa Calvo en su obra sobre Derecho Internacional y estoy conforme también con la llamada

doctrina Drago, expresada en la nota que, como Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de la República Argentina, suscribió el estadista de este apellido el 29 de diciembre de 1902.

“Todo procedimiento que acerque á los países á la solución pacífica de sus dificultades internacionales es de la mayor y más benéfica trascendencia, tanto para la conservación de la paz, cuanto para darle mayor consistencia y más crédito al arbitraje internacional: y por lo mismo es de grandísima importancia que en todos los tratados que celebren las naciones amigas provean la posibilidad de algún desacuerdo y la obligación de someter cada caso al tribunal de La Haya, cuando estén agotados los esfuerzos de la diplomacia. Á este respecto son muy consoladores el criterio y la influencia de los estadistas modernos, pues en menos de cuatro años se han firmado cuarenta y cuatro tratados de arbitramento, muchos de ellos consignando sus diferencias al Tribunal de La Haya. Es de desearse que esta práctica continúe cada vez con más vigor y con aplicaciones más generales.

“Esta corriente de la opinión pública, este elevado amor á la verdad que está extendiéndose día á día por uno y otro hemisferio, vienen en apoyo de las doctrinas del señor Presidente de esta gran República y de su Secretario de Estado, pidiendo que una organización de naciones civilizadas, decididas á arreglar pacíficamente sus disputas, se agrupe para solicitar justicia ante un tribunal permanente, compuesto de hombres que, por su independencia, su honorabilidad, sus conocimientos y su desprendimiento de los inetreres materiales, ofrezcan las suficientes garantías de acierto, de imparcialidad y de buena fe.

“De esta manera el mundo llegará á una organización superior, en que irá disminuyendo día por día la necesidad de ejércitos y escuadras, minorando en proporción las cargas públicas; se restablecerá la confianza de los gobiernos y de las naciones, volviendo á la industria los brazos que ahora tiene sustraídos y las energías que ahora se hallan paralizadas, y coordinando el concierto de paz y de concordia que más que nada ha de influir en el adelanto y en la felicidad de la familia humana.

“La prueba mejor de que se impone con fuerza incontrastable el pensamiento de Mr. Root, es que día por día brotan cuestiones nuevas que es preciso resolver.

“¿Cuáles son las obligaciones y cuáles son los derechos de los neutrales, escrupulosamente previstos y sin dar lugar á dudas ni á disputas? ¿Qué reglas deben normar la transmisión de marconigramas en tiempo de paz y en tiempo de guerra, entre particulares, entre un gobierno beligerante y sus ciudadanos y entre los habitantes de un país neutral? ¿Se puede disminuir el dominio del aire interceptando las ondas hertzianas, los mensajes que se envían mediante la tele-

grafía sin hilos, y con qué requisitos se debe hacer tal cosa? Asimismo quedan para fijar la atención de la nueva conferencia de paz puntos tan delicados como el de la declaración de guerra, pues al paso que unos opinan que esta formalidad es un residuo de las costumbres caballerescas medioevales, la juzgan otros requisito indispensable y cuya ausencia arguye deslealtad y felonía.

“Otro tanto acontece con el uso de minas submarinas colocadas en alta mar, que, en mi opinión, debe condenarse unánimemente por los perjuicios que acarrea á la navegación y al libre comercio; y con las que pueden desprenderse de su lugar y ser una amenaza constante contra las marinas mercantes del mundo.

“Importaría también dejar bien establecido si los neutrales pueden colocar minas en sus aguas para garantizar su estado especial, cuando carecen de marina que proteja sus costas.

“La conferencia de La Haya sentó reglas muy importantes acerca de la protección que en tiempo de guerra se deba guardar á la propiedad de los neutrales en alta mar, de la necesidad de defender el comercio honrado y de procurar por todos los medios posibles que los azares y peligros de la lucha armada no toquen á los que cumplan una misión de paz y armonía cambiando los productos de los diferentes países del mundo.

“Mucho es esto, señoras y caballeros; pero ciertamente que no es todo. Falta aún dejar garantizada plenamente la propiedad privada en la guerra terrestre, estipulando de una manera especial la inviolabilidad de las vías férreas, que son á manera del sistema venoso del cuerpo social y cuya falta puede acarrear el completo decaimiento del sistema.

“No se me oculta que la empresa no es obvia, ya que los ferrocarriles pueden conducir hombres y elementos que prolonguen y aumenten la guerra disminuyendo las probabilidades de paz, ó ser propiedad de uno de los gobiernos contendientes; pero quizás se pudiera encontrar manera de arreglarlo todo de forma que, ejerciéndose la necesaria vigilancia no se interrumpiera el comercio y se protejera suficientemente el material fijo y el rodante. La estipulación contenida en el artículo 54 del reglamento de La Haya acerca de guerra terrestre, en verdad que contrasta por su laconismo y por su deficiencia con las escrupulosas y sabias disposiciones que rigen acerca de la guerra marítima; pero no dudo que la sabiduría de la nueva conferencia se fije en punto tan principal.

“Acerea del tratamiento de los prisioneros de guerra existen como antecedentes el Código aprobado por el Presidente LINCOLN en 1863; la convención de Ginebra de 1864; la de Bruselas de 1874; los acuerdos de la Primera Conferencia de La Haya; las instrucciones del Conde KATSURA, Ministro Japonés del Interior, con motivo de la guerra Ruso-Japonesa, y varias otras disposiciones para casos especiales y con-

cretos; pero hace falta todavía la expedición por la Conferencia de La Haya de un código internacional que sea completo en todas sus aplicaciones y que se inspire en los sentimientos humanitarios que se han elevado á mayor altura con los avances de la civilización que tiende á minorar los sufrimientos de las víctimas y á conservar la vida de los individuos.

“Aunque parezca raro decirlo, otro de los factores que ha de contribuir á la terminación de las guerras será la serie de inventos de carácter científico, capaces de destruir los más grandes ejércitos y las armadas más poderosas, por la sola intervención de unos cuantos ingenieros y por la aplicación de fórmulas químicas y de aparatos de poco valor.

“Pero lo que más eficazmente ha de influir para el triunfo completo del arbitraje internacional es la convocación de reuniones como la presente, destinadas á depurar, mediante el criterio científico, las bases del derecho internacional, á mover la opinión pública, á formar el modelo de la paz con el buril del altruismo, á hacer la propaganda de la idea en uno y otro hemisferio y á escribir con letras de luz las sublimes palabras: ¡Justicia! ¡Arbitraje internacional!”

El Ministro Señor CALDERÓN se expresó en los siguientes términos:

“No me propongo hablar de la poderosa y noble influencia que esta gran nación ejerce en favor de la paz y la justicia internacional. Ella es bien conocida y el género humano le rinde su reconocimiento y tributo de admiración á causa de su benéfica influencia en favor de los oprimidos de todas naciones y del respeto de sus derechos.

“Voy á pedirlos que me concedáis vuestra benévola atención por algunos minutos más, á fin de hablarlos del progreso que ha hecho en Sud América el humanitario y moral principio del arbitraje internacional.

“Muchos han comentado las revoluciones y falta de orden que se supone reina en esos países, gentes poco informadas de la verdadera situación, y escritores, que asumiendo un aire de superioridad, se refieren á las Repúblicas latinas como á centros poco menos que salvajes.

“Uno de los actos más felices y acertados, que ha confirmado la reputación de sagacidad del ilustre Secretario de Estado, Mr. ELIHU ROOT, es sin duda la histórica visita que el año pasado hizo á varias de las Repúblicas, con ocasión de la Conferencia Pan-Americana en Río Janeiro.

“Mr. Root sabía que al sud del Istmo de Panamá había jóvenes naciones, establecidas bajo los mismos principios democráticos que han servido de base fundamental al progreso de los Estados Unidos. Se apercibió que falsos informes y desconfianzas, tal vez intencionalmente exparecidas, estaban desarrollando un sentimiento de prevención contra este país y resolvió corregirlo.

“Sus francas declaraciones cambiaron pronto la disposición de las Repúblicas hermanas y restablecieron la confianza en el respeto á su soberanía y las buenas disposiciones de esta nación.

“Por el otro lado, hizo conocer á sus conciudadanos y les reveló la verdadera situación de Sud América y sus progresos.

“Puedo con toda seguridad afirmar que el principio del arbitraje internacional no está generalizado en parte alguna en mayor grado que en las Repúblicas de Sud América.

“El Brasil ha consagrado este principio como una prescripción constitucional y ha sometido á arbitraje sus cuestiones territoriales con Inglaterra, Francia, la Argentina y otras naciones.

“La República Argentina nos ofrece también muy notables ejemplos de respeto á la paz y la justicia. Después de la sangrienta guerra en que casi toda la población masculina del Paraguay había perecido y cuando este patriótico país estaba á merced de sus vencedores—el Brasil, la Argentina y el Uruguay—la Argentina declaró que la *victoria no creaba derechos*. Sometió después su cuestión sobre la propiedad del territorio de Villa Occidental al arbitraje del Presidente de los Estados Unidos; y cuando éste falló en favor del Paraguay, aceptó la decisión con buena fe. Hizo aún más; condonó al Paraguay la indemnización de guerra.

“En la cuestión con el Brasil sobre el territorio de las Misiones, ambos países la sometieron al arbitraje del Presidente CLEVELAND; y la Argentina se inclinó ante el fallo favorable al Brasil.

“Más tarde, cuando las pasiones populares habían llegado al punto en que la guerra, que hubiera envuelto tal vez á todos los países vecinos, parecía inevitable; cuando las escuadras y ejércitos de la Argentina y Chile esperaban la señal para lanzarse á la lucha, ambos países dieron al mundo un ejemplo de buen sentido, sometiendo su larga y violenta disputa sobre límites al arbitraje del Rey de Inglaterra.

“La decisión de este soberano fué aceptada y cumplida; y allá en uno de los picos accesibles más elevados de la Cordillera que separa las dos naciones, el noble sentimiento que las animaba levantó uno de los más hermosos monumentos que jamás se haya erigido.

“Ese monumento no descansa sobre los despojos ensangrentados de los mártires sacrificados en aras de la patria; no recuerda la sumisión de un pueblo por otro. Es el emblema de la paz á que aspiran de corazón los hijos de la América Republicana, quienes levantaron la imagen de Cristo Redentor, como señal de tributo á sus doctrinas. No despierta ni sentimientos de venganza ni causa su vista la humillación de nadie que lo contemple. Símbolo de amor, es el pedestal del Príncipe de la Paz; es la eterna guía bajo cuyas inspiraciones debe desarrollarse la confraternidad humana.

“La inscripción de ese monumento expresa que antes se desharán las montañas en que descansa que argentinos y chilenos lleguen á romper la paz que han jurado mantener.

“Bolivia, mi país, ha sometido á arbitraje cuestiones importantes sobre límites con el Perú, el Paraguay y otras naciones. El Perú tiene igualmente arreglos de arbitraje con Bolivia, Brasil, el Ecuador é Italia.

“Las cuestiones de límites han sido la principal causa de desacuerdo entre las Repúblicas latino-americanas. Tal es hoy la fuerza del sentimiento popular en favor del arbitraje, que todas ellas tienen sometido su fallo á ese honroso medio de solución.

“Las Conferencias Pan-Americanas, en especial la de México, han consignado esta noble aspiración de las Repúblicas en declaraciones explícitas.

“El Uruguay y la Argentina celebraron en 1902 un tratado general de arbitraje y estipularon que serían sometidas á ese procedimiento todas las cuestiones, cualquiera que fuera su causa, siempre que no afecten á sus respectivas constituciones.

“Además, el Uruguay celebró tratados parecidos con España y aprobó el tratado de arbitraje obligatorio de la Conferencia de México, en que entraron Bolivia, la Argentina, Guatemala, Salvador, Santo Domingo, Perú y el Paraguay.

“Esta es la obra de países que comúnmente son considerados como entregados á desórdenes y sin la menor idea de paz y justicia.

“El principal esfuerzo para popularizar la doctrina del arbitraje debe dirigirse á educar la opinión pública y tratar de sustituir sentimientos de justicia al falso orgullo de la fuerza bruta. Debemos enseñar á las masas que el respeto de los derechos ajenos es el mejor elemento de defensa y protección de los propios.

“Es inútil hablar de desarme, si antes de todo las naciones continúan poniendo más confianza en su poder militar que en sus derechos y en el amor de la paz de sus vecinos.

“Hasta cierto punto la doctrina de gobierno democrático por el pueblo y para el pueblo ofrece mayor garantía contra las guerras, siempre que la opinión pública sea rectamente inspirada y la noción en conjunto tenga el sentimiento de honradez y buena fe.

“Cuando los puertos de Venezuela fueron bombardeados por las naves combinadas de algunas de las grandes potencias de Europa, la República Argentina, por medio de su Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, llamó la atención á la gran injusticia que ese acto importaba, á la vez que una amenaza á la independencia de la República agredida.

“El Señor DRAGO en su famosa nota, entre otras consideraciones, expresó que: ‘El reconocimiento de la deuda, la liquidación de su importe, pueden y deben ser hechas por la nación, sin menoscabo de

sus derechos primordiales como entidad soberana; pero el cobro compulsivo é inmediato, en un momento dado, por medio de la fuerza, no traía otra cosa que la ruina de las naciones mas débiles y la absorción de su gobierno con todas las facultades que le son inherentes por los fuertes de la tierra.

“Otros son los principios proclamados en este continente Americano: ‘Los contratos entre una nación y los individuos particulares son obligatorios según la conciencia del soberano y no pueden ser objeto de la fuerza compulsiva,’ decía el ilustre HAMILTON. No confieren derecho alguno de acción fuera de la voluntad del soberano.

“Refiriéndose á la 11^a enmienda de la Constitución de los Estados Unidos, el Señor DRAGO nota: ‘Que ella prohíbe todo pleito de ley ó de equidad seguido contra uno de los Estados Unidos por ciudadanos de otro Estado, ó por ciudadanos ó súbditos de un Estado extranjero.’

“Hablando del origen de los reclamos, hace la juiciosa observación de que: ‘El capitalista que suministra su dinero á un Estado extranjero, tiene siempre en cuenta cuáles son los recursos del país en que va á actuar y la mayor ó menor probabilidad de que los compromisos contraídos se cumplan sin tropiezo.’

“Esta era también la opinión de Lord PALMERSTON, siendo Ministro de Inglaterra en 1848:

“Los acreedores saben, dice el Señor DRAGO, que contratan con una entidad soberana, y es condición inherente á la soberanía que no pueden iniciarse ni cumplirse procedimientos ejecutivos contra ella, ya que ese modo de cobro comprometería su existencia misma, haciendo desaparecer la independencia y la acción del respectivo Gobierno.’

“La doctrina asentada en este famoso documento, la sintetiza así: ‘En una palabra, el principio que quisiera ver reconocido es el de que la deuda pública no puede dar lugar á la intervención armada, ni menos á la ocupación material del suelo de las naciones americanas por una potencia europea.’

“Cuando se sabe que en la mayor parte de los casos los reclamos contra algunas de las Repúblicas son ó vergonzosamente exagerados ó claramente injustos, la práctica de sostenerlos con el poder y la fuerza nacional debe ser condenada.

“Los fallos arbitrales en los reclamos contra Venezuela, que causaron el bombardeo de puertos indefensos, prueban, sin dejar duda, que ellos eran injustos y exagerados. En término medio el 30 por ciento del valor reclamado fué reconocido y en muchos casos no más del 10 por ciento.

“No es posible hablar de estos asuntos sin recordar el reclamo Jeckers por quince millones de pesos en 1861, y que fué el pretexto para la invasión de México, cuando este país sólo había recibido

\$750,000. Este es un caso típico que ilustra la naturaleza de la mayor parte de los reclamos.

“El Profesor F. DE MARTEMS ha dicho con verdad: ‘Por su famosa nota diplomática el Gobierno argentino ha merecido con razón el reconocimiento sincero de todos los campeones del derecho y de la justicia en el dominio de las relaciones internaciones.’

“En muchos casos los reclamos nacen de personas que, conociendo de antemano el estado de inseguridad que existe en algunas repúblicas, van á ellas deliberadamente con objeto de sacar ventaja y aprovechar de la intranquilidad política, y se hacen promotores de revoluciones para obtener concesiones indebidas.

“Ni debemos olvidar que hay en Europa naciones que dejaron de pagar sus deudas; pero á nadie le ocurrió presentarles las bocas de sus cañones para cobrar obligaciones atrasadas.

“Gracias á los esfuerzos del Honorable Secretario de Estado, Mr. Root, la doctrina Drago ha de ser sometida á la Segunda Conferencia de la Haya, y es de esperar que las grandes potencias, guiadas por principios más equitativos, convendrán en dar fin á una práctica tan condenable y se establecerán reglas que permitan hacer justicia á todos.

“El progreso de las Repúblicas latino-americanas está demostrado en el aumento anual de su comercio exterior, que llega ahora á casi 1,500,000,000 de dollars al año, y ésto con sólo una población que no pasa de 50,000,000.

“La construcción de ferrocarriles, la difusión de la instrucción pública y la explotación de los admirables recursos de ese continente, marcan una era de verdadero progreso.

“La Providencia ha destinado la América toda para ser el hogar de pueblos libres.

“Los enormes elementos de riqueza de cada una de las diez repúblicas de Sur América, ofrece un campo notable para el empleo de la energía y los esfuerzos de las generaciones que vienen. Necesitamos población; hombres capaces de ejecutar la extensa labor que demanda tanto por explotar.

“El esfuerzo de los indomables *pioneers* del Noroeste ha contribuido á la grandeza de esta nación más que todas las guerras en favor de las naciones de Europa. Luchar por la conquista de los tesoros que encierran las montañas, las praderas y los bosques de la América del Sud, ofrece al hombre oportunidad más noble que la ociosa aglomeración de la juventud en cuarteles, consumiendo esterilmente las rentas nacionales.

“Ahí está Bolivia, mi país, con un territorio igual á una cuarta parte del de los Estados Unidos, abundante en toda clase de minerales, en especial estaño, plata, cobre, y oro; con campos ricos en pastos, donde la industria ganadera ofrece retornos provechosos; bosques,

donde millones de árboles gomeros pueden explotarse con ventaja, á más de otros numerosos productos agrícolas.

“Los ferrocarriles hoy en construcción están llamados á abrir un gran campo de desarrollo industrial, tan productivo como el que más en el mundo, bajo un clima en general apropiado á la inmigración blanca. Leyes de adjudicación de terrenos y facilidades acordadas al inmigrante, abren al colono que quiera aprovecharse de estas ventajas un campo de personal engrandecimiento.

“Cada una de las diez Repúblicas de Sur América está pronta á dar la bienvenida á la corriente vivificadora de la inmigración, que tanto ha contribuído al rápido y extraordinario incremento de riqueza y bienestar en esta gran República.

“Esperemos que, guiados por los verdaderos principios de la democracia y siguiendo el natural desarrollo de sus relaciones, en época no lejana las Repúblicas de Sud América, confederadas en un número reducido de naciones, serán el hogar de cientos de millones de hombres libres, labrando pacíficamente su bienestar, por la conquista y el dominio de los abundantes regalos de la naturaleza, exentos de la leva militar y en absoluto goce de los derechos con que Dios ha dotado nuestra alma inmortal.”

El Señor BARRETT dijo lo siguiente:

“Hay tres hechos que por lo general no se conocen en los Estados Unidos y que el pueblo americano debe tener presente al formar una opinión verdadera y justa de las Repúblicas latinoamericanas. El memorable viaje del Secretario Root á Sudamérica y los recientes sucesos políticos en la América Central han despertado un nuevo interés en toda la extensión de los Estados Unidos respecto de sus Repúblicas hermanas, y hay peligro de que ciertas ideas erróneas ejerzan influencia sobre dicho interés.

“Primero. La América latina, considerada en conjunto, no es un teatro de guerras civiles y revoluciones, á pesar de que en los Estados Unidos y en Europa se cree generalmente lo contrario. No es equitativo, ni justo, ni se aviene á la verdad continuar describiendo la América latina en la actualidad como característicamente revolucionaria ó como una parte del mundo en la cual prevalecen más las luchas civiles que el estado de paz. Cerca de cinco sextas partes de la población y el área total de la América latina no ha sufrido ninguna revolución ó guerra civil de consideración durante más de diez años, en tanto que la mayor parte de ella en veinte años no ha sufrido ninguna revolución seria que haya traído consigo un gran derramamiento de sangre ó destrucción de propiedades. Lo que sucede es que se le ha dado una gran importancia y se le ha consagrado mucha atención á las revoluciones que han ocurrido en las pequeñas Repúblicas de Centro y Sudamérica, y que, tanto la prensa como el pueblo de los Estados Unidos y de Europa, han pasado por alto el hecho de

que las naciones mayores y más ricas han estado disfrutando de una paz casi completa durante muchos años. Es tan injusto llamar á la América latina el teatro de revoluciones por el mero hecho de que de cuando en cuando estalla una lucha civil en cualquiera de las Repúblicas situadas en ella, como sería decir que los motines y el derramamiento de sangre predominan en todos los Estados Unidos por la mera circunstancia de que de tiempo en tiempo han ocurrido graves trastornos en Idaho, Colorado y Luisiana.

“El Brasil, que es tan grande como los Estados Unidos, propiamente dichos; la Argentina, cuya área representa la mitad de la de los Estados Unidos; Chile, que es más grande que el área combinada de nuestros Estados de la costa del Pacífico, amén de la primera fila de Estados del Atlántico; el Perú, que es tan grande como todos nuestros Estados de la costa del Atlántico, desde Maine hasta Georgia; Bolivia, que es tres veces más grande que Texas, y México que podría contener todo nuestro territorio occidental central, disfrutan todos de un Gobierno, prosperidad y paz estables, á tal extremo, que en la actualidad la prensa financiera europea los considera como un campo tan propicio y seguro para la inversión de capital como el de los Estados Unidos. La América del Sud y México se consideran ofendidos por la constante repetición del cargo de que la América latina es dada á las revoluciones. Tiempo es ya de que tanto el pueblo como la prensa de los Estados Unidos conozcan los verdaderos hechos y hagan de la mayor parte de la América latina el merecido encomio por haber desarrollado un buen Gobierno y haber producido el orden del estado de trastorno de antaño, y llegar á merecer por este medio la confianza de los Estados Unidos acerca de su futuro progreso.

“Segundo. Ningún grupo de naciones del mundo ha hecho más que las de la América latina en pro de la causa del arbitraje internacional.

“O, lo que es lo mismo, los Estados Unidos y las naciones de Europa, Asia y Africa combinadas, no han igualado por medio de pruebas prácticas, es decir, sometiendo las controversias al arbitraje, el record de la América latina en este particular. La larga lista de controversias sobre límites entre los diferentes países de la América latina que se han arreglado por medio del arbitraje, constituye una prueba de este aserto. Ha habido muchos casos en que su determinación de someter á arbitraje la causa de sus controversias ha impedido que países importantes de la América del Sud se comprometieran en una guerra costosa. La mejor prueba del progreso de la América latina en este sentido, la constituye el hecho de haber evitado la guerra entre la Argentina y Chile, justamente cuando estaban á punto de emprender una guerra que probablemente hubiera sido una de las más sangrientas en la historia del mundo, y que

hubiera sumido á ambos países en un estado de desolación y pobreza y los hubiera grabado con una deuda pública que indefectiblemente hubiera retardado su progreso un cuarto de siglo. Ahora bien; en vez de sufrir las consecuencias de tan funesta barrera, están progresando asombrosamente no sólo en el tráfico y comercio, sino también en general desde el punto de vista educativo, intelectual y social.

“El año pasado el valor del comercio extranjero de la Argentina ascendió á \$563,000,000, ó sea cerca de \$100 por cabeza, es decir, una cantidad mayor que cualquier otra nación importante del mundo, y que no hubiera podido lograr si hubiese tenido que soportar una gran deuda extranjera. En relación con esto, cumple hacer constar que la progresiva República Argentina, cuya población sólo asciende á 6,000,000, en 1906 tuvo un comercio extranjero mayor que el progresivo pero belicoso Japón, que tiene 40,000,000 de habitantes. Chile, de idéntica manera, ha avanzado á paso tan agigantado en su desarrollo material y político, que su comercio ha aumentado más de un ciento por ciento en los diez últimos años, y su pueblo ha podido restablecerse desde del punto de vista financiero de las desastrosas consecuencias de un terremoto, con la misma facilidad que lo han verificado los habitantes de la ciudad de San Francisco, en California. Difícil sería vaticinar cuál hubiera sido su estado si hubiera sufrido una ruina casi completa por virtud de una guerra con la Argentina.

“Tercero. El único monumento notable y que causa honda impresión, que se ha erigido en el hemisferio occidental como resultado del arbitraje, se destaca sobre la línea divisoria de la Argentina y Chile, en medio de las cimas de la cordillera de los Andes. A una altura de cerca de 15,000 pies, ó sean tres millas, sobre el plácido nivel del Atlántico y del Pacífico, desde el cual se obtiene una magnífica vista de la Argentina por un lado y de Chile por el otro, que parece exhalar el espíritu de paz, se destaca un estatua de bronce, solemne y gigantesca, de Cristo, que fué erigida por orden conjunta y á costa de los dos Gobiernos, y que fué consagrada en presencia de los estadistas más prominentes de ambos países que vinieron desde sus hogares á las frías alturas de los Andes para presenciar su descubrimiento y dar fe de esta manera de que apoyan lo que dicha estatua simboliza. El hecho escueto de que el bronce del cual se fundió la estatua se tomó de un cañón fundido, da mayor significación á su presencia en las cimas de las montañas. Dicha estatua se ha levantado en el paso principal entre ambos países que todos los viajeros usan de ida y vuelta, en tanto que precisamente debajo de dicho paso, así que el ferrocarril sea terminado, pasará un túnel que ha de ser el más largo del mundo, y el cual ha de poner á Chile y á la Argentina en una comunicación tan íntima como lo es la unión que han logrado por medio del arbitraje que ha sido origen de este monumento.”

TRATADO DE PAZ, AMISTAD Y COMERCIO, ENTRE EL SALVADOR Y NICARAGUA.

Los infrascritos, RAMÓN GARCÍA GONZÁLEZ, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de El Salvador; y JOSÉ DOLORES GÁMEZ, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Nicaragua, en representación cada cual de sus Gobiernos respectivos; y ampliamente facultados, según los plenos poderes que han sido exhibidos y encontrados en debida forma, después de largas conferencias y con la mediación amistosa de Mr. PHILIP BROWN, Encargado de Negocios de los Estados Unidos ante el Gobierno de esta República de Honduras, han convenido en celebrar el Tratado de Paz, Amistad y Comercio contenido en las estipulaciones que siguen:

I. Alterada la buena armonía y las relaciones entre los Gobiernos signatarios, á consecuencia de la última guerra entre Honduras y Nicaragua, en la que se vió obligado á intervenir el Gobierno de El Salvador, por razón de su alianza con el Gobierno de Honduras que presidió el General DON MANUEL BONILLA, y tomando en consideración poderosas razones de necesidad y conveniencia para el restablecimiento de la paz entre ambos países, y después de dilatadas pláticas, han convenido y convienen de mutuo acuerdo, en restablecer sus relaciones, temporalmente interrumpidas, sobre la base de la mejor buena fe que debe presidir en la inteligencia amistosa de dos pueblos hermanos.

II. Restablecida la paz por el presente tratado, convienen los Gobiernos signatarios en que el de Nicaragua haga una invitación á los demás de Centro América para un Congreso Centroamericano que se instará en Corinto, según lo propuesto por los Representantes de los Gobiernos de estas Repúblicas, en unión del Secretario de Estado Americano y en Washington, compuesto de Representantes de las cinco Repúblicas hermanas, y con poderes bastantes para celebrar un Tratado General de Paz y Amistad, sobre la base del arbitraje obligatorio, que sustituya á los pactos anteriores de la misma índole, celebrados en Corinto y en San José de Costa Rica, á fin de que puedan evitarse, en lo sucesivo, los conflictos armados entre pueblos hermanos. Podrán, además, los Representantes de las cinco Repúblicas, concluir estipulaciones referentes al comercio, navegación y cualesquiera otras materias que juzguen convenientes á los intereses centro-americanos.

III. Mientras se da cumplimiento á lo dispuesto en la cláusula anterior, queda estipulado que toda diferencia que ocurra en lo sucesivo entre El Salvador y Nicaragua, que pudiera alterar sus buenas relaciones, tendrá que ser dirimida por medio del arbitraje obligatorio de los Presidentes de los Estados Unidos y México, con-

juntamente, quienes tendrán la facultad de nombrar un tercero en discordia cuyo laudo será definitivo. El Presidente de México podrá delegar sus facultades de árbitro en el embajador mexicano en Washington ó en la persona que él designe.

“IV. Como una demostración de la sinceridad con que han procedido los Gobiernos signatarios y también de la confianza que tienen en el cumplimiento de todo lo pactado, ofrecen, con la mejor buena voluntad, dar en sus respectivos países un decreto de amnistía, amplia ó incondicional, para los connacionales que hubiesen tomado participación contraria en los últimos sucesos de Honduras.

“V. El Salvador y Nicaragua se comprometen solemnemente á celebrar un Tratado de Comercio bajo la base del intercambio.

“VI. El presente Tratado se ratificará y sus ratificaciones serán canjeadas en la ciudad de Managua ó en la de San Salvador, un mes después de la última ratificación, ó antes, si fuere posible.

“En fe de lo cual, los negociadores firman el presente Tratado por triplicado en unión de Mr. PHILIP BROWN, Encargado de Negocios de los Estados Unidos ante los Gobiernos de Honduras y Guatemala, quien ha interpuesto sus buenos oficios y la autoridad moral del país que representa, en Amapala, á los veintitres días del mes de abril de 1907.

“[L. s.]

RAMÓN GARCÍA GONZÁLEZ.

“[L. s.]

JOSÉ DOLORES GÁMEZ.

“PHILIP BROWN.

“PALACIO DEL EJECUTIVO,

“San Salvador, 23 de abril de 1907.

“Visto el anterior Tratado de Paz, Amistad y Comercio, celebrado en Amapala el día 23 de abril del corriente año, entre los Señores Ministros de Relaciones Exteriores de El Salvador y Nicaragua, por parte de sus respectivos Gobiernos y con la mediación amistosa de Mr. PHILIP BROWN, Encargado de Negocios de los Estados Unidos de América, ante el Gobierno de la República de Honduras; cuyo instrumento se compone de un preámbulo y seis artículos, el Poder Ejecutivo, encontrándolo arreglado á las instrucciones que al efecto se dieron al Señor Ministro, Doctor DON RAMÓN GARCÍA GONZÁLEZ, acuerda: aprobarlo en todas sus partes, debiendo someterlo á la ratificación de la Honorable Asamblea Nacional en sus actuales sesiones.

“(Rubricado por el señor Presidente.)

“El Subsecretario de Relaciones Exteriores,

“CASAS.”

RECEPCIÓN DEL MINISTRO DE PANAMÁ EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El día 13 de mayo de 1907, el Presidente ROOSEVELT recibió al Señor Don JOSÉ AGUSTÍN ARANGO como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Panamá en los Estados Unidos.

Al presentar sus credenciales el Señor ARANGO se expresó en los términos siguientes:

“SEÑOR PRESIDENTE: Altamente satisfactorio será para mí cumplir la misión que me ha confiado el Gobierno de mi patria para representarle, conjuntamente con el Honorable Ministro Señor OBALDÍA, ante el Gobierno de Vuestra Excelencia, como lo acredita la carta autógrafa que tengo la honra de poner en manos de Vuestra Excelencia.

“La benevolencia que desde nuestro advenimiento á la vida independiente nos ha mostrado el Gobierno de Vuestra Excelencia, ha acrecentado la simpatía que siempre tuvimos por el noble pueblo de los Estados Unidos de Norte América, y es razón que influye poderosamente en el ánimo del Gobierno y pueblo panameño para esperar que los lazos de amistad que nos ligan á esta gran República, sean cada vez más estrechos, dentro de los límites de la equidad y la justicia, que siempre distinguen los actos del Gobierno de Vuestra Excelencia.

“Permitid, Señor, que en nombre del Gobierno del Excelentísimo Presidente AMADOR GERRERO, del pueblo panameño y en el mío propio, haga votos por la felicidad personal de Vuestra Excelencia y por la prosperidad, cada vez más creciente, del pueblo de los Estados Unidos de Norte América.”

El Presidente ROOSEVELT contestó de la manera siguiente:

“SEÑOR MINISTRO: Me es grato recibir de vuestras manos la carta por la cual vuestro Gobierno os acredita para actuar juntamente con el Señor OBALDÍA con el carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

“Desde el advenimiento de vuestro país á la familia de Estados independientes, el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha dado frecuentes pruebas de su amistad, y ha de ser nuestro propósito, dentro de los límites de la equidad y de la justicia, á los cuales hacéis referencia, fortalecer todavía más las buenas relaciones que en la actualidad existen.

“Os doy las gracias por los buenos deseos personales que expresáis en nombre del Presidente, Gobierno y pueblo de Panamá, así como en vuestro nombre, y á mi vez os ruego que aseguréis á vuestro digno Presidente de la alta estima en que el Gobierno y pueblo de los Estados Unidos y yo le tenemos á él y al pueblo panameño.”

PROPORCIÓN DE LOS VALORES DEL COMERCIO ENTRE LOS PAÍSES LATINO-AMERICANOS Y LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Según las estadísticas más recientes de que dispone la Oficina, las proporciones de los valores del comercio entre los distintos países latino-americanos y los Estados Unidos son como se indica á continuación.

El valor total de las importaciones que recibió la República Argentina en el año de 1906 está fijado en \$269,970,521, de los cuales \$39,332,112, ó sea 4.56 por ciento, fueron por mercancías procedentes de los Estados Unidos; pero en cambio, de las exportaciones totales, valoradas en \$292,253,829, solamente \$13,332,112, ó 4.56 por ciento, se enviaron á este país. En 1905, de un total de importaciones de \$197,974,000, \$27,902,000, ó 14.62 por ciento, se recibieron de los Estados Unidos, y de las exportaciones, que estuvieron avaluadas en \$311,544,000, esta República tomó \$15,167,000, ó 4.87 por ciento.

De las importaciones bolivianas en 1905, avaluadas en \$13,377,000, los Estados Unidos suministraron \$756,000, ó 5.6 por ciento, y tomaron \$27,000, ó 0.13 por ciento, del total de \$20,062,049 á que ascendieron las exportaciones. Estadísticas oficiales de los Estados Unidos fijan el valor de las exportaciones de los mismos á Bolivia durante 1906 en \$252,616, pero datos de origen boliviano dan una cantidad mucho mayor.

En 1906 el Brasil recibió de los Estados Unidos importaciones por valor de \$19,000,000, ó 11.46 por ciento, de un total de \$165,000,000, y envió al mismo país exportaciones por valor de \$93,000,000, ó 36 por ciento de un total de más de \$265,000,000. Las cifras de 1905 demuestran que de una importación total de \$144,775,000 los Estados Unidos suministraron \$14,961,000, ó 10.33 por ciento; las exportaciones enviadas á dicho país en 1905 fueron de \$89,108,000, ó 41.13 por ciento de un total de \$216,000,000.

El total de las importaciones recibidas por Costa Rica en 1905 estuvo avaluado en \$5,239,000, de los cuales \$2,706,000, ó 51.65 por ciento, procedieron de los Estados Unidos, recibiendo estos del total de \$8,138,000 de las exportaciones, \$3,836,000, ó 47.14 por ciento. Las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á Costa Rica durante 1906 están avaluadas en \$2,473,281, y las importaciones de Costa Rica en los Estados Unidos en \$4,715,510.

Las importaciones hechas por Guatemala en 1905 tuvieron un valor total de \$6,844,000, de los cuales \$2,707,000, ó 39.55 por ciento, fueron procedentes de los Estados Unidos; las exportaciones enviadas á este país tuvieron un valor de \$2,875,000, ó 34.90 por

ciento de un total de \$8,238,000. Durante el año de 1906, las importaciones procedentes de los Estados alcanzaron un valor de \$2,980,072, en tanto que las exportaciones destinadas á los mismos alcanzaron la suma de \$2,822,020.

Honduras recibió en 1905 importaciones por valor de \$2,923,000, de los cuales \$1,690,000, ó 73.70 por ciento, procedieron de los Estados Unidos; las exportaciones estuvieron valuadas en \$5,564,000, enviándose á estos \$4,623,000, ó 83.09 por ciento. En 1906 los Estados Unidos enviaron exportaciones á Honduras por valor de \$1,896,204 y recibieron importaciones de éste por valor de \$2,204,692.

Las mercancías introducidas en Nicaragua durante el año de 1904, cuyas estadísticas son las más recientes de que dispone la Oficina, tuvieron un valor total de \$3,202,000, y de esta suma los Estados Unidos suministraron \$1,668,000, ó 52.09 por ciento, en tanto que de las exportaciones, que hicieron un total de \$3,926,000, los Estados Unidos tomaron \$2,089,000, ó 53.21 por ciento. En 1905 y 1906 las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á Nicaragua fueron de \$1,833,595 y \$2,041,231, respectivamente, y las importaciones \$1,433,815 y \$1,331,172.

En 1906 los Estados Unidos enviaron á Panamá mercancías por valor de \$14,239,471, en comparación con \$7,831,564 en 1905. Las importaciones recibidas de Panamá por los Estados Unidos tuvieron un valor de \$1,448,686 en 1906, contra \$879,145 en 1905.

El Salvador recibió en 1905 del extranjero mercancías por valor de \$4,346,000 de los cuales \$1,355,000, ó 31.18 por ciento, procedieron de los Estados Unidos, y exportó productos por valor de \$5,640,000, enviando \$1,225,000, ó 23.49 por ciento, á este país. En 1906 el Salvador importó de los Estados Unidos mercancías por valor de \$1,321,765, y exportó con destino á los mismos productos valuados en \$1,216,262.

Las importaciones de Cuba durante el año de 1906 tuvieron un valor de \$98,530,622, de los cuales \$47,717,618, ó más de 48 por 100, procedieron de los Estados Unidos, en tanto que de sus exportaciones, cuyo valor ascendió á \$106,258,618, este país recibió \$88,175,451, ó más de 82 por ciento.

De octubre de 1904 á septiembre de 1905, inclusive, Haití recibió importaciones por valor de \$3,871,069, de cuya cantidad los Estados Unidos suministraron la de \$2,746,851, ó más del 71 por ciento. Las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á Haití en 1906 estuvieron valuadas en \$3,266,425, y las importaciones en \$1,036,330, en comparación con \$2,916,379 y \$1,171,303, respectivamente, en 1905.

La República Dominicana importó en 1906 mercancías valuadas en la suma de \$4,065,437, de la cual los Estados Unidos suministraron \$2,271,292, ó más de 48 por ciento; las exportaciones del mismo año alcanzaron el total de \$6,536,379, del cual se envió á los

Estados Unidos \$3,464,425, ó 53 por ciento. Las importaciones de la República en 1905 ascendieron á la suma de \$2,737,000, suministrando los Estados Unidos \$1,961,000, ó 71.65 por ciento; las exportaciones tuvieron un valor total de \$6,881,000, del cual \$4,484,000, ó 65.16 por ciento, corresponden á las enviadas á los Estados Unidos.

Las importaciones recibidas por Chile en 1905 tuvieron un valor total de \$71,868,000, de cuya cantidad los Estados Unidos suministraron \$7,129,000, ó 9.92 por ciento; las exportaciones estuvieron valoradas en la suma de \$103,223,000, tomando los Estados Unidos \$15,693,000, ó 15.20 por ciento. En el año de 1906 los Estados Unidos exportaron con destino á Chile mercancías por valor de \$9,392,453, é importaron del mismo país productos por la suma de \$18,146,232.

Las importaciones que Colombia recibió de los Estados Unidos en 1906 estuvieron avaluadas en \$2,961,671, en comparación con \$3,635,417 en 1905; las exportaciones enviadas á los Estados Unidos en los años mencionados fueron de \$6,669,461 y \$6,268,939, respectivamente. El total de las importaciones recibidas por Colombia en 1904 fué de \$14,453,000, suministrando los Estados Unidos \$4,936,000, ó 34.15 por ciento, en tanto que de las exportaciones valoradas en \$12,658,000, este país tomó \$6,837,000, ó 54.01 por ciento.

El Ecuador importó en 1905 mercancías por valor de \$7,657,000, de los cuales procedieron de los Estados Unidos \$2,210,000, ó 28.86 por ciento; las exportaciones estuvieron avaluadas en \$9,468,000, de cuyo total se enviaron mercancías á los Estados Unidos por valor de \$2,468,000, ó 27.32 por ciento. En 1906 el Ecuador recibió de los Estados Unidos importaciones por la cantidad de \$1,834,756, enviando á los mismos exportaciones por valor de \$3,281,684.

Durante el año económico de 1905-6, México recibió importaciones por la suma total de \$109,884,000, de la cual \$72,509,000, ó 65.99 por ciento, fué el valor de las mercancías procedentes de los Estados Unidos; los productos exportados por la República estuvieron valorados en \$135,027,000, del cual se enviaron á los Estados Unidos exportaciones por valor de \$92,633,000, ó 68.06 por ciento.

El Paraguay importó del extranjero mercancías por valor de \$3,566,000 en 1904, las estadísticas de cuyo año son las más recientes con que cuenta la Oficina, y de ese total los Estados Unidos suministraron \$125,000, ó 3.51 por ciento. Las exportaciones tuvieron un valor total de \$3,179,000, pero la cantidad recibida por los Estados Unidos no se especifica. Las exportaciones enviadas por los Estados Unidos al Paraguay en 1906 fueron de \$110,496, en comparación con \$6,719 en 1905, y las importaciones que los mismos recibieron del Paraguay en los años mencionados fueron de \$1,200 y \$2,205, respectivamente.

En 1904 el Perú importó mercancías por valor de \$20,916,000, de los cuales \$3,761,000, ó 17.98 por ciento, correspondieron á las mer-

cancías procedentes de los Estados Unidos; las exportaciones hicieron la suma de \$19,790,000, de los cuales se enviaron á los Estados Unidos \$1,849,000, ó 9.34 por ciento. En 1906 el Perú importó de los Estados Unidos mercancías por valor de \$5,193,455 contra \$4,278,228 en 1905, y exportó con destino á los mismos productos valorados en \$2,933,508 y \$2,608,665, en los dos años mencionados, respectivamente.

El tráfico de importación del Uruguay en 1904 alcanzó la suma de \$21,938,000, suministrando los Estados Unidos mercancías por valor de \$3,761,100, ó 17.98 por ciento, y las exportaciones tuvieron un total de \$19,790,000, del cual los Estados Unidos tomaron \$1,849,000, ó 9.34 por ciento. En 1906 recibió el Uruguay de los Estados Unidos importaciones por valor de \$3,160,606, en comparación con \$2,703,761 en 1905, enviando á este país exportaciones por la cantidad de \$2,703,761 y \$3,529,495, en los años mencionados, respectivamente.

Durante el año económico de 1905-6, Venezuela recibió importaciones por valor de \$8,676,000, suministrando los Estados Unidos \$2,622,000, ó 30.22 por ciento, en tanto que las exportaciones estuvieron valoradas en \$15,630,000, de cuya cantidad los Estados Unidos recibieron mercancías por valor de \$4,862,000, ó 31.11 por ciento. En el año ordinario de 1906, los Estados Unidos exportaron mercancías con destino á Venezuela por valor de \$3,310,518, contra \$3,208,864 en 1905, é importaron de ésta productos por valor de \$7,789,893 y \$7,010,357 durante los dos años comparados, respectivamente.

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE FIGUEROA ALCORTA.

En su mensaje anual presentado al Congreso Argentino el 8 de mayo de 1907, el Presidente FIGUEROA ALCORTA manifestó que la prosperidad y progreso de que goza la República son hechos patentes ante los ojos del mundo entero, y que durante el año de 1906 la situación política del país se desenvolvió dentro de la más completa armonía de los poderes, así de las relaciones de la nación con las provincias y de éstas entre sí.

La celebración del centenario de la independencia tendrá lugar en 1910, y se están haciendo los preparativos para llevarla á cabo de una manera que corresponda á los elevados sentimientos que la determinan, á su significacion histórica y á las justas expectativas de la opinión.

Los servicios de correos y telégrafos se han desenvuelto en armonía con los progresos generales del país, y las estadísticas de 1906 revelan resultados superiores á los cálculos más optimistas; durante el año

circularon 552,014,897 piezas postales, cifra que representa un aumento de 51,627,034 sobre el movimiento del año anterior. Por las líneas del Telégrafo de la Nación, se transmitieron 9,977,887 despachos, contra 8,934,652 expedidos durante el año de 1905; la renta de estos servicios, que se estimó en \$8,000,000 para el pasado ejercicio, ha alcanzado á 9,086,593.41, en moneda nacional, es decir, ha superado en \$1,086,593.41, en moneda nacional, á las provisiones administrativas. La red telegráfica existente, que es aún insuficiente para responder á las necesidades públicas, ha sido extendida durante el año en 398 kilómetros de línea, y en 1,668 kilómetros de conductores, abarcando en la actualidad un total de 24,757 kilómetros de línea con un desarrollo de 55,283 kilómetros de conductores. Se han abierto además al servicio público 88 nuevas oficinas, lo que eleva el total de las que funcionan en la actualidad á 2,012. Durante el año de 1907 se realizarán diversos trabajos; se construirá la línea entre Saavedra y Bahía-Blanca; se aumentará un conductor entre Tucumán y Recreo y dos conductores entre San Agustín y Córdoba, y se adquirirán y colocarán nuevos cables subterráneos. Las dificultades que se oponían á la continuación del edificio destinado á la casa Central de Correos y Telégrafos, han sido salvadas.

El Departamento Nacional de Trabajo, creado por la ley de presupuesto del año económico 1906-7, fué instalado por decreto de fecha 14 de marzo de 1907, y ha comenzado ya sus tareas. Mientras se dicta la ley orgánica que fije definitivamente las atribuciones de este Departamento, el Ejecutivo le ha conferido las que tienen, por regla general, las oficinas similares de las demás naciones, y especialmente la de los Estados Unidos.

La salud pública se mantuvo en general sin perturbaciones de importancia; los casos de enfermedades esporádicas observadas en Buenos Aires, Rosario y Salta no revistieron significación sanitaria alguna, por cuanto que cedieron fácilmente á la aplicación de las medidas profilácticas. La nueva ley de farmacia, que ha resuelto un problema médico-social, ha comenzado á dar frutos, rodeando de las garantías eficaces el despacho farmacéutico. Á fin de llenar el programa de organización de los servicios sanitarios fluviales, se han iniciado los trabajos para la erección de la estación de Corrientes.

Cultiváronse esmeradamente las cordiales relaciones que unen á la República Argentina con los demás Estados, relaciones que tienden á estrecharse más de día en día por la sinceridad con que el Gobierno Argentino garantiza los derechos de extranjeros.

Haciendo alusión á la visita del Secretario Root á la América del Sur, el Presidente FIGUEROA ALCORTA dijo:

“El acontecimiento diplomático más notable del año lo ha constituido la visita del Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de los Estados

Unidos de América á varias Repúblicas sud-americanas y entre ellas á la Argentina. El eminente estadista Señor ROOR trajo un mensaje de grata cordialidad y simpatía del pueblo americano y del ilustre Presidente ROOSEVELT; y él mismo pronunció en todas las oportunidades palabras y conceptos que traducían pensamientos elevados y sinceros, respecto del porvenir de las relaciones de los países americanos entre sí y con las demás naciones. * * * El viaje de Mr. ROOR ha empezado á traducirse en resultados positivos, pues se advierte ya mayor vigor en el ensanche de las relaciones comerciales y una acción más franca y resuelta de los poderes públicos de los Estados Unidos de América en pro de su desarrollo."

Las potencias europeas, á su vez, ofrecen frecuentes testimonios de su amistad y consideración. Inglaterra y España han elevado á la primera clase la jerarquía de su representación diplomática en el país. Suecia y Noruega, después de constituirse independientes, se apresuraron á vigorizar las antiguas relaciones que ligaban á los reinos unidos con la República Argentina, acreditando representantes diplomáticos. Varios países con los cuales no se había cultivado sino relaciones indirectas han creado también representación en la República, y algunos Estados del Oriente están promoviendo negociaciones para acreditarlos. Las relaciones con el Paraguay y Bolivia se han estrechado más, gracias á la intervención amistosa de la Argentina en la cuestión de límites que existía entre aquellos dos países, la cual quedó resuelta satisfactoriamente para ambas partes por el tratado de arbitraje y *statu quo* firmado en Buenos Aires el 12 de enero de 1907. Con motivo de la trasmisión del mando en las Repúblicas del Uruguay y del Paraguay, el Gobierno Argentino hizo demostraciones de simpatía á ambos Estados por medio de representaciones navales y diplomáticas.

La nación concurrió á la Conferencia Panamericana de Río Janeiro, dando así un testimonio de amistad á la República del Brasil. Concurrirá también á la Conferencia de la Haya, á la cual fué invitada en 1905 por el Emperador de Rusia, y recientemente recibió una nueva invitación para nombrar los delegados, enviada por la Reina de Holanda. Por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República, se ha iniciado la reunión de una conferencia internacional, en Buenos Aires, para 1910, con el objeto de uniformar el derecho internacional privado en cuanto se refiere á las aplicaciones del sistema de domicilio; serán invitadas las naciones que han incorporado á su legislación privada este sistema. Invitada por el Gobierno de Washington para tomar parte en las fiestas organizadas para conmemorar el tercer centenario del establecimiento de la primera colonia inglesa en los Estados Unidos, el Poder Ejecutivo envió la fragata "Presidente Sarmiento" y una delegación de jefes de la Armada y el Ejército. La República ha asistido, por otra parte, y asistirá

durante 1907 á varios congresos internacionales á los cuales fué oficialmente invitada. Las relaciones de los países sud-americanos más ligados con la Argentina son de las más cordiales. Las relaciones con la Santa Sede son más íntimas, habiéndose elevado el rango de la representación diplomática de la República á legación de primera clase.

La prosperidad económica del país es sumamente satisfactoria, habiéndose cerrado el balance del año con un sobrante de \$5,100,000. El crédito interno y externo de la nación ha sido servido con el mayor celo, y la Legación Argentina en Londres tiene con exceso los fondos necesarios para atender todos los servicios de la deuda externa y demás gastos en el exterior hasta el 1° de julio de 1907. Respecto de la deuda interna, no sólo se ha evitado el aumentarla en más de \$10,000,000 que el Poder Ejecutivo estaba autorizado á emitir, no sólo se está en condiciones para renunciar formalmente al derecho actual de emisión por una suma considerable, no sólo ha sido amortizada en \$942,800 moneda nacional, sino que ha sido reducida en \$12,698,460 oro. De esta manera, la deuda interna no pasa de \$88,243,800 en moneda nacional y \$3,701,540 oro. La deuda externa consolidada ascendía el 31 de diciembre de 1905 á \$329,167,941.55 oro; durante el año de 1906 ha sido amortizada en \$4,834,825.19 oro, quedando reducida su circulación el 31 de diciembre de 1906 á \$324,333,116.36 oro.

El comercio exterior del año 1906 acusa un total de \$562,224,350 oro, contra \$527,998,261 oro en 1905. La cifra de 1906 se desdobra en \$296,970,521 oro de importación, y \$292,253,829 oro de exportación; la primera acusa un aumento de \$64,816,101, y la segunda una disminución de \$30,590,012 en igual período. El aumento de importaciones débese exclusivamente á las excepcionales cosechas de los últimos tres años que dieron margen á un gran bienestar entre los agricultores, y la disminución de la exportación, en parte á epizootias, y en parte á contrariedades atmosféricas é invasiones de langostas.

“Si bien un aumento en la importación es generalmente signo de bienestar de los consumidores,” dice el Presidente ALCORRA, “es de desear, sin embargo, que ese aumento no recaiga excesivamente sobre artículos de consumo improductivo, sino que sea mayor la parte que en la importación representan los artículos de consumo reproductivo. Y bien, á este respecto hemos adelantado mucho. Diez años atrás acusaban los artículos de consumo improductivo el 67.2 por ciento de la importación total, y los de consumo reproductivo el 32.8 por ciento, mientras que en el año pasado figuran los primeros con el 45.5 por ciento y los segundos con el 54.5 por ciento. Todo esto quiere decir, que el mejoramiento de la índole económica de la importación ha progresado mucho, para bien del país. Lo que llama mucho la

atención á quien consulta nuestra estadística de comercio exterior, es la importación de numerosos artículos de horticultura que el país podría producir, no sólo para sufragar las necesidades del consumo propio, sino aún para exportar remanentes."

No obstante los perjuicios y los inconvenientes de la langosta y la sequía, la agricultura, fuente principal de la riqueza del país, ha respondido en gran parte á las esperanzas que en ella se cifraban. El descenso en el valor de lo exportado en 1906 no importa un retroceso; es un hecho accidental propio de un país cuyos productos agropecuarios constituyen el 96 por ciento de la exportación total. Si el valor de las exportaciones de 1906 es inferior en \$30,000 000 al del año 1905, es en cambio superior á la del primero del quinquenio pasado en \$172,000,000, y á la del promedio de los cinco años, inclusive 1905, en 36 millones. Y para apreciar mejor el cuadro en su conjunto, conviene apuntar este hecho sujerente: Mientras el consumo interno anual aumenta en una unidad, el saldo exportado de trigo aumenta en 3½, el de lino en 5, y el de maíz en 5½.

El año de 1906 ha sido de adelanto efectivo en las diversas ramas de la instrucción pública. El estudio comparativo de las estadísticas correspondientes á la instrucción primaria, durante los años 1905 y 1906, arroja las siguientes cifras para toda la República: Escuelas—en 1905, 5,199; en 1906, 5,941; aumento, 742. Maestros—en 1905, 13,971; en 1906, 16,292; aumento, 2,321. Alumnos inscriptos—en 1905, 538,732; en 1906, 577,658; aumento, 38,926. Población escolar total calculada, 987,010. Concorre á escuelas un 59.30 por ciento, es decir, 585,353 alumnos; no concurre un 40.70 por ciento, esto es, 401,657 niños. La enseñanza secundaria ha tenido también un grande incremento, habiéndose fundado durante 1906 las siguientes instituciones docentes: En la Provincia de Buenos Aires, cuatro colegios nacionales, una escuela de comercio y dos normales; en la de Santa Fe, un colegio nacional y una escuela normal, y en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, una escuela profesional de mujeres y la Academia Nacional de Bellas Artes; también se inauguró en la capital el Liceo Nacional de Señoritas, y en Rosario una escuela industrial.

La crisis obrera que se sintió por todo el país, a consecuencia del rápido aumento de la producción y el consiguiente desarrollo de las industrias y el comercio, ha retardado la construcción de las obras públicas que ejecuta la nación.

La red de ferrocarriles en explotación era, al finalizar el año de 1906, 20,814 kilómetros, lo que significa un aumento en dicho año de 555 kilómetros, y en lo que va transcurrido de 1907 se han abierto al servicio público 404 kilómetros más, debiendo terminarse hasta el fin del año una gran parte de las 5,547 kilómetros que hay actualmente en construcción, y de los cuales 1,142 kilómetros pertenecen á la nación. El tráfico de viajeros ha superado en un 25 por ciento

al del año anterior, y el de carga en un 15 por ciento; en cambio las utilidades netas han permanecido casi estacionarias, pues solo representan un 4 por ciento de aumento, lo que se explica por el encarecimiento de la mano de obra y de los materiales de consumo, especialmente el combustible. La capacidad del total del tren rodante está representada por 2,116 locomotoras, ó sean 452 más que el año anterior; el material de carga por 872,000 toneladas, ó sean, 186,000 de aumento en el mismo período; y la superficie cubierta por tinglados, por 748,000 metros cuadrados.

Se han proseguido regularmente algunas de las líneas que el Estado construye, y entre ellas la de Bolivia, que está en explotación desde 1905, hasta el pueblo de Humahuaca, se espera tener lista hasta la frontera á fines de 1907. Este ferrocarril significa llenar la primera parte del vasto programa de vinculaciones políticas y comerciales que estas vías internacionales representan. Pero para que él sea cumplidamente satisfecho será necesario que el Congreso sancione el proyecto del ferrocarril desde la Quiaca hasta Tupiza. Esta sección de línea, cuya construcción ha sido motivo de un acuerdo entre los Gobiernos Argentino y Boliviano, vendrá por otro lado á complementar el vasto sistema del Ferrocarril Central Norte, cuya salida á un puerto, por la línea de San Cristóbal á Santa Fe estará también en condiciones de abrirse al servicio público durante 1907. La República Argentina será entonces la primera nación sud-americana que habrá cumplido con uno de los principales propósitos que inspiraron al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos la reunión de la Conferencia Internacional Americana de Washington en 1889, esto es, la construcción del gran Ferrocarril Panamericano.

Los canales que se dirigen á los Puertos de Buenos Aires y Rosario, y al Uruguay han sido dragados, y en el Puerto de Rosario se han invertido durante el año \$2,083,597 en obras de mejora. Otras obras relacionadas con la instrucción, el saneamiento, riego, etc., están adelantándose; hánse construido puentes, reparado caminos, y terminado ó inaugurado obras de alcantarillado y suministro de aguas en Córdoba, Mendoza, Santiago, Santa Fe, y otras muchas ciudades. Desde el año 1903, llévanse gastados en mejoras sanitarias \$16,694,500, sumando los desembolsos del año 1906 \$1,392,688 en Buenos Aires, y \$4,349,680 en las provincias.

El Presidente FIGUEROA ALCORTA dice que todo lo ejecutado durante el año de 1906 no es sino una parte del vasto programa de las obras públicas iniciadas por las necesidades del considerable crecimiento del país, y llama la atención del Congreso á la urgente necesidad de proveer los medios necesarios para poder llevar á cabo las medidas propuestas.

DESTINO DE LAS EXPORTACIONES DEL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

La *Review of the River Plate*, en su número correspondiente al 12 de abril de 1907, publica las cifras relativas á las exportaciones de la República Argentina durante el primer trimestre de 1907, comparadas con las del mismo período del año anterior, indicándose los artículos principales y los países de destino. Los pesos y medidas que se expresan en esta relación son como sigue: 1 fardo de lana, 400 kilogramos; 1 fardo de cueros lanares, 400 kilogramos; 1 fardo de cerda, 400 kilogramos; 1 fardo de cueros de cabra, 370 kilogramos; 1 fardo de heno, 50 kilogramos; 1 pipa de sebo, 400 kilogramos; 1 bocoy de sebo, 200 kilogramos; 1 cuba de sebo, 160 kilogramos; 1 caja de mantequilla, 24 kilogramos.

La cantidad de cueros secos de vaca que se exportó en el primer trimestre de 1907 fué de 515,094, comparada con la de 587,610 en el año anterior, de la cual se envió al Reino Unido, 2,500; á los Estados Unidos, 308,506; á Francia, 4,044; á Alemania, 69,912; á Bélgica, 15,283; á Italia, 62,207; por órdenes, 2,755, y á otros países, 49,887.

Exportáronse 414,163 cueros de vaca en comparación con 364,553 en el mismo período de 1906; de aquella suma tomó el Reino Unido 54,378; Estados Unidos, 21,686; Francia, 26,764; Alemania, 219,580; Bélgica, 77,548; Italia, 1,914; por órdenes, 9,380, y otros países, 2,913.

El número de cueros secos de caballo que se exportó en el primer trimestre del año fué de 23,274, en comparación con 31,396 en el período correspondiente á 1906, destinándose á Francia 32, y á Alemania, 23,242. De cueros salados de caballo se exportaron 2,179, contra 1,050 en el primer trimestre de 1906, siendo destinada toda la cantidad á Alemania.

Las exportaciones de cueros lanares ascendieron á 13,781 fardos en comparación con 12,662 de igual período de 1906, correspondiendo al Reino Unido, 339; á los Estados Unidos, 818; á Francia, 11,358; á Alemania, 347; á Bélgica, 155; á Italia, 722, y al Brasil, 42.

El número de fardos de cerda exportados fué de 1,147, comparado con el de 830 del mismo período de 1906, destinándose al Reino Unido, 56; á los Estados Unidos, 234; á Francia, 31; á Alemania, 167; á Bélgica, 384; á Italia, 251, y al Brasil, 24.

Las exportaciones de sebo durante el período de que se trata ascendieron á las cantidades siguientes: 5,118 pipas, 18,619 cubas, y 3,937 bocoyes, comparadas con las de 4,390 pipas, 22,039 cubas, y 768 bocoyes del período correspondiente á 1906. Los países á que se destinó este producto fueron los siguientes: Reino Unido, 1,878 pipas, 12,171 cubas, y 3,837 bocoyes; Francia 108 pipas; Alemania, 577 pipas y 1,402 cubas; Bélgica 404 pipas y 1,992 cubas; Italia, 2,077 pipas, y 315 cubas; Brasil, 104 pipas y 785 cubas, y otros países, 1,954 cubas.

Exportáronse 699 fardos de cueros de cabra, contra 3,993 del primer trimestre de 1906, de cuya cantidad tomaron los Estados Unidos, 507; el Reino Unido, 29; Francia, 156, y Bélgica, 7.

La cantidad de lana exportada fué de 195,013 fardos, comparada con la de 185,958 de igual período de 1906, distribuída como siguió: Reino Unido, 19,426; Estados Unidos, 11,088; Francia, 82,280; Alemania, 49,592; Bélgica, 24,809; Italia, 2,607, y otros países, 4,211.

Exportáronse 625,939 carneros congelados, contra 648,935 en el período correspondiente á 1906, tomando el Reino Unido, 596,775; Italia, 300, y el África del Sur, 28,854.

Las exportaciones de avena alcanzaron la cifra de 81,779 toneladas, comparada con la de 32,384 toneladas exportadas durante igual trimestre de 1906, siendo los siguientes los países á donde se destinaron: Reino Unido, 29,317; Estados Unidos, 60; Francia, 10,068; Alemania, 2,081; Bélgica, 15,868; Italia, 2,646; Brasil, 3, y órdenes, 7,974.

Las exportaciones de trigo ascendieron á la suma de 1,118,429 toneladas, comparada con la de 963,159 toneladas exportadas en el primer trimestre de 1906; los países de destino fueron: Reino Unido, 203,328; Francia, 20,037; Alemania, 79,626; Bélgica, 123,411; Italia, 6,598; África del Sur, 6,118; Brasil, 73,185; órdenes, 450,158; otros países, 155,328.

De maíz se exportaron 108,280 toneladas, contra 90,527 del mismo período del año precedente, con la siguiente distribución: Reino Unido, 31,510; Francia, 15,759; Alemania, 6,575; Bélgica, 20,344; Italia, 891; África del Sur, 204; Brasil, 1,032; órdenes, 22,047; otros países, 9,918.

Se exportaron 401,120 toneladas de linaza, en comparación con 214,407 del mismo período de 1906, que se distribuyeron como sigue: Reino Unido, 46,354; Francia, 28,721; Alemania, 117,621; Bélgica, 27,848; Italia, 10,721; África del Sur, 57; Brasil, 4; órdenes, 127,780; otros países, 43,014.

Las exportaciones de harina hicieron un total de 29,209 toneladas, comparado con el de 27,383 á que ascendieron las del primer trimestre de 1906, con la siguiente distribución: Reino Unido, 301; Brasil, 28,758; órdenes, 150.

Exportáronse 38,745 toneladas de afrecho, en comparación con 37,603 toneladas despachadas en el mismo período del año anterior, con la distribución siguiente: Reino Unido, 950; Francia, 1,803; Alemania, 31,221; Bélgica, 1,192; Brasil, 1,000; órdenes, 1,698; otros países, 881.

De salvado se exportaron 19,640 sacos, en comparación con 16,648 sacos enviados al extranjero en el primer trimestre de 1906, siendo los siguientes los países de destino: Reino Unido, 13; Francia, 18,347; Bélgica, 1,100.

Las exportaciones de semilla de linaza hicieron la suma de 24,232 sacos, comparada con la 43,102 á que ascendieron las del trimestre primero de 1906. Los países de destino fueron los siguientes: Reino Unido, 5,000; Francia, 2,128; Alemania, 15,600; Italia, 1,504.

De carne de vaca se exportaron 439,191 cuartos, en comparación con 543,931 cuartos exportados durante el período correspondiente á 1906, tomando el Reino Unido, 425,110; Italia, 612, y Brasil 13,069.

La cantidad exportada de bano fué de 94,441 fardos, comparada con la de 358,343 fardos despachados en el primer trimestre de 1906, siendo destinada toda ella al Brasil.

De quebracho se exportó la cantidad de 81,556 toneladas, en comparación con 89,278 toneladas exportadas en el período correspondiente á 1906, que se distribuye como sigue: Reino Unido, 3,338; Estados Unidos, 22,998; Francia, 4,614; Alemania, 20,672; Italia, 2,645; órdenes, 22,422; otros países, 4,867.

Las exportaciones de extracto de quebracho hicieron la suma de 10,310 toneladas, en comparación con la 17,053 toneladas del mismo período del año precedente, distribuídas como sigue: Reino Unido, 1,371; Estados Unidos, 5,525; Francia, 39; Alemania, 1,574; Bélgica, 488; Italia, 813; Brasil, 130; otros países, 190.

Exportáronse 37,741 cajas de mantequilla, en comparación con 71,209 cajas exportadas en el primer trimestre de 1906, con los siguientes destinos: Reino Unido, 30,149; Francia, 20; Africa del Sur, 7,440; Brasil, 132.

REDUCCIÓN DE LOS DERECHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN SOBRE EL AZÚCAR.

El 20 de abril de 1907, el Ministro de Hacienda de la República Argentina promulgó un decreto del Presidente en virtud del cual la partida No. 126 del Arancel de Aduanas queda reformada en el siguiente sentido: "Azúcar sin refinar, ó de menos de 96 grados de polarización, —0.06."

El efecto de esta modificación es reducir el derecho específico sobre los azúcares mencionados en la cantidad de 1 centavo oro por kilo.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE AZÚCAR EN 1906.

Según datos publicados por el "Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina," del 15 de abril de 1907, los 39 ingenios de la República elaboraron durante el año de 1906 1,695,323 sacos de azúcar con 118,817,528 kilos, que, en comparación con 1,919,593 sacos con 137,090,770 kilos fabricados en 1905, da una disminución en 1906 de 224,270 sacos con 18,273,242 kilos.

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SEÑOR DOCTOR LUÍS MELIAN LAFINUR, MINISTER OF URUGUAY TO THE UNITED STATES.

EXPOSICIÓN CENTENARIA DE BUENOS AIRES EN 1910.

El Gobierno de la República Argentina ha dado ya los pasos necesarios para la celebración de una exposición general de artes, industrias, agricultura y ganado en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, en el año de 1910, centenario de la capital.

La Comisión Nacional del Centenario ha sido autorizada por la ley para que ordene el trazo de los planos correspondientes, y para el fomento de interés sobre el particular.

EL ESTADO ECONÓMICO DE LA REPÚBLICA.

En su mensaje anual presentado al Congreso Nacional el 1° de mayo de 1907, el Presidente FIGUEROA ALCORTA de la República Argentina, manifestó que la nación presentaba un espectáculo de energía y vitalidad que convierte en realidad las predicciones económicas más optimistas de los patriotas más exigentes.

El importe de la deuda interna estaba fijado en 88,243,000 pesos papel (unos \$35,000,000 oro), y \$3,000,700 oro. Los bonos del Tesoro en circulación, que en 31 de marzo de 1906 ascendían a \$1,700,000 oro y 8,015,000 pesos papel, quedaron reducidos durante el último año económico, con la exclusión de los bonos depósitos como garantía simple de crédito, a \$411,437 oro y 4,995,000 pesos papel (unos \$2,000,000 oro).

La deuda externa consolidada, que en 31 de diciembre de 1905 ascendía a \$329,167,000 oro, quedó reducida en 31 de diciembre de 1906 a \$324,333,000 oro.

La cantidad depositada en el fondo de conversión es de \$120,000,000, y el fondo apartado para la presente emisión fiduciaria asciende a \$18,762,000 oro.

EL FERROCARRIL DEL SUR EN 1904-5, 1905-6 Y PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1906-7.

Según declaraciones oficiales, los productos del Ferrocarril del Sur durante el año de 1904-5 fueron de £3,350,102, y los gastos £1,670,625 siendo la proporción de 49.87. En el de 1905-6 las entradas ascendieron £3,896,888, y los gastos a £2,239,387, con una proporción de 57.47. Durante el primer semestre de 1906-7 el producto fué de £1,929,679, y los gastos alcanzaron a £1,125,136, siendo la proporción de 58.31. Por lo que va corrido del segundo semestre se puede calcular que la proporción de gastos llegue a algo aproximado a 60 por ciento.

Las cargas y frutos del país transportados en la línea alcanzan las siguientes cifras: Año terminado en junio de 1904, 2,362,197 toneladas; año terminado en junio de 1905, 3,090,703 toneladas; año

terminado en junio de 1906, 3,702,477 toneladas; segundo semestre de 1906, 2,110,682 toneladas.

El tráfico de pasajeros fué como sigue: Año terminado en junio de 1904, 6,924,096 pasajeros; año terminado en junio de 1905, 7,695,123 pasajeros; año terminado en junio de 1906, 9,551,772 pasajeros; segundo semestre de 1906, 6,002,186 pasajeros.

BOLIVIA.

DECRETO SOBRE MINAS.

Con fecha 2 de abril de 1907, el Gobierno Supremo expidió el siguiente decreto:

“CONCESIONES.

“ARTÍCULO 1º. Se reputarán también como demasías los espacios francos existentes entre las concesiones que no puedan formar la unidad, ó sea un cuadrado de cien metros de lado, aunque el total contenga más de los diez mil metros cuadrados que tiene dicha unidad.

“ART. 2º. El concesionario de arenas, placeres, mantos ú otros yacimientos superficiales, que encontrare vetas en el subsuelo del terreno que explota, está en la obligación de formalizar un pedimento por dichas vetas.

“DEBERES DE LOS MINEROS VECINOS.

“ART. 3º. Cuando un grupo más ó menos numeroso de concesiones mineras está amenazado ó sufra las consecuencias de una inundación común á todas ellas, que comprometa su existencia é imposibilite la extracción de sus minerales, la autoridad obligará á los concesionarios á ejecutar en común y á su costa, los trabajos necesarios para desaguar las minas inundadas en todo ó en parte, ó para detener los progresos de la inundación.

“SOLICITUDES.

“ART. 4º. Es obligatorio al interesado acompañar á su solicitud, un croquis que demuestre gráficamente la disposición en que serán demarcadas sus pertenencias, y la situación en que habrán de quedar éstas respecto de las de los colindantes.

“ART. 5º. Si las pertenencias mineras, materia de una solicitud de adjudicación, se hallaren situadas en el límite de dos ó más departamentos, extendiéndose sobre ellos, se presentará dicha solicitud á cualquiera de los prefectos que tengan jurisdicción, debiendo hacerse las publicaciones respectivas en los dos ó más departamentos que comprende la adjudicación.

“ART. 6º. El concesionario de substancias minerales de las superficie que desee trabajar las vetas del subsuelo que le corresponda, presentará su solicitud á la prefectura respectiva, manifestándose concesionario del suelo, los títulos que tenga, límites de la propiedad, etc., y los detalles necesarios.

“El prefecto dictará el auto de concesión, el que será comunicado al administrador del Tesoro, para los efectos del pago de patentes, debiendo adjuntarse dicho auto al expediente primitivo, y otorgarse el testimonio que solicite el interesado.

“ART. 7º. Cualquiera persona extraña puede pedir aquellas vesas, y si notificado el concesionario del suelo mineral, no formaliza su solicitud dentro de diez días, con más el término de la distancia, se considerará que renuncia ese derecho.

“ART. 8º. Toda solicitud deberá presentarse en dos hojas de papel sellado de diez bolivianos, á efecto de que sean usadas é inutilizadas con el auto de adjudicación.

“Si el pedido fuere formulado en papel que no corresponda, el prefecto ordenará el reintegro con más el cuádruplo del valor y en el perentorio término de 24 horas. No haciéndolo así el minero, se reputará por no presentada su solicitud.

“ART. 9º. Como la caducidad no se produce de pleno derecho, siendo necesario previo auto que la declare, no se podrá pedir como terreno franco aquel que ha sido solicitado con anterioridad, aunque el primer peticionario no haya perfeccionado sus derechos y se presume el abandono de éstos. En caso de que sobre el mismo terreno hubiere dos ó más peticiones, tendrá mejor derecho el que solicite previamente la caducidad, sin tomar en cuenta que los que pidieron como terreno franco tengan antelación de pedido.

“MENSURA Y ALINDERAMIENTO.

“ART. 10. Las diligencias de mensura, alinderamiento y posesión, deberán efectuarse en el término de setenta días, que correrá desde la fecha de la primera publicación.

“ART. 11. Dichas diligencias se realizarán, en caso de oposición juzgada administrativa ó judicialmente, dentro del término de cuarenta días, que empezará á correr desde la notificación al solicitante con el auto que causó la ejecutoria.

“ART. 12. El prefecto, asimismo, podrá conceder una prórroga prudencial, siempre que el concesionario tuviere algún impedimento notoriamente insalvable.

“ART. 13. Las diligencias de mensura y posesión referentes á un mismo mineral, se practicarán según el orden de antelación de las peticiones de concesión.

“Á este orden riguroso sólo podrá faltarse cuando la distancia y el aislamiento de las minas solicitados alejen todo temor de causar perjuicios.

"OPOSICIONES.

"ART. 14. Cuando la oposición se deduce á tiempo de practicarse las diligencias demarcatorias, los ingenieros ó peritos se limitarán á practicar una mensura provisional, determinando la ubicación del nuevo pedimento, y del que se reputa invadido y levantarán un plano detallado en la sección disputada que deberá acompañarse al proceso.

"ART. 15. Si la concesión que trata de localizarse es de mayor número de pertenencias que aquella con que se deduce la oposición, la posesión se dará definitiva en la parte discutida, y se procederá como en el artículo anterior, en la parte que se pretende hallarse lesionada.

"ART. 16. Además de las oposiciones por prioridad y falta de terreno franco, son procedentes aquellas que refiriéndose la petición á substancias minerales en placeres, veneros, aventaderos y rebosaderos, se alegue que se trata de ubicar las pertenencias en terreno de cultivo.

"Igualmente son procedentes las oposiciones á la concesión de desmontes y relaves de establecimientos y minas abandonados, si se alega que éstos se encuentran en actual trabajo ó tienen cercos y murallas.

"ART. 17. Para las oposiciones se tendrá como documento auténtico el Boletín Departamental, únicamente cuando la concesión que se quiera defender se encuentre en tramitación. Si está consolidada y tiene títulos, deberá acompañarse testimonio de éstos y el plano autorizado.

"ART. 18. El opositor á quien se haya declarado procedente su oposición, pedirá por escrito la remisión de obrados á los tribunales ordinarios, en el término de veinticinco días computable desde la última notificación, bajo pena de declararse abandonada la oposición.

"ART. 19. Si vencido el término señalado en el artículo anterior, el concesionario no reclama la rebeldía del opositor, dejando transcurrir los cuarenta días que determina el artículo 82, podrá ser denunciado de caducidad por quien tenga interés en el terreno.

"ART. 20. El término de seis meses que él señala para acudir á los tribunales ordinarios cuando no se ha podido defender la propiedad por el medio de la oposición, no correrá contra el minero colindante que habiendo sido mencionado en el pedimento, no fué notificado para la posesión.

"ART. 21. En los casos señalados por los artículos 43, 46 y 58 del reglamento de octubre 28 de 1882, si hubieren hechos que probar, se concederá un término perentorio de veinte días.

"APROBACIÓN Y REGISTRO.

"ART. 22. Siempre que el prefecto no hubiere concurrido á presidir las diligencias de mensura, alinderamiento y posesión, deberán ser

elevados los obrados á su conocimiento para que les preste su aprobación, previo examen de haberse aquéllas efectuado conforme á las prescripciones vigentes, y estar al día el servicio de patentes.

“Si el expediente estuviere correcto, el prefecto ordenará se expida el título de propiedad.

“ART. 23. Dicha aprobación será solicitada dentro de los treinta días siguientes al verificativo de las diligencias.

“ART. 24. El prefecto podrá declarar de oficio la nulidad de una posesión, si del examen de obrados resultaren infringidas prescripciones terminantes, tales como falta de notificación á mineros colindantes, mensura irregular que no guarde la unidad y agrupación de las hectáreas, haberse ministrado posesión sin previa mensura ú otras.

“ART. 25. El colindante ó minero perjudicado con la mensura de la nueva mina puede asimismo pedir ante la prefectura, la nulidad de las operaciones posesorias, siempre que resultare demostrado haberse infringido prescripciones legales, y en tanto que no se haya dictado el auto de aprobación de tales diligencias. Si se ha producido este auto, no tendrán otro recurso que acudir á los tribunales ordinarios.

“PATENTES.

“ART. 26. Cuando el que explota substancias minerales superciciales, obtuviere la concesión del subsuelo, pagará sólo la patente señalada á las propiedades construidas sobre vetas.

“ART. 27. Para el pago de patentes, la dentasia se conceptuará como una hectárea completa, por toda fracción hasta diez mil metros cuadrados; como dos, pasando de esta cifra y llegando á veinte mil, y así sucesivamente.

“CADUCIDAD.

“ART. 28. Se reputará abandonada una solicitud, si dentro del término de setenta días señalados para la mensura y alinderamiento, no se efectuaren las diligencias mencionadas.

“ART. 29. No se incurrirá en la sanción del artículo anterior si se obtuvo prórroga en el término ó se propuso oposición al pedimento.

“ART. 30. Se incurrirá asimismo en caducidad de gestiones cuando el minero no iusta las diligencias de mensura, alinderamiento y posesión, y deja vencer los setenta días acordados por el artículo 10 y los cuarenta señalados por el artículo 11, aunque no haya sido notificado con el auto de adjudicación.

“ART. 31. La caducidad se produce únicamente por auto motivado, expedido por la prefectura que otorgó la concesión.

“ART. 32. Cualquiera persona que tenga interés puede denunciar el abandono y hacer declarar la caducidad de una solicitud.

"JURISDICCIÓN.

"ART. 33. El Ministerio de Industria, conforme á la ley de organización política, conoce en apelación de los autos dictados en materia de minería por las prefecturas departamentales.

"ART. 34. Quedan derogados los supremos decretos de 18 de julio y 20 de noviembre de 1906."

BRASIL.

EL COMERCIO EXTERIOR DE 1906.

La *Brazilian Review* del 30 de abril de 1907 contiene datos completos relativos al comercio exterior del Brasil durante el año de 1906, de los cuales han sido tomados los que se publican á continuación.

Las importaciones, sin incluir las de metálico, estuvieron avaluadas en £33,204,041, suministrando los Estados Unidos el 11.46 por ciento. Las exportaciones alcanzaron la suma de £53,059,480, recibiendo los Estados Unidos el 36 por ciento.

Los países de donde procedieron las importaciones fueron los siguientes, dándose también las cifras correspondientes á 1905, por vía de comparación:

IMPORTACIONES.

Paises.	1905.	1906.	Tanto por ciento en 1906.
Alemania.....	£3,977,321	£4,873,140	14.676
República Argentina.....	3,511,141	3,508,922	10.567
Austria-Hungría.....	519,269	512,583	1.544
Bélgica.....	1,086,772	1,286,116	3.874
Chile.....	41,709	41,181	.133
China.....	31,980	29,121	.088
Cuba.....	4,703	8,610	.025
Dinamarca.....	67,455	65,277	.196
Estados Unidos.....	3,082,570	3,805,128	11.460
Francia.....	2,686,868	3,057,305	9.268
Gran Bretaña.....	7,841,245	9,284,707	27.993
Grecia.....	653	790	.002
España.....	214,518	267,586	.805
Holanda.....	130,367	160,770	.484
Italia.....	963,994	1,094,826	3.267
Japón.....	10,016	14,281	.043
Paraguay.....	23,546	21,067	.063
Perú.....	12,061	2,181	.008
Portugal.....	2,183,734	2,174,890	6.552
Canadá.....	186,285	170,530	.514
India.....	581,236	429,943	1.286
Nueva Zelandia.....	1,869	892	.002
Tertutova.....	437,357	421,297	1.269
Otras colonias británicas.....	29,344	23,363	.070
Rusia.....	27,881	39,801	.120
Suecia.....		143,114	.432
Noruega.....	380,114	287,550	.867
Sueiza.....	231,892	299,287	.902
Turquía en Asia.....	4,325	5,282	.017
Turquía en Europa.....	5,369	7,245	.022
Uruguay.....	1,471,428	1,114,374	3.356
Otros países.....	46,097	41,459	.125
Total.....	29,830,051	33,204,041	

Las exportaciones fueron destinadas á las siguientes naciones:

EXPORTACIONES.

Países.	1905.	1906.	Tanto por ciento en 1906.
Alemania.....	£6,750,116	£9,341,357	17,905
República Argentina.....	1,364,644	1,923,758	3,625
Austria-Hungría.....	1,522,899	1,821,959	3,434
Bélgica.....	993,898	1,105,841	2,084
Bolivia.....	545	483	.901
Bulgaria.....	.....	5,128	.010
Canal (por Góndenes).....	531,294	159,163	.300
Chile.....	72,670	91,914	.173
China.....	3,236	1,852	.003
Creta.....	268	.....	.....
Cuba.....	719	.....	.....
Dinamarca.....	110,025	113,151	.213
Egipto.....	52,319	108,056	.204
Estados Unidos.....	18,360,440	18,027,520	35,107
Francia.....	3,235,788	6,507,470	12,265
Gran Bretaña.....	8,298,833	8,514,904	16,104
Grecia.....	12,914	16,246	.031
España.....	145,562	196,898	.371
Islas Canarias.....	7,655	7,832	.015
Holanda.....	1,324,517	1,842,982	3,473
Italia.....	414,270	510,118	.961
Marruecos.....	1,600	1,178	.002
Paraguay.....	5,452	2,853	.005
Perú.....	21,311	15,618	.029
Portugal.....	261,339	312,755	.589
Isla Madera.....	14	.....	.....
Barbados.....	12	139	.....
Canadá.....	.....	672	.001
Cabo de Buena Esperanza.....	229,298	236,256	.292
Gibraltar.....	5,753	25,602	.050
Hong-kong.....	1,713	.....	.....
India.....	1	.....	.....
Malta.....	2,001	12,096	.023
Terranova.....	.....	518	.001
Algeria.....	90,309	95,307	.180
Dalomey.....	386	293	.....
Bahía de Delagoa.....	2,298	4,796	.010
Cabo Verde.....	158	33	.....
Tunez.....	1,281	4,811	.010
Rumania.....	17,663	17,199	.032
Rusia.....	114,545	139,024	.262
Suecia.....	68,962	31,875	.060
Noruega.....	33,669	.....	.....
Tripoli.....	250	956	.002
Asia Menor.....	91,867	130,686	.256
Turquia.....	152,763	161,286	.310
Uruguay.....	729,789	855,949	1,576
Total.....	41,643,113	53,079,480	100,000

El tonelaje total de los vapores y buques de vela que entraron en puertos brasileños durante 1906 fué de 14,464,937 toneladas llevadas en 17,764 buques, en comparación con 12,927,295 toneladas y 17,072 buques en 1905. Salieron 17,770 buques con 14,451,157 toneladas, en comparación con 17,064 buques con 12,926,298 toneladas en el año, anterior. La mayor parte de los buques fueron brasileños y británicos.

Los seis productos principales de exportación fueron: Café, £27,615,884; goma, £14,055,911; hierba mate, £1,856,574; algodón, £1,656,730, y cacao, £1,386,44.

Los Estados Unidos, Alemania y Francia fueron los compradores principales de café de cuyas exportaciones tomaron 317,441, 176,863, y 128,362 toneladas, respectivamente.

De las exportaciones de goma mangabeira, los Estados Unidos tomaron 154,135 kilogramos; Alemania, 256,208 kilogramos; y la Gran Bretaña, 132,210 kilogramos. De las de goma maniçoba, 1,530 toneladas se enviaron á la Gran Bretaña; 433, á los Estados Unidos; y 375 á Alemania, en tanto que las consignaciones de goma seringa fueron como sigue: Estados Unidos, 16,162 toneladas; Gran Bretaña, 10,760; Francia, 2,770, y Alemania, 1,651.

De cueros curtidos se enviaron á la Gran Bretaña, Francia, y Alemania las siguientes cantidades: 11,335, 4,625, y 4,221 toneladas, respectivamente; Francia y Alemania tomaron la mayor parte de las exportaciones de cueros secos, 5,129 y 1,010 toneladas, respectivamente.

El cacao fué exportado á los Estados Unidos por la cantidad de 8,891 toneladas, á Alemania por la de 7,190 toneladas, á Francia por la de 5,284; á la Gran Bretaña por la de 2,020, y á Holanda por la de 423. Otros países tomaron las 1,324 toneladas restantes de un total de 25,135 toneladas.

De tabaco picado se exportó la cantidad de 679,727 kilogramos, destinándose á Alemania 520,243, y á la Gran Bretaña 85,084 kilogramos; de tabaco en rama se exportaron 22,947 toneladas, tomando Alemania casi todo el total.

Las exportaciones de azúcar hicieron un total de 849,963 kilogramos de azúcar blanco y 84,099 toneladas de azúcar de otras clases, tomando la Argentina la mayor parte del azúcar blanco, y dividiendo con los Estados Unidos y la Gran Bretaña el moreno y de otras clases.

En la lista de las importaciones, ocupan el primer lugar los productos manufacturados, los cuales se hallan acreditados con £16,426,019, ó 49.5 por ciento del total de las importaciones; maquinaria de todas clases y productos de algodón son los artículos principales entre los productos manufacturados. La Gran Bretaña y los Estados Unidos son los principales competidores en las importaciones de maquinaria, ocupando aquélla el primer puesto, si bien en la importación de locomotoras hubo un marcado aumento á favor de los Estados Unidos y una disminución igual en contra de la Gran Bretaña. En los géneros de algodón, Gran Bretaña ocupa el primer puesto en el mercado, siguiéndola Francia, Alemania y los Estados Unidos.

Las importaciones de comestibles y forraje están acreditadas en la lista con la suma de £10,250,687, y siguen en valor á los productos manufacturados. Bajo este epígrafe, el artículo principal es la harina, cuyas importaciones ascendieron á 122,282 toneladas de la República Argentina; importáronse también vinos de Italia, bacalao de Terranova, arroz de la India, y harina de trigo de los Estados Unidos.

Las materias primas, ó preparadas en parte, para uso en las artes é

industrias constituyen el 19.23 por ciento del total de las importaciones, y figuran con la cantidad de £6,325,800. Las importaciones de algodón ocupan el primer lugar bajo esta clasificación.

MOVIMIENTO COMERCIAL DE SANTOS, PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

El total de las importaciones hechas por el puerto de Santos durante el primer trimestre de 1907 fué de 33,358,389 milreis, ó £2,113,071, en comparación con 17,646,786 milreis, ó £1,216,813, en igual trimestre del año anterior. Las exportaciones figuran con un valor de 76,011,952, ó £4,821,956, contra 42,180,150, ó £2,852,444, en los tres primeros meses de 1906. Estas cifras demuestran que el tráfico de este puerto ha aumentado virtualmente durante el año.

La Gran Bretaña, Alemania, la Argentina, y los Estados Unidos suministraron el grueso de las importaciones, por el orden mencionado, si bien la Gran Bretaña está muy á la cabeza de sus competidores. Por otra parte, entre los países de destino de las exportaciones, los Estados Unidos ocupan el primer puesto, seguidos de Alemania, Francia, Gran Bretaña, y Holanda.

Los cuatro artículos principales de exportación fueron café, cueros, goma, y afrecho, siendo la cantidad exportada de café 2,415,374 sacos, en comparación con 1,405,027 sacos exportados durante el primer trimestre de 1906.

EXPORTACIONES DE GOMA, PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

Las exportaciones de goma del Amazonas y de Pará durante el primer trimestre de 1907 estuvieron avaluadas en £5,148,282 en comparación con £5,290,489 en el período correspondiente á 1906.

COLOMBIA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE REYES.

El General RAFAEL REYES, Presidente de la República, el día 1º de abril de 1907, envió á la Asamblea Nacional su mensaje anual, acompañado de breves informes de los varios miembros del Gabinete. Después de felicitar al país por el estado de paz y prosperidad que disfruta hace varios años, el General REYES dijo lo siguiente:

“Nuestras relaciones internacionales se han cultivado y se mantienen en el pie de cordialidad y de corrección, á lo cual ayudan eficazmente el honorable cuerpo diplomático en esta capital y nuestros representantes en el exterior, en donde se considera que Colombia ha salido definitivamente de la era de guerras civiles por la cual han pasado todos los países del orbe, y entrado ya en la de la paz y del progreso. * * *

La aguda crisis económica que ha pesado sobre la nación desde que terminó la última guerra civil, como consecuencia obligada de ésta y del exceso de emisión de papel moneda, está aún en período agudo, y el Gobierno ha destinado para conjurarla la mayor parte de las rentas públicas, á fin de recuperar sólidamente el crédito del país en el exterior y atraer por este medio los capitales éxtranjeros para la construcción de vías férreas y para otras industrias; y en el interior, ha atendido á mejorar las vías de comunicación, convirtiendo en carreteras las de herradura, componiendo éstas y abriendo otras nuevas. De esta manera las contribuciones públicas tienen un empleo reproductivo y fecundo que ha dominado en parte la mala situación económica y que al fin acabará por dominarla completamente.

“Se ha conservado la nivelación de nuestros presupuestos, y cada día mejora la organización de nuestras finanzas y la regular administración de las rentas públicas, hasta el punto de que hoy podemos decir que ésta se hace correctamente.

“Las cosechas han sido abundantes en el año pasado y prometen serlo lo mismo en el presente, lo que evitará que la masa de la población sufra por causa de escasez de víveres.

“Desde vuestras últimas sesiones la Asamblea Nacional ha aumentado su personal en veintidós diputados, correspondientes á los seis nuevos Departamentos que se han formado y al Distrito Capital. En esta Asamblea están justa y equitativamente representados por hombres de lo más distinguido todas las agrupaciones políticas del país.

“He hablado incidentalmente de la composición política de la Asamblea Nacional, sólo para dejar constancia de sus elementos representativos; pero vuestra labor no será política, toda vez que ningún problema de esa clase tiene pendiente la nación; y aceptadas por todos los partidos las actuales instituciones, la labor política de tales partidos quedará en lo futuro, como ya lo está, en el fecundo campo de la Administración, en el que todos pueden laborar en bien de la patria; y éste será el desideratum de las agrupaciones políticas que, ó han de convertirse en fuerzas concurrentes para la obra del bien, ó han de desaparecer porque la nación no podría soportar por más tiempo dentro de su vigoroso organismo, y á título de entidades políticas, fuerzas disolventes y opuestas ó su progreso y á su bienestar. Pláceme reconocer en todos vosotros el espíritu patriótico y amplio, necesario para aceptar con lealtad y franqueza el postulado sobre la misión de los partidos políticos, que es hoy dominante en todos los colombianos de buena voluntad.”

INFORME DEL MINISTRO DE GOBERNACIÓN.

El Señor Don EUCLIDES DE ANGULO, Ministro de Gobernación, en su informe dirigido á la Asamblea Nacional, agregado al mensaje del Presidente REYES, dice lo siguiente:

“Era notorio el vacío que se observaba constantemente por las autoridades acerca de la personería de algunas compañías extranjeras domiciliadas en el exterior cuyas negociaciones en parte se cumplían dentro del territorio de la República, para comparecer ante los magistrados ó simples funcionarios de ésta como demandantes ó como demandados, según nuestra legislación. Con efecto, dichas compañías tenían por lo regular constituidos apoderados que las representaban, y cuando llegaba el caso de exigir el cumplimiento de alguna obligación por parte de personas naturales ó jurídicas del país, hacían uso del poder y llevaban á efecto las gestiones pertinentes, hasta obtener un resultado definitivo; pero si se trataba del cumplimiento de obligaciones por su parte, entonces rehusaban la aceptación del mandato que se les había conferido, sustrayendo de este modo de la jurisdicción nacional la persona jurídica que representaban, para obligar á sus contrarios ó á abandonar la reclamación de sus derechos, ó á comparecer ante tribunales extranjeros, si era el caso de hacerlos valer ante ellos. Resultaba pues que de un lado el derecho de los nacionales quedaba incierto é ineficaz, y del otro los extranjeros disfrutaban de todas las ventajas para lograr la efectividad de los suyos. Esta dificultad ha desaparecido siguiendo las prácticas modernas de las naciones con la expedición de los decretos legislativos Nos. 2 y 37 de 1906.

“El Gobierno ha mantenido en su vigor estas disposiciones, que existen en la legislación de todos los países cultos, porque ha creído prestar con ello un servicio tutelar á los derechos de los nacionales y fijar reglas claras para el ejercicio de los mismos derechos de los extranjeros que negocian en Colombia.

“No pocas solicitudes para que se derogaran los decretos Nos. 2 y 37 han tenido que negarse, siendo de advertir que muchas de tales solicitudes, patrocinadas por juristas nacionales, han sido encaminadas á eliminar disposiciones sabias destinadas á establecer con toda claridad la condición jurídica de las compañías extranjeras y á evitar el desconocimiento siempre deplorable de los derechos de nuestros nacionales.

“En desarrollo de los decretos legislativos Nos. 2 y 37 de 1906 el Gobierno ha dictado varias resoluciones interpretativas á solicitud de parte, la última de las cuales es la de fecha 22 de febrero, que recae en la solicitud elevada por el súbdito alemán Señor CARLOS ARNTZ, que corre publicada en el No. 12901 del “Diario Oficial.” Allí se sustenta una doctrina sana y jurídicamente arreglada á nuestro derecho positivo y en ese camino no debe retroceder el Gobierno, porque es el camino de la ley, y hay que cerrar el paso á las viejas propensiones de especular con el estado de desorden interno en materias tan delicadas como las de que acabo de hablar brevemente.

* * * * *

“Las sociedades anónimas constituidas conforme á lo dispuesto en los Códigos de Comercio y Civil son personas jurídicas por ministerio

de la ley, sin que necesiten la autorización del poder ejecutivo para su existencia, como lo disponía el artículo 553 del Código primeramente nombrado, toda vez que este artículo fué derogado por la ley 27 de 1888; interpretación que ha servido para negar en distintas ocasiones las solicitudes elevadas al Ministerio con el fin indicado.

* * * * *

“El informe sobre Correos y Telégrafos corresponde al tiempo transcurrido de abril de 1904, época en que se rindió el informe anterior, hasta el presente. El ramo de correos ha funcionado con regularidad después de la reorganización hecha en 1905, conforme á los decretos ejecutivos Nos. 317 y 562 de dicho año. De acuerdo con dicha reorganización el ramo tiene quince secciones en la capital de la República.

* * * * *

“Las líneas existentes cuando se presentó el informe anterior han sido aumentadas con la creación de cuatro nuevas, que son las siguientes: Una de Manizales que va al Cármen de Atrato; otra que parte del municipio de Anserma hasta Istmina; otra de Bogotá á Agua de Dios, especial y directa, que presta el servicio quincenalmente, y, finalmente, otra línea para el Atlántico que parte de Bogotá vía Girardot hasta Barranquilla.

* * * * *

“El establecimiento de una agencia confidencial en Panamá, con el fin de recibir y despachar los correos para los Departamentos del Cauca y Nariño en la parte sur de la República, y de los que van al extranjero desde dichos puntos ha dado resultados satisfactorios.

* * * * *

“En 1905 se portearon 659,416 cartas que representaban sellos por valor de \$182,772.21, y 369,879 comunicaciones oficiales; en 1906 las piezas de correspondencia porteadas ascendieron á 386,280, que representaban sellos por valor de \$101,460.57, en tanto que la correspondencia oficial despachada ascendió á 207,677 piezas.”

INFORME DEL MINISTRO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES.

El Señor A. VASQUEZ COBO, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, en su informe dirigido á la Asamblea Nacional, agregado al mensaje del Presidente REYES, dice lo siguiente:

“Con motivo de haber comunicado nuestro Plenipotenciario en Río de Janeiro, el deseo del Ministro de Estado, Señor Roor, de llegar al puerto de Cartagena á hacer una visita á Colombia como término de su viaje por Sur América, el Gobierno se preparó á recibir á aquel esclarecido hombre de Estado de una manera digna de él y de las tradiciones de hospitalidad y cortesía que han honrado á la República. El infraserito recibió del Excelentísimo Señor Presidente el honroso encargo de trasladarse á Cartagenag, como lo hizo, á esperar al ilustre

huésped. El Señor Root llegó á esa ciudad el 24 de septiembre del año pasado, y fué objeto de las atenciones de estilo. Al saludar al Señor Root en nombre de la República y del Excelentísimo Señor Presidente, le dije, entre otras cosas: 'Os recibimos como heraldo de paz, de justicia y de concordia.' El Señor Root, en contestación á mi discurso, manifestó el 'sincero deseo de que todas las cuestiones pendientes entre la República de Colombia y los Estados Unidos de América puedan arreglarse pacíficamente, conforme á un espíritu de amistad, de mutua estima, y de acuerdo con el honor de los dos países.'

"Esta declaración franca y amistosa, así como las demás manifestaciones hechas por el distinguido Secretario de Estado en honor de Colombia y de su ilustre Jefe, inclinaron más al Gobierno á la continuación de las negociaciones iniciadas en Wáshington por el Ministro Señor MENDOZA PÉREZ. Para procurar llevarlas á feliz término, se designó en reemplazo del Dr. MENDOZA PÉREZ al Señor Dr. ENRIQUE CORTÉS, ciudadano que por su ilustración, su tino y su larga permanencia en los centros europeos pareció ser el más adecuada para continuar esta misión.

"El Señor CORTÉS se trasladó á Wáshington é inició sus labores de acuerdo con las instrucciones que esta cancillería le tiene impartidas. A fin de consultar mejor el acierto en tan delicada gestión, el Gobierno decidió nombrar como Consejeros de la Legación á los ilustrados Señores JOSÉ MARÍA PASOS, GABRIEL O'BYRNE y ANTONIO R. BLANCO.

"Las negociaciones se han proseguido de una manera satisfactoria y el Gobierno abraja la esperanza de que pronto podrá anunciar á la República la celebración de un acuerdo conforme al honor y á los intereses de ella. Motivo de especial satisfacción sería para mí el que ese acuerdo se terminase antes del fin de vuestras tareas, para que pudieréis considerarlo.

"Debo hacer presente que al buen estado de las relaciones entre Colombia y los Estados Unidos contribuyó en gran parte, con inteligencia y tino, el distinguido diplomático honorable Sr. JOHN BARRETT, quien, leal amigo de Colombia, se impuso un viaje por nuestros departamentos, de fecundos resultados para el país."

MEJORAMIENTO DEL SISTEMA FERROVIARIO.

En su memoria presentada el 1 de abril de 1907, á la Asamblea Nacional de la República de Colombia, el Ministro de Obras Públicas y Fomento hace una descripción detallada del plan adoptado por el Gobierno para el mejoramiento del sistema de ferrocarriles de la nación.

Este plan, además de aprovechar muchas líneas en construcción ó contratadas, sirve para unir en estrecho abrazo los Departamentos del Cauca, Caldas, Antioquia, Tolima, Cundinamarca, Quesada, Boyacá,

Tundama, Galán y Santander, y el Distrito de la Capital; y prolongada la comunicación por el Magdalena hasta el Océano Atlántico, enlazará también los de Atlántico, Bolívar y Magdalena. El proyecto consiste en enlazar varias de las líneas en construcción de modo que formen una sola, así: de Buenaventura, en el Pacífico, á Cali; de aquí hacia el norte por las principales ciudades del Cauca y siguiendo el curso del río de este nombre, á través de Caldas y Antioquia, hasta Medellín, en donde se enlazará con el ferrocarril que se construye desde Puerto Berrio, sobre el Magdalena; de este puerto hacia el sur, por la orilla izquierda del río, á empalmar en la María con el Ferrocarril de La Dorada, que se está prolongando hasta Ambalema; un ramal unirá á esta ciudad con la estación de Tocaima del Ferrocarril de Girardot, que subirá á La Sabana á empalmar en Facatativa con el que de esta ciudad se dirige á Bogotá; de aquí, por el Ferrocarril del Norte y su prolongación á Chiquinquirá, en construcción, y la línea contratada para salir por Bucaramanga á un punto cercano á Puerto Wilches, se llegará á la parte baja del Río Magdalena, desde donde en todo tiempo es navegable este río. Además, una línea férrea á través del Quindío pondrá en comunicación á Cartago con Girardot, y otra línea se extenderá de Medellín al Golfo de Urabá.

De enero de 1906 á abril de 1907 se han hecho las siguientes extensiones en el sistema ferroviario de la República: Ferrocarril de Sur, 2 kilómetros, 510 metros, 40 centímetros; Ferrocarril de Antioquia, 19 kilómetros, 339 metros, 15 centímetros; Ferrocarril de Santa María, 8 kilómetros; Ferrocarril del Tolima, 5 kilómetros; Ferrocarril de Girardot, 4 kilómetros, y hay cerca de 40 que pronto serán abiertos al tráfico; Ferrocarril del Norte (Zipaquirá á Nemocón), 15 kilómetros, y Ferrocarril de La Dorada, 23 kilómetros.

CONSTRUCCIÓN DEL FERROCARRIL DE TUNDAMA.

El "Diario Oficial" de Colombia, del 15 de marzo de 1907, contiene el texto del contrato de fecha 1º de febrero de 1907, aprobado por el Presidente REYES el 4 del mismo, y celebrado entre el Gobierno y el Señor Don TOMAS GERMÁN RIBÓN, por el cual se otorga á éste privilegio exclusivo para la construcción y explotación del Ferrocarril de Tundama.

La línea partirá de Nemocón, ó de un punto en las inmediaciones de esa población, en el Departamento de Quesada, y terminará en Santa Rosa de Viterbo, Departamento de Tundama, pasando por las ciudades de Chocoutá, Tunja, Paipa y Duitama; tendrá un ramal que partirá de un punto entre estas dos últimas poblaciones para ir á terminar en Sogamoso.

El Gobierno pagará al concesionario una subvención de \$9,990, oro, por cada kilómetro de vía férrea que construya y ponga en servicio con las condiciones que se estipulan en el contrato; el pago de

la subvención se hará en bonos del Gobierno que ganarán el 6 por ciento de interés anual. Se otorga además al concesionario, á título gratuito, el derecho de propiedad á 300 hectáreas de terrenos baldíos por cada kilómetro que construya.

CONTRATO SOBRE NAVEGACIÓN DEL ALTO MAGDALENA.

El "Diario Oficial" de Colombia, del 9 de marzo de 1907, contiene el texto de un contrato, fechado el 20 de febrero y aprobado por el Presidente REYES el 25 del mismo mes, entre el Gobierno y los Señores CARRIZOSA y VÉLEZ por el cual éstos se obligan á mantener el servicio de navegación por vapor entre los puertos fluviales de Girardot y Arrancaplumas en el Alto Magdalena. El servicio consistirá en 48 viajes redondos al año entre los dos mencionados puertos, con escala en Upito, Guataque, Iguanime, Ambalema y Cambao.

PATENTES DE INVENCION Y MARCAS DE FÁBRICA EN 1906.

Según la publicación oficial del Ministerio de Obras Públicas y Fomento de Colombia, durante el año ordinario de 1906 se concedieron 39 patentes de invención y mejora, y se registraron 61 marcas de fábrica.

COSTA RICA.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE CLETO GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

El Señor Don CLETO GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ, Presidente de la República de Costa Rica, el día 1° de mayo de 1907, envió al Congreso Constitucional un mensaje del cual se copian los siguientes párrafos:

"En marzo de 1905 fueron firmados en Panamá por el plenipotenciario de Costa Rica, Licenciado Don LEONIDAS PACHECO y por el General Don SANTIAGO DE LA GUARDIA, á la sazón Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de aquella República, una declaración referente al fallo arbitral sobre límites, un tratado que modifica la frontera entre ambos países, y una convención sobre amojonamiento.

"La Asamblea de Panamá ha aprobado ya estos tres pactos, excepto el de límites, al cual hizo algunos cambios de sustancia.

"Falta ahora únicamente que el Congreso de Costa Rica los considere y decida si son aceptables de nuestra parte con las variantes introducidas.

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"Preferente atención han tenido y seguirán teniendo en mi Gobierno las vías de comunicación. Sin ese factor principalísimo, la agricultura estaría llamada á desfallecer, pues el subido costo de los transportes arrebata al labrador lo que constituiría, habiéndolas, su legítima ganancia; y en la expectativa de una pérdida tiene forzo-

samente que detener sus entusiasmos y energías. El no haber buenos caminos se traduce también, necesariamente, en carestía de víveres, y refluye, de modo muy sustancial, en el bienestar de las clases pobres, cuyos gastos de vida llegan á desequilibrarse con el precio de los jornales.

“Por otra parte, los terrenos de la meseta central comienza á sentir el natural cansancio, y se hace por lo mismo indispensable abrir y establecer caminos que den fácil acceso á las fértiles y cuasi vírgenes regiones del norte y del sur de la República. Los vecinos de dichos terrenos irán á poblar y cultivar los terrenos nuevos, si se les da la seguridad de transportar sus productos á los centros de mercado, á una tarifa que deje un margen de provecho.

“Siguiendo estas ideas, ha comenzado á estudiarse seriamente el camino al General, y espera el Gobierno que dentro de poco podrán emprenderse trabajos definitivos. Esta mejora, á la que se proyecta agregar la de una línea telegráfica, empujará hacia esa privilegiada zona aquellas gentes del sur de San José y de algunos distritos de Cartago, que hoy con razón se quejan del escaso rendimiento de sus terrenos.

“Comunicar de igual manera la altiplanicie en que vivimos con las llanuras de San Carlos, Sarapiquí y Santa Clara, traería sin duda alguna ventajas incalculables. El proyecto de un Ferrocarril por lo menos á Sarapiquí, se hace más fácil cada día, por el avance que toma en esa dirección al Ferrocarril de Costa Rica. El Gobierno, para las negociaciones que tiene pendientes con las compañías Northern Railway y United Fruit, ha puesto como condición de arreglo el que esa sección de ferrocarril se construya.

* * * * *

“Los trabajos de continuación de ferrocarril á Puntarenas han proseguido con actividad, no obstante que se agotó la suma producida por el empréstito negociado. * * *

“La suma que requiere la terminación completa de esta obra—que seguirá siendo un gravamen para el Estado mientras no se concluya—asciende á mas de 13,000,000 colones. * * *

“La idea de empréstito interior, para conseguir fondos, debe á mi juicio abandonarse, porque es absolutamente imposible levantar aquí ese capital con plazos cómodos y sin hacer positivo perjuicio al comercio y á la agricultura.

* * * * *

“La renta de aduanas estimada en 4,200,000 colones, montó á 4,346,977.49 colones, resultado que es superior al del año antecedente en 332,543.71 colones.

“La renta de licores, cuyo rendimiento se fijó en la suma de 1,450,000 colones, ha subido á 1,747,793.54 colones, ó sean 421,571.92 colones más que durante el año fiscal de 1905-6.

“La renta de tabacos calculada en 190,000 colones, descendió á 158,115.15 colones.

“La renta de correos y telégrafos produjo 237,635.64 colones, ó sean 12,635.64 colones más que lo presupuesto, y 25,677.56 más que el año anterior.

“En suma, las rentas, figuradas en 6,623,500 colones, ascendieron á 6,951,209.92 colones.

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“No entrando en cuenta los gastos de continuación del ferrocarril, los egresos del Tesoro que se calculaban, al emitirse el presupuesto, en 6,627,731.20, montaron á la cantidad de 7,323,775.34 colones.

“El Ferrocarril al Pacifico, que tenía en presupuesto 703,664.28 colones, consumió, junto con el material rodante y de planta, la suma de 1,188,900.97 colones, ó sean 485,236.29 colones de más.

* * * * *

“La Deuda Interior que en 31 de marzo de 1906 alcanzaba, junto con la partida emprastada á los bancos para ferrocarril, á 8,308,178.73 colones, subió en igual fecha de 1907 á 8,592,086.77 colones, ó sea un aumento de 283,908.04 colones.”

AFORO DE LA MANTERINA, VEGETOLE, BOMBERA Y OTRAS SUSTANCIAS SEMEJANTES.

El 25 de abril de 1907 la Cartera de Hacienda expidió la siguiente circular á los administradores de aduana:

“CIRCULAR NO. 1.

“El decreto número 15 de junio 6 de 1902, establece que el aforo de la manteca ó sebo incluye no sólo la genuina, sino también las sustancias que se venden el mercado con esos nombres, hechas con sustancias en todo ó en parte distintas de las imitadas ó con manteca de cerdo ó sebo, que perdió su primitiva bondad.

“Entre tales sustancias deben clasificarse la manterina, vegetole, bombera, etc., algunas de las cuales tienen la apariencia del sebo, y otras la de la manteca de cerdo, de manera que pueden ser vendidas con dichos nombres y disminuir así la necesidad de emplear los productos nacionales, que el citado decreto ha tratado de proteger. Por consiguiente, á fin de que la ley sea aplicada debidamente, deben darse las órdenes correspondientes á los alcaldes para que á la manterina y demás grasas que tengan la apariencia del sebo ó de la manteca de cerdo, se aplique el aforo del artículo genuino con el cual tengan más similitud tanto por el color como por cualquiera otra circunstancia.”

DERECHO DE IMPORTACIÓN SOBRE EL ACEITE CRUDO DE ALGODÓN.

Por ley del Congreso Constitucional de Costa Rica, de fecha 21 de mayo de 1907, aprobada por el Presidente GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ el 22 del mismo, el aceite crudo de algodón destinado exclusivamente á usos industriales pagará por derechos de introducción dos céntimos por kilogramo.

CAMBIO DE GIROS POSTALES CON LA GRAN BRETAÑA.

“La Gaceta” de Costa Rica, del 4 de mayo de 1907, publica el texto de la convención para el cambio de giros postales entre el Gobierno de la República y el de la Gran Bretaña, firmado por los representantes de ambas naciones en la ciudad de San José el 26 de abril de 1907, y aprobado por el Presidente VÍQUEZ el 29 del mismo.

La oficina de cambio en la Gran Bretaña estará en Londres, y la de Costa Rica en San José.

CUBA.

RATIFICACIÓN DE LA CONVENCION SANITARIA DE 1905.

La “Gaceta Oficial” de Cuba, del 10 de mayo de 1907, anuncia que el Gobernador Provisional de la República ha ratificado la Convención Sanitaria firmada *ad referendum* en la ciudad de Washington el 14 de octubre de 1905.

LEVANTAMIENTO DE UN CENSO EN 1907.

Un decreto del Gobernador Provisional de Cuba, de fecha 8 de mayo de 1907 y publicado en la “Gaceta Oficial” del mismo día, dispone el levantamiento en 1907 de un censo de la población de cada una de las provincias, municipios, barrios y otras divisiones civiles de la República, haciendo constar los nombres, sexos, estados conyugales, razas, naturaleza, ciudadanía, ocupación ó instrucción, y asistencia escolar de los menores de 18 años. El mismo decreto establece una Oficina del Censo que tendrá á su cargo la ejecución de lo dispuesto en él.

CHILE.

RENTAS ADUANERAS DEL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

Durante el primer trimestre de 1907, las aduanas de la República Chilena recaudaron una renta total de 26,895,781.19 pesos, de los que corresponden 12,679,442.09 pesos á derechos de importación,

13,607,742.82 pesos á derechos de exportación, y 608,597.28 pesos á varios ingresos.

En el mismo período del año 1906 los derechos de importación recaudados hicieron la suma de 9,883,850.44 pesos, los de exportación la de 13,874,104.26 pesos, y los de varios ingresos la de 507,316.76 pesos. Comparando los ingresos del primer trimestre de 1907 con el de 1906, resulta en los derechos de importación un aumento de 2,795,591.65 pesos, una disminución de 266,361.44 pesos en los derechos de exportación, y un aumento de 101,280.52 pesos en varios ingresos. El aumento total á favor del primer trimestre de 1907 es, por lo tanto, de 2,630,509.73 pesos.

LA PRODUCCIÓN Y EL CONSUMO DE AZÚCAR EN 1906.

De datos suministrados por los gerentes de las fábricas de azúcar de Viña del Mar, Penco y Membrillo, la Oficina de Estadística de Chile formó cuadros relativos á la producción y consumo de azúcar en la República; dichos cuadros fueron publicados por "El Mercurio" de Valparaíso en su número del 14 de abril de 1907, del cual han sido tomadas las cifras que se citan á continuación.

La fábrica de Viña del Mar produjo en el año 1906 19,922,268 kilogramos de azúcar, en comparación con 22,607,055 kilogramos del año anterior. El consumo de esta fábrica es igual al total de la producción, salvo una existencia de unos 800,000 kilogramos que se mantiene siempre en la fábrica para detallar.

La producción azucarera de la fábrica de Penco durante el año de que se trata fué de 18,652,208 kilogramos, contra 12,404,812 kilogramos producidos en 1905; el consumo de esta fábrica en 1906 fué de 17,368,515 kilogramos, en comparación con 13,575,307 kilogramos en 1905.

El consumo de 1906 entre estas dos fábricas ascendió á 36,890,783 kilogramos; añadiendo á esta suma la de 934,470 kilogramos de azúcar refinado importado durante 1905, resulta un consumo total en 1906 de 37,825,253 kilogramos, lo que da para la población calculada en 4,000,000 un consumo de $9\frac{1}{2}$ kilogramos, ó sea $20\frac{1}{2}$ libras por cada habitante. Por vía de comparación, se dan los promedios de consumo por habitante en varios países, tomados del Diccionario Estadístico de Mulhall: Inglaterra, 69 libras; Francia, 23 libras; Alemania, 15 libras; Austria, 13 libras; Rusia, 8 libras; Suecia, 18 libras; Noruega, 11 libras; Holanda, 29 libras; Bélgica, 16 libras; Dinamarca, 30 libras; Suiza, 23 libras; Italia, 7 libras; España, 6 libras.

En cuanto á la fábrica de Membrillo, el gerente de la misma ha hecho los siguientes sobre la producción probable de los años que se expresan: 1908, 45,050 toneladas; 1909, 39,300 toneladas; 1910, 71,950 toneladas.

LA INDUSTRIA SALITRERA.

Las cifras que se publican á continuación tomadas de la última memoria presentada por el Gerente de la Asociación Salitrera de Propaganda, demuestran que el estado de la industria del salitre en Chile no sólo es muy satisfactorio sino que también goza de una prosperidad rápidamente creciente, la cual es debida al constante aumento del consumo mundial de este precioso agente de fertilización.

La principal fuente de renta para la República es el derecho de exportación sobre el salitre, que viene á ser de \$1.22 oro por quintal. Este impuesto ha dado al Gobierno, desde 1880, época en que se implantó, hasta el 31 de diciembre de 1905, la suma de \$273,000,000 oro, próximamente. Dícese que un gran sindicato de capitalistas piensa comprar una parte de los terrenos salitrales del Gobierno por la cantidad de \$73,050,000 oro.

El año comercial para el salitre empieza el 1° de marzo de cada año y termina el 30 de abril del siguiente. Durante los años salitres de 1904-5 y 1905-6 la producción, la exportación y el consumo fueron como se indica en el siguiente cuadro:

	1904-5.	1905-6.
Producción.....	36,661,125	37,810,552
Exportación.....	34,200,521	36,223,721
Consumo.....	33,798,013	36,393,078

Comparando las cifras que anteceden, se verá que los aumentos á favor de 1905-6 son como sigue: De 1,149,427 quintales en la producción, de 2,033,200 quintales en las exportaciones, y de 2,595,065 quintales en el consumo.

En el primer semestre de 1906, la producción fué de 18,252,411 quintales; la exportación, de 15,656,259 quintales; y el consumo, de 25,510,285 quintales. En igual semestre de 1905, estos factores están representados por 18,324,399, 15,242,870, y 24,048,106 quintales, respectivamente. Hay, pues, un aumento en los primeros seis meses de 1906 de 71,988 quintales en la producción, de 413,389 quintales en la exportación, y de 1,462,179 quintales en el consumo.

En 25 de agosto de 1906 existían 113 oficinas con una cuota de 58,919,000 quintales de salitre. En 1900 su número era de 74 oficinas con una cuota de 30,393,000 quintales.

ESTUDIOS DEL FERROCARRIL LONGITUDINAL.

Por decreto presidencial de fecha 16 de abril de 1907, ha sido aceptado por el Gobierno Chileno la propuesta presentada por la *Société d'Etudes de Construction et d'Exploitation de Chemins de Fer au Chili* para llevar á cabo por la suma alzada de \$400,000, oro de 18

chelines, los estudios del Ferrocarril Longitudinal entre Ligua y Copiapó y la transformación de las secciones del ferrocarril en actual explotación comprendidas entre los mismos puntos, así como la unión del ferrocarril de San Márcos á Paloma con el de Ovalle á la Serena, y los estudios del ramal de Ligua á Papudo. El Gobierno abonará el valor de estos estudios sólo en el caso de no aceptarse la propuesta que posteriormente haga la sociedad para la construcción y explotación del expresado ferrocarril.

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA.

EMPRÉSTITO PARA MEJORAS PÚBLICAS EN SANTO DOMINGO.

En su número correspondiente al 20 de abril de 1907, la "Gaceta Oficial" de la República Dominicana publicó el texto de una resolución del Congreso Nacional, de fecha 15 del mismo y aprobado el 19 por el Presidente CÁCERES, por el cual se autoriza al Ayuntamiento de la ciudad de Santo Domingo para que contrate un empréstito por la suma de \$600,000, oro, al tipo de 6 por ciento de interés anual, con un fondo de amortización de 1 por ciento anual, con el fin de realizar las obras siguientes: Instalación de un acueducto para el servicio público y privado de la ciudad; modernización de la planta eléctrica; construcción de un mercado público, y de un teatro.

El Ayuntamiento solicita la correspondencia de los interesados en el particular.

LEY SOBRE ESPECÍFICOS EXTRANJEROS.

El Cónsul General Dominicano en los Estados Unidos se ha servido facilitar á la Oficina copia de los artículos referentes á la introducción y venta de específicos extranjeros, de una ley que entró en vigor el 1° de enero del presente año. Dichos artículos son como sigue:

"ART. 65. Las especialidades farmacéuticas (específicos) de procedencia extranjera, patentadas ó no, que se vendan en la República, quedan sujetas á las prescripciones establecidas en este capítulo.

"ART. 66. Para obtener permiso para la venta de un específico no patentado, el fabricante procederá personalmente ó por medio de un apoderado, sometiéndolo al Consejo Superior, por órgano del Ministro de lo Interior:

"1. Dos frascos, cajas ó estuches del específico cuya venta se desea obtener, y

"2. La solicitud correspondiente, en la cual conste:

"(a) El nombre de la medicina.

"(b) La base de la composición.

"(c) La dosis y modo de administrarla.

"(d) El uso que deba hacerse de él.

“Para los específicos patentados y aprobados por institutos ó facultades extranjeras, bastará que el interesado, envíe, junto con la solicitud, un ejemplar del periódico oficial en el que esté publicada la resolución que conceda la patente, haciendo, además, depósito, en la Secretaría del Consejo Superior, del nombre del medicamento y de la marca registrada con que se haya distinguido.

“ART. 67. Se exceptúan de las disposiciones de esta ley los productos naturales simples que, cuando más, hayan recibido un procedimiento de destilación ó de rectificación, pero que en nada se hallen mezclados con otras sustancias y se importen envasados bajo la forma de un específico.

“ART. 68. El Consejo Superior enviará copia de la certificación que expida el Ministerio de Hacienda, quien en vista de ella, autorizará ó prohibirá la introducción del específico, notificándolo á los Interventores de Aduana para que, en caso de ser importados los que no hayan merecido aprobación, los consideren bajo las penas establecidas en la vigente ley de aduanas y puertos para todos los artículos cuya introducción está prohibida.

“ART. 69. Para que los fabricantes de específicos cuya venta se efectúa en la República puedan dar cumplimiento á los preceptos consignados en este capítulo, se conceden plazos, de tres meses para los de procedencia americana y de seis para los de otras procedencias, durante estos plazos, que se comenzarán á contar desde el día de la ejecución de la presente ley, las Oficinas de Aduanas seguirán estimando y verificando estas medicinas como lo hacen hoy. Después de estos plazos procederán de conformidad al artículo anterior, previo aviso del Ministerio del Ramo.

“ART. 70. Las solicitudes que se dirijan al Consejo Superior, serán escritas en papel sellado del tipo sexto, y este Consejo cobrará, por derechos de certificación y registro, la suma de veinte pesos por cada aprobación en favor de una especialidad no patentada, y de diez pesos para los que hayan obtenido patente de invención. Estos derechos serán atribuidos por mitad al Consejo Superior y al Fisco, debiendo ser pagados por el fabricante ó por su apoderado al notificársele la aprobación.

“ART. 71. El Consejo Superior abrirán un registro en el que asentará, por orden numérico, el nombre de cada específico cuya venta haya sido autorizada, la fecha de la aprobación y el nombre del solicitante.

ECUADOR.

RECEPCIÓN DEL HONORABLE WILLIAMS C. FOX, MINISTRO DE
LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EN QUITO.

El 18 de abril de 1907 fué recibido oficialmente por el Presidente del Ecuador, General ELOY ALFARO, el Honorable WILLIAMS C. FOX, Director que fué de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos ante el Gobierno de la República.

Al presentar sus credenciales, el Ministro Fox, se expresó en los términos siguientes:

“Excelencia: En nombre del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América, tengo la honra de presentar á V. E. la carta de retiro de mi antecesor, el Señor JOSEPH W. J. LEE, y la que me acredita como Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de mi país ante el Gobierno de la República del Ecuador.

“La distinguida preferencia de mi Gobierno al conferirme tal cargo, no sólo la considero grata para mí, sino que la estimo como una fortuna personal, ya que me proporciona la oportunidad de cumplir amistosos deberes relacionados con la posición oficial que vengo á ocupar.

“Conforme á las instrucciones del Presidente de los Estados Unidos, haré todo lo que esté en mis facultades para conservar y extender las relaciones cordiales que felizmente han existido siempre entre el Ecuador y mi patria.

“Vamos de común acuerdo, Excelentísimo Señor, por la senda del progreso. Unidos, reconocemos también que, aunque la civilización vino de Europa y es una misma la aspiración de la humanidad, tenemos que confesar que en el Hemisferio Occidental hay especiales intereses con menos complicaciones internacionales para asegurar la felicidad de los pueblos. Juntos igualmente, no ambicionamos otras victorias que las que se obtienen por el influjo de la paz, no deseamos otro territorio que el nuestro, ni otra soberanía excepto la que ejercemos sobre nosotros mismo. Es nuestro anhelo mantener el respeto mutuo y la debida consideración por los derechos del uno para con el otro, en la actividad del mundo por la paz, la prosperidad y el progreso.

“Dígnese Vuestra Excelencia aceptar el cordial saludo del Presidente ROOSEVELT y los sinceros votos del pueblo de los Estados Unidos, á los que me permito agregar el alto aprecio que hago de la honra que se me ha dispensado al haberseme elegido representante oficial de mi Gobierno cerca del de Vuestra Excelencia.”

El Presidente ALFARO contestó como sigue:

“SEÑOR MINISTRO: Junto con la carta de retiro de vuestro predecesor, el Excelentísimo Señor JOSEPH W. J. LEE, habéis puesto en mis manos la credencial que os inviste del alto cargo de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos de América ante el Gobierno del Ecuador.

“Las no interrumpidas y cada día más cordiales y sólidas relaciones entre nuestros respectivos países, os harán comprender, Señor Ministro, que la misión confiada á vuestras prendas personales encontrará la más favorable acogida en el Gobierno y el pueblo ecuatorianos.

“Como Director de la Oficina de la Unión Internacional de las Repúblicas de este hemisferio, habéis podido apreciar nuestros grandes ideales; así es que abrigo la confianza de que buena parte de vuestra labor diplomática se contraerá á robustecer los vínculos que unen á los Estados Americanos, á fin de que puedan trabajar juntos por el triunfo definitivo de la justicia y la libertad.

“Mucho me ha complacido, Señor Ministro, el oírlos interpretar, con tanto acierto, las ideas de vuestros eminentes estadistas en lo que se refiere á los comunes intereses de la América. De acuerdo con esos principios fundamentales de la ley de las naciones, aquí encontraréis un pueblo que no aspira á otras victorias que las de la paz, porque jamás ha procurado la guerra; aquí encontraréis un pueblo que no quiere otro territorio que el suyo, porque jamás ha pretendido el ajeno; aquí, por último, encontraréis un pueblo que no ambiciona otra soberanía que la soberanía sobre sí mismo, porque desea tener el derecho de que se le respete y apoye en su honrada independencia y en su constante anhelo por la prosperidad nacional y por la de sus hermanos del continente.

“Os ruego que hagáis presente al Ilustre Presidente ROOSEVELT mis sinceros votos por su felicidad personal y la ventura de la nación que gobierna. En cuanto á vos, sed bien venido, Señor Ministro, y que vuestra grata permanencia entre nosotros os haga recordar que hemos sabido apreciar vuestros méritos.”

REORGANIZACIÓN DEL SERVICIO DE ADUANAS DE GUAYAQUIL.

El “Registro Oficial” del Ecuador, de fecha 21 de marzo de 1907, publica el texto de un decreto del Presidente ALFARO, fechado el día anterior, por el cual se reorganiza el servicio de aduanas de Guayaquil, y se prescriben los deberes de los funcionarios relacionados con él.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 1397 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de abril de 1907, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los diez meses que terminaron en abril de 1907, comparados con igual período de 1906. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión. De suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de abril, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta junio.

EL COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN ABRIL 1907.

Las cifras publicadas recientemente por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos, correspondientes al mes de abril de 1907 y á los diez primeros meses del año económico de 1906-7, indican un aumento excepcional en el comercio exterior del país, particularmente en el valor de las importaciones. Las del mes de que se trata alcanzaron la cifra de \$129,554,075, que comparada con la del mes de abril del año anterior indica un aumento de \$22,235,986, en cuyo mes las importaciones tuvieron un valor de \$107,318,081. El valor de las mercancías importadas durante los diez meses que se examinan fué de \$1,195,399,276, que en comparación con \$913,555,097 del período correspondiente al ejercicio anterior demuestra un aumento de \$174,526,098, que no tiene precedente en la historia del comercio extranjero de los Estados Unidos.

El incremento de las exportaciones fué también grande; el valor de las del mes en cuestión fué de \$157,444,281, comparado con el de \$144,380,040 del mismo mes de 1906, un aumento de un poco más de \$13,064,261. Los productos exportados durante los diez meses del año económico 1906-7 tuvieron un valor de \$1,608,344,680, contra \$1,488,282,130, un aumento de \$220,062,550.

Los detalles de las importaciones hechas durante los períodos que se comparan fué como sigue:

	Abril—		Diez primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1906.	1907.	1905-6.	1906-7.
Productos alimenticios sin preparar, y animales.....	\$8,544,432	\$14,475,798	\$114,372,951	\$126,449,411
Productos alimenticios parcial ó totalmente preparados.....	14,048,555	15,688,378	115,933,520	126,318,644
Materias primas para fábricas.....	41,157,156	46,208,437	345,015,144	401,310,942
Materias preparadas para fábricas.....	18,810,834	23,476,930	178,052,977	227,945,840
Artículos manufacturados.....	24,205,423	28,966,429	259,118,881	303,678,867
Artículos varios.....	551,681	737,903	8,381,705	9,665,572
Total.....	107,318,081	129,534,075	1,020,873,178	1,195,389,276

La clasificación de las exportaciones hechas durante los períodos de que se trata fué como sigue:

	Abril—		Diez primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1906.	1907.	1905-6.	1906-7.
Productos nacionales:				
Productos alimenticios sin preparar, y animales.....	\$13,770,221	\$13,650,742	\$158,574,113	\$140,493,914
Productos alimenticios parcial ó totalmente preparados.....	28,199,706	28,031,915	294,546,844	287,610,553
Materias primas para fábricas.....	38,601,927	44,615,629	446,012,207	542,529,911
Materias preparadas para fábricas.....	19,445,958	22,681,453	184,482,087	214,322,749
Artículos manufacturados.....	40,589,137	45,201,876	377,974,240	397,127,671
Artículos varios.....	1,251,434	1,104,127	5,235,619	5,842,879
Total, productos nacionales.....	141,946,383	155,294,742	1,406,825,110	1,587,918,677
Productos extranjeros:				
Libros de derechos.....	1,247,107	1,115,277	10,654,329	10,721,047
Sujetos á derechos.....	1,186,550	1,034,262	10,802,691	9,704,956
Total, productos extranjeros.....	2,433,657	2,149,539	21,457,020	20,426,003
Total de exportaciones.....	144,380,040	157,444,281	1,428,282,130	1,608,344,680

La exportación é importación de oro y plata durante los períodos comparados fué como sigue:

	Abril—		Diez primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Oro:				
Importaciones.....	\$14,941,583	\$4,943,673	\$58,941,622	\$109,631,890
Exportaciones.....	2,485,552	2,219,844	29,595,051	23,021,592
Plata:				
Importaciones.....	2,833,859	3,937,055	36,276,569	35,873,594
Exportaciones.....	4,213,187	4,862,998	55,811,131	47,052,258

La procedencia de las importaciones y el destino de las exportaciones fueron como sigue:

Países.	Abril.			
	Importaciones.		Exportaciones.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
Europa.....	\$53,683,080	\$61,253,259	\$98,965,059	\$104,132,801
América del Norte.....	23,740,170	28,537,136	27,539,448	32,877,450
América del Sur.....	8,640,275	14,937,516	5,464,119	7,047,176
Asia.....	17,010,873	18,831,026	7,530,418	9,983,366
Oceania.....	3,161,224	3,499,733	2,984,740	3,380,207
África.....	1,082,450	2,305,405	1,606,256	1,023,281
América Central:				
Costa Rica.....	565,356	799,361	212,569	227,636
Guatemala.....	326,420	1,195,364	291,173	259,506
Honduras.....	156,385	199,304	160,236	111,414
Nicaragua.....	137,337	43,296	136,946	161,233
Panamá.....	77,915	138,951	1,343,914	1,923,262
Salvador.....	43,824	496,018	109,069	119,800
México.....	4,564,427	5,243,982	5,264,743	6,088,226
Antillas:				
Cuba.....	11,488,832	12,372,399	3,848,049	4,243,584
Haití.....	100,342	78,545	375,611	182,879
Santo Domingo.....	247,649	503,424	135,278	223,965
América del Sur:				
Argentina.....	1,713,924	1,933,950	1,380,413	2,357,926
Bolivia.....			21,071	131,700
Brasil.....	4,655,887	8,834,040	1,580,308	2,012,997
Chile.....	583,347	1,639,680	851,204	928,219
Colombia.....	618,547	390,413	241,251	259,860
Ecuador.....	178,102	169,679	175,829	144,651
Paraguay.....		1,163	4,279	22,235
Perú.....	119,036	751,626	448,327	473,318
Uruguay.....	43,907	444,784	173,474	373,218
Venezuela.....	693,528	686,938	337,877	185,902

Países.	Diez primeros meses de—			
	Importaciones.		Exportaciones.	
	1906-6.	1906-7.	1906-6.	1906-7.
Europa.....	\$526,601,810	\$626,952,924	\$1,038,294,833	\$1,129,161,441
América del Norte.....	187,843,758	207,093,897	251,994,103	283,819,230
América del Sur.....	119,641,330	136,563,640	61,422,326	69,626,317
Asia.....	153,775,605	182,921,685	91,191,191	76,982,333
Oceania.....	21,951,094	23,729,578	28,748,040	31,765,690
África.....	11,059,581	18,137,552	16,631,637	13,989,669
América Central:				
Costa Rica.....	3,919,591	4,022,510	1,854,313	2,023,053
Guatemala.....	2,548,912	2,865,803	2,467,439	2,451,558
Honduras.....	1,280,546	1,747,192	1,325,877	1,591,707
Nicaragua.....	1,182,183	838,251	1,532,258	1,681,171
Panamá.....	846,326	1,398,088	9,866,060	12,033,467
Salvador.....	737,356	962,181	1,208,286	1,184,829
México.....	41,932,052	46,773,302	47,926,765	54,085,668
Antillas:				
Cuba.....	66,024,615	73,259,855	40,442,395	40,826,489
Haití.....	1,011,266	908,117	2,901,045	2,458,043
Santo Domingo.....	2,156,914	2,270,762	1,666,389	2,172,814
América del Sur:				
Argentina.....	14,740,400	13,421,819	26,617,860	28,040,713
Bolivia.....			119,545	724,500
Brasil.....	71,492,677	85,302,325	11,808,311	15,361,665
Chile.....	13,036,961	14,878,515	6,921,564	8,265,873
Colombia.....	5,740,180	5,356,523	2,075,340	2,566,444
Ecuador.....	1,999,562	2,414,520	1,597,494	1,393,864
Paraguay.....		750	38,805	145,045
Perú.....	2,047,352	3,805,017	4,219,940	5,172,877
Uruguay.....	2,199,842	2,609,100	2,345,750	2,888,402
Venezuela.....	6,843,573	6,438,100	2,634,581	2,516,863

IMPORTACIONES DE LANA DE LA AMÉRICA LATINA EN 1906.

Los datos relativos á las importaciones recibidas por los Estados Unidos en 1906, de lana, de oveja, alpaca, cabra y otros animales semejantes, dan las siguientes cifras con respecto á las procedencias de México y la América del Sur:

Lana para ropa: De México se recibieron 1,364 libras, avaluadas en \$183; de la Argentina, 30,145,400 libras, valoradas en \$6,645,684; del Brasil, 38,523 libras, por valor de \$6,694; de Chile, 383,534 libras, cuyo valor fué de \$60,536; del Perú, 23,198 libras, por valor de \$5,711, y del Uruguay, 3,829,868 libras, por valor de \$847,985.

Lana para alfombras: De México, 3,403 libras, valoradas en \$234; de la Argentina, 5,747,772 libras, avaluadas en \$781,396; del Brasil, 76,075 libras, por valor de \$4,528; de Chile, 247,012 libras, valoradas en \$25,300; del Uruguay, 3,995 libras, por valor de \$458; de Venezuela, 6,569 libras, avaluadas en \$367, y de otros países de la América del Sur, 1,884 libras, valoradas en \$124, haciendo un total para la América del Sur de 6,083,307 libras, por valor de \$812,173.

GUATEMALA.
RATIFICACIÓN DE CONVENCIONES.

El 18 de abril de 1907, el Presidente ESTRADA CABRERA, de Guatemala, promulgó los siguientes decretos de la Asamblea Nacional, aprobados por la misma en 16 de abril de 1907:

Decreto aprobando el Tratado General de Paz, Amistad y Comercio, celebrado por los representantes de Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, y Costa Rica el 25 de septiembre de 1906.

Decreto aprobando la convención relativa al establecimiento en San José de Costa Rica de un instituto pedagógico centroamericano, celebrado el 24 de septiembre de 1906 por los Gobiernos de Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica y Honduras.

Decreto aprobando la convención celebrada entre los representantes de los Gobiernos de Guatemala, Honduras El Salvador y Costa Rica, para el establecimiento en Guatemala de una Oficina internacional centroamericana.

Decreto aprobando la convención celebrada el 10 de noviembre de 1906 por los plenipotenciarios de Guatemala y los Estados Unidos, referente á la protección recíproca de patentes de invención.

En 19 de abril de 1907 el Presidente promulgó los decretos de la Asamblea Nacional Legislativa de fecha 17 y 18 de abril de 1907, por los cuales se aprueban las siguientes convenciones adoptadas en la Conferencia Internacional de Estados Americanos celebrada en Río Janeiro; la relativa á patentes de invención, dibujos, modelos

industriales, marcas de fábrica y comercio, y propiedad artística y literaria, de fecha 22 de agosto de 1906; la relativa á derecho internacional, de 23 de agosto de 1906; la que se refiere á ciudadanos naturalizados que renuevan su residencia en el país de su origen, de 13 de agosto de 1906, y la referente á reclamaciones pecuniarias, de esta última fecha también.

La Asamblea, en decreto de fecha 19 de abril de 1907, promulgado por el Presidente ESTRADA CABRERA en 22 de abril de 1907, aprobó la Convención para mejorar la condición de los heridos ó enfermos en campaña, celebrada en Ginebra el 6 de julio de 1906.

DESCUBRIMIENTO DE UNA PLANTA OLEAGINOSA.

Según la prensa inglesa, el Doctor SARDA ha descubierto en Guatemala una planta de propiedades valiosas. Llámase *myristica sebifera*, y de sus semillas se extrae un aceite vegetal que, según se dice, tiene el olor y el sabor de la manteca de cacao, se derrite á los 37° centígrados, es soluble en el alcohol, el éter, el cloroformo y el aguarrás; se presta á la confección de jabones, bujías, perfumes, confituras y productos farmacéuticos; es sustancia alimenticia, y no llega á ranciarse jamás.

Con semejantes propiedades, esta nueva grasa, que su descubridor ha denominado *myristina*, debe valer en cualquiera parte, por lo menos, \$150 oro por tonelada, y es fácil que valga mucho más, pues se agrega que es transparentable sin dificultad, forma un jabón que espumea aún en aguas salobres, saponifica el álcali, é ilumina con mayor potencia que varios aceites similares.

IMPORTACIONES DE NUEVA YORK, EN 1906.

Según el informe anual del Cónsul General de Guatemala en Nueva York, Sr. Don R. BENGOCHEA, correspondiente al año de 1906, el total de las exportaciones enviadas del puerto mencionado á los de la República durante dicho período tuvo un valor de \$1,241,436.96. El tráfico de exportación de Nueva York con Guatemala ha aumentado considerablemente en el espacio de cuatro años, como se puede ver en el siguiente cuadro:

1903.....	\$345,472.06
1904.....	816,745.46
1905.....	1,013,272.18
1906.....	1,241,436.96

Los principales artículos exportados durante el último año fueron: Maquinaria, tejidos de algodón, lana y seda, alambre galvanizado, ferretería en general, instrumentos de agricultura, aparatos é instrumentos eléctricos, medicinas, drogas, material para ferrocarril, muebles, cueros, petróleo, pinturas, aceites, cañerías de hierro, papel, libros, pianos, fonógrafos, automóviles, licores varios, provisiones, etc.

MÉXICO.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN EL MES DE FEBRERO DE 1907.

La Secretaría de Hacienda de México acaba de publicar los datos relativos al comercio exterior de la República en el mes de febrero de 1907 y en los ocho primeros meses de 1906-7, comparados con los correspondientes á los de igual período de 1905-6.

Mercancías extranjeras, con un valor de \$149,464,925.18 moneda mexicana, fueron importadas, las cuales comparadas con \$133,320,121.79 importadas durante el igual período del año fiscal precedente muestran un aumento de \$16,144,803.39 en favor del corriente año fiscal.

Las exportaciones durante los ocho meses del año fiscal de 1906-7 fueron \$162,137,606.64 plata, una diferencia en contra del corriente año fiscal de \$18,314,977.78 plata.

El siguiente cuadro muestra el comercio de importaciones en detalle:

IMPORTACIÓN.

[Valor de factura en moneda mexicana.]

Clasificación según la tarifa de importación.	Febrero—		8 primeros meses de—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Materias animales.....	1,528,635.69	1,257,166.89	13,168,152.13	10,540,716.72
Materias vegetales.....	2,853,555.65	2,534,800.96	19,264,235.03	20,694,877.01
Materias minerales.....	8,483,130.64	9,863,117.94	54,158,693.64	51,934,797.42
Tejidos y sus manufacturas.....	1,843,333.07	1,767,179.36	17,184,311.07	14,329,838.07
Productos químicos y farmacéuticos.....	737,550.90	598,233.93	5,630,271.65	4,855,811.07
Bebidas espirituosas, fermentadas y naturales.....	500,351.20	466,584.78	4,427,155.73	4,669,854.62
Papel y sus aplicaciones.....	604,958.89	388,302.97	4,056,595.93	3,575,335.03
Máquinas y aparatos.....	1,877,758.21	1,504,267.45	17,396,056.73	12,397,073.97
Vehículos.....	827,528.97	370,182.00	5,614,616.78	2,635,759.25
Armas y explosivos.....	191,241.98	367,794.81	2,529,582.95	2,699,701.31
Diversos.....	675,227.03	545,363.59	6,026,253.48	4,986,335.32
Total.....	20,123,281.23	20,063,196.68	149,464,925.18	133,320,121.79

EXPORTACIÓN.

[Valor de factura en moneda mexicana.]

	Febrero—		Ocho primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>	<i>Pesos.</i>
Metalas preciosos.....	12,380,969.70	14,359,160.70	85,012,409.64	107,246,049.46
Demás artículos.....	9,571,753.74	9,120,504.68	77,125,197.00	73,206,531.95
Total.....	21,952,723.44	23,479,665.38	162,137,606.64	180,452,581.42

Las exportaciones en detalle fueron como sigue:

[Valor declarado en moneda mexicana.]

Clasificación según la nomenclatura de exportación.	Enero—		Siete primeros meses del año fiscal—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
	Pesos.	Pesos.	Pesos.	Pesos.
Productos minerales:				
Oro acuñado mexicano.....			29,060.00	
Oro acuñado extranjero.....			7,531.00	4,835.98
Oro en pasta.....	1,600,980.00	2,417,656.51	13,003,356.83	20,392,971.11
Oro en otras especies.....	390,196.35	410,614.28	3,645,113.72	1,810,633.38
Total.....	1,991,176.35	2,828,270.79	16,688,991.55	22,208,440.47
Plata acuñada mexicana.....	3,947,217.00	4,193,398.00	18,338,877.00	33,891,126.00
Plata acuñada extranjera.....	13,591.00	3,791.00	16,100.00	79,870.62
Plata en pasta.....	5,321,634.15	6,692,837.04	41,941,636.87	45,136,350.25
Plata en otras especies.....	1,077,351.20	641,053.87	7,946,504.22	5,939,362.12
Total plata.....	10,389,793.35	11,530,880.91	68,323,418.09	85,037,608.99
Total oro y plata.....	12,380,969.70	14,359,160.70	85,012,409.64	107,246,049.46
Antimonio.....	134,178.00	93,103.00	942,645.00	688,652.96
Cobre.....	1,435,334.00	3,284,069.50	16,725,047.00	20,258,902.23
Mármol en bruto.....	22,918.00		43,968.00	73,668.00
Plombagina.....	9,600.00	14,200.00	65,230.00	65,121.51
Plomo.....	304,717.00	570,643.23	2,452,538.56	3,646,295.77
Zinc.....	9,073.00	5,384.00	900,066.12	148,211.99
Demás productos minerales.....	12,975.74	45,194.50	1,086,756.42	268,754.34
	14,369,765.44	18,371,754.93	107,229,080.74	132,395,586.26
Productos vegetales:				
Café.....	874,156.00	1,352,633.60	3,376,778.34	4,741,026.10
Cascote, y cortezas y raíces para curtir.....	394.00	600.00	8,218.00	20,747.00
Carnecho.....	665,869.00	176,051.72	3,427,772.00	870,858.74
Chicle.....	314,985.00	183,080.03	1,235,980.00	851,387.49
Frijol.....	57,449.00	57,372.90	516,393.00	529,633.72
Frutas frescas.....	16,133.00	13,182.00	206,455.43	223,570.90
Garbanzo.....	61,701.00	82,684.00	2,755,585.00	1,866,884.75
Graville.....	8,699.00	9,798.00	32,399.00	41,139.00
Haba.....			2,550.00	110,540.00
Henequén en rama.....	1,612,669.00	855,008.00	22,692,680.77	19,637,456.00
Ixtle en rama.....	337,213.00	279,356.00	2,715,718.00	2,453,519.88
Maderas.....	403,972.00	78,614.88	1,558,631.50	1,317,608.74
Maíz.....	934.00	24,310.20	4,017.80	58,286.20
Palo de moral.....	4,718.00	18,067.87	51,550.00	54,987.87
Palo de tinto.....	56,696.00	56,891.50	303,116.12	286,885.20
Rafé de zacatón.....	142,418.00	106,921.00	1,125,906.00	1,241,364.00
Tabaico en rama.....	57,637.00	106,830.32	1,029,823.35	650,411.06
Vainilla.....	144,476.00	123,591.00	1,091,876.00	2,629,321.99
Demás productos vegetales.....	1,476,278.00	146,440.05	2,695,825.20	962,228.53
	6,236,238.00	3,651,293.07	44,711,295.51	37,971,187.17
Productos animales:				
Ganados.....	35,268.00	185,094.00	873,222.00	2,173,012.50
Pielés sin curtir.....	849,126.00	895,570.90	6,235,633.03	5,203,676.85
Demás productos animales.....	57,591.00	47,455.50	416,182.99	340,316.43
	941,985.00	1,038,090.10	7,525,158.02	7,717,005.78
Productos manufacturados:				
Azúcar.....	116,037.00	99,246.00	483,205.00	350,878.00
Henequén en jarcia.....			697.00	
Harina y pasta de semilla de algodón, y harinolas.....	65,319.00	75,959.00	472,437.00	352,321.00
Pielés curtidas.....	651.00	39,782.00	32,255.00	157,487.00
Sombreros de palma.....	55,038.00	76,077.00	451,601.80	374,136.29
Tabaco labrado.....	27,758.00	28,063.64	322,057.60	226,803.19
Demás productos manufacturados.....	64,948.00	47,751.20	373,938.32	396,589.59
	330,651.00	357,878.84	2,136,189.72	1,867,305.07
Diversos.....	74,084.00	60,738.41	505,882.65	501,500.14

Los países de procedencia fueron como sigue:

Países.	Febrero—		Ocho primeros meses de—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Europa.....	<i>Pesos.</i> 6,587,371.76	<i>Pesos.</i> 5,413,491.18	<i>Pesos.</i> 53,431,408.75	<i>Pesos.</i> 46,456,781.43
Asia.....	188,699.79	93,411.96	1,595,364.59	932,192.95
África.....	24,070.00	246.18	171,852.59	15,969.56
América del Norte.....	13,293,074.79	14,513,108.09	93,935,112.01	85,591,190.38
América Central.....	1,326.42	3,386.49	19,100.56	22,369.71
América del Sur.....	13,963.74	16,791.36	133,081.24	181,327.05
Antillas.....	12,894.73	17,817.42	129,405.64	158,050.09
Oceanía.....		4,944.00	58,599.80	52,249.62
Total.....	20,123,281.23	20,063,196.68	149,464,925.18	133,320,121.79

Los países á donde fueron destinadas las exportaciones son los siguientes:

Países.	Febrero—		Ocho primeros meses de—	
	1907.	1906.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Europa.....	<i>Pesos.</i> 6,423,719.84	<i>Pesos.</i> 8,087,674.52	<i>Pesos.</i> 44,964,262.12	<i>Pesos.</i> 34,566,551.37
Asia.....			796.00	
América del Norte.....	15,368,539.60	15,040,260.08	114,943,596.21	122,253,027.02
América Central.....	36,534.00	82,851.46	579,982.51	806,958.71
América del Sur.....		8,310.32	78,779.00	51,027.32
Antillas.....	123,930.00	260,629.00	1,570,161.00	2,775,020.00
Total.....	21,952,723.44	23,479,665.38	162,137,606.64	180,452,584.42

MODIFICACIÓN DE DERECHOS DE EXPORTACIÓN.

De acuerdo con la ley que prescribe cuáles serán los ingresos del Tesoro Federal para el año económico de 1907-8, los derechos de exportación sobre ciertos artículos quedan modificados en los términos siguientes:

Palo de tinte ó campeche, \$0.50 por tonelada de 1,000 kilogramos; palo moral, \$0.25 por tonelada de 1,000 kilogramos; raíz de zacatón, á razón de \$0.60 los 100 kilogramos, peso bruto; chicle, á razón de \$0.02 el kilogramo de peso neto; guayule en yerba, en estado natural ó triturado, \$15 por tonelada de 1,000 kilogramos, peso bruto; henequén en rama, \$0.50 por cada 100 kilogramos, peso neto; ixtle en rama, \$0.50 por cada 100 kilogramos, peso neto; cueros de venado y chivo, \$2.25 por cada 100 kilogramos, peso bruto; cueros de res ú otros, \$0.75 por cada 100 kilogramos, peso bruto.

RENTAS DE ADUANAS, PRIMEROS NUEVE MESES DE 1906-7.

Las rentas de las aduanas mexicanas durante los primeros nueve meses de 1906-7 ascendieron á \$39,587,950.58, en comparación con \$34,922,201.65 que se recaudaron en mismo período del año económico anterior. De la cantidad primera corresponden á derechos de importación \$37,986,921.80, á derechos de exportación, \$813,514.89, y á derechos de puerto \$787,513.89.

RENTAS ADUANERAS, DIEZ PRIMEROS MESES DE 1906-7.

Durante los diez primeros meses de 1906-7 las aduanas de México recaudaron una renta total de \$44,399,698.33, en comparación con \$38,088,862.52 percibidos durante igual período del ejercicio anterior. La cantidad correspondiente á derechos de importación es de \$42,594,676.91, comparada con la de \$36,554,590.06 en 1905-6; las recaudaciones de derechos de exportación aparecen acreditadas con \$896,644.70 y \$751,770.24, respectivamente.

Durante el mes de abril de 1907 las aduanas de la República de México recaudaron la cantidad de \$4,960,884.92, de los cuales \$83,129.81 correspondieron á derechos de exportación y \$4,607,755.11 á derechos de importación.

EL COMERCIO CON GALVESTON EN 1906.

Según el informe anual del Cónsul Mexicano en Galveston, Texas, correspondiente al año de 1906, el movimiento comercial entre aquél y varios puertos mexicanos del Golfo durante el período de que trata la memoria, fué mucho mayor á los de los años anteriores. El valor de las mercancías exportadas de Galveston á México durante 1906 fué de \$2,413,934, siendo los principales artículos maíz, maderas, aceites, manteca, maquinaria y ferretería, algodón, ganado porcino, trigo y ganado vacuno. Los productos mexicanos importados en Galveston estuvieron avaluados en \$3,356,487, correspondiendo la mayor á henequen, que se importó por valor de \$2,247,771; las demás importaciones consistieron en café, sombreros de palma, maderas preciosas, etc.

Se despacharon 123 vapores con destino á Veracruz, Tampico, Progreso, Coatzacoaleos, Campeche, Frontera y Laguna del Carmen.

BASE DE LOS IMPUESTOS DE TIMBRE Y ADUANAS, JUNIO DE 1907.

La circular mensual publicada por el Departamento del Tesoro del Gobierno Mexicano anuncia que el precio legal por kilogramo de plata pura durante el mes de junio de 1907 será \$42.73, con arreglo á los cálculos prescritos en el decreto de 25 de marzo de 1906. Este precio servirá de base para el pago del impuesto de timbre y los derechos de aduanas en toda la República cuando se use la moneda de plata mexicana.

EL HENEQUEN EN AUSTRIA-HUNGRÍA.

La Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores de México ha sido informada por el Cónsul General de la República en Budapest, Hungría, que el Gobierno Húngaro, con el fin de facilitar la introducción de las cuerdas fabricadas de manila y sisal, dió orden para que sean reducidos los derechos de importación sobre dichos artículos.

Las cuerdas que antes pagaban de 12, 43, y 83 coronas, según el grueso, por 100 kilogramos, desde el 1° de abril, sin miramiento del grueso, no pagan más que 12 coronas por quintal métrico, ó sea, por los 100 kilogramos.

FERROCARRIL ENTRE LOS ESTADOS DE QUERÉTARO Y GUANAJUATO.

Por contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno Mexicano y el Señor Don MANUEL RUBIO ARRIAGA el 12 de enero de 1907 y publicado en el "Periódico Oficial" del Estado Tabasco del 13 de abril de 1907, se autoriza al concesionario para que construya y explote un ferrocarril entre los Estados de Querétaro y Guanajuato, que partiendo de la capital del primero termine en la villa de Acámbaro, perteneciente al segundo. Toda la línea deberá quedar terminada dentro del plazo de siete años. Para garantizar el cumplimiento de las condiciones impuestas por el contrato, el concesionario ha constituido un depósito de 10,800 pesos en bonos de la Dueda Pública Consolidada.

EXPLORACIÓN DE MINERALES DE HIERRO EN EL ESTADO DE OAXACA.

El 21 de mayo de 1907 el Presidente de la República Mexicana promulgó una ley del Congreso que aprueba el contratato celebrado el 1° de febrero de 1907 entre el Gobierno y la Compañía A. B. Adams, Incorporated, para la exploración de minerales de hierro en los Distritos de Jamiltepec, Tlaxiaco, Teposcolula, Nochixtlán, Huajuapam, Justlahuaca y Juquila, del Estado de Oaxaca.

El "Diario Oficial" del 30 de mayo de 1907 contiene el texto íntegro del contrato.

INFORMES CONSULARES.

El Cónsul Mexicano en Nogales, Arizona, participa que durante el mes de abril de 1907, se ha importado del Estado de Sonora, México, las siguientes mercancías:

	Oro americano.		Oro americano.
Azúcar de caña.....	\$229	Plumas de ave naturales.....	\$277
Azúcar refinada.....	69	Pescado fresco.....	25
Bandas de cuero.....	64	Piedra mineral de plomo.....	835
Cemento Portland.....	24	Papas.....	2
Cueros de res al pelo.....	12,477	Queso.....	9
Carne fresca.....	22	Ropa hecha de tela de algodón..	8
Especies no especificadas.....	167	Sal común.....	22
Frijoles.....	11	Tabaco en rama.....	683
Frutas encurtidas.....	6,026	Trigo.....	2
Gaudo vacuno.....	14,740	Plata en pasta.....	129,528
Legumbres en conserva.....	215	Oro en pasta y en polvo.....	141,959
Maíz.....	13		
Naranjas.....	3,763	Total.....	314,170

El valor de las mercancías importadas por la aduana de Nogales, México, al Estado de Sonora, en abril de 1907, ascendió á \$396,647.91, y fueron las siguientes:

Materias animales.....	\$65,460.17	Máquinas y aparatos.....	\$69,939.96
Materias vegetales.....	40,104.63	Vehículos.....	10,204.77
Materias minerales.....	82,149.42	Armas y explosivos violentos..	14,465.47
Tejidos y sus manufacturas..	58,169.61	Artículos diversos.....	20,029.65
Productos químicos.....	24,043.62		
Bebidas espirituosas.....	5,953.12	Total.....	396,647.91
Papel y sus aplicaciones.....	6,127.49		

Dichas mercancías procedieron de los siguientes países:

Estados Unidos.....	\$353,054.12	Austria.....	\$537.88
Francia.....	3,039.22	Canadá.....	253.26
Alemania.....	12,538.48	Japón.....	2,681.34
Inglaterra.....	11,742.42		
España.....	12,801.19	Total.....	396,647.91

El Cónsul mexicano en Filadelfia anuncia que los embarques de mercancías de dicho puerto con destino á los puertos mexicanos de Tampico y Veracruz durante el mes de abril de 1907 se valuaron en \$102,460 y consistieron de carbón y pólvora facturados en \$74,285 y \$28,175, respectivamente.

El Cónsul mexicano en Filadelfia participa que el valor de los embarques de mercancías de Filadelfia á los puertos mexicanos de Tampico y Veracruz durante el mes de mayo de 1907, ascendió á \$95,555.74, y dichas mercancías consistieron de petróleo y carbón de piedra, cuyas facturas importaron \$66,836.49 y \$28,719.25, respectivamente.

El Cónsul-General de México en Nueva York, anuncia que durante el mes de marzo de 1907, trece buques procedentes de puertos mexicanos entraron en el puerto de la ciudad de Nueva York, conduciendo á bordo 111,844 bultos de mercancías. Durante el mismo mes, los buques que salieron del puerto de Nueva York ascendieron á catorce, que conducían 175,064 bultos de mercancías consignadas á puertos mexicanos. Las importaciones detalladas de México á Nueva York en el mes de marzo de 1907 fueron las siguientes:

Artículos.	Cantidad.	Artículos.	Cantidad.
Henequen.....tercios..	16,376	Barras de plomo..... número..	44,492
Café.....sacos.....	8,970	Zarzaparrilla.....tercios..	565
Cueiros.....tercios..	8,609	Vanilla.....cajas.....	111
Id.....sueltos.....	3,428	Pieles de cuadrillo..... número..	40
Textil.....paños.....	6,927	Mol de uleja.....barriles..	316
Pieles de entra.....tercios..	2,454	Cedro.....trozos.....	429
Pieles de venado.....id.....	179	Caoba.....id.....	697
Hule.....id.....	7,166	Purga de Jalapa.....sacos.....	106
Tabaco en rama.....id.....	443	Cobre.....barras.....	2,725
Piros.....cajas.....	16	Plata acañada.....cajas.....	216
Zacatón.....tercios..	516	Moneda acañada.....id.....	235
Chicle.....id.....	4,504	Asfalto.....barriles.....	2,400
Pelo.....paños.....	221	Pesos mexicanos.....cajas.....	35

El Cónsul General de México en Nueva York anuncia que durante el mes de abril de 1907, 12 buques procedentes de puertos mexicanos entraron en el puerto de la ciudad de Nueva York, conduciendo á bordo 86,828 bultos de mercancías. Durante el mismo mes, los buques que salieron del puerto de Nueva York ascendieron á 16, que conducían 206,507 bultos de mercancías consignadas á puertos mexicanos. Las importaciones detalladas de México á Nueva York en el mes de abril de 1907 fueron las siguientes:

Artículos.	Cantidad.	Artículos.	Cantidad.
Henequén.....tercios..	6,385	Ajo.....sacos..	1,397
Café.....sucos..	14,918	Naranjas.....caja..	1
Cueros.....tercios..	7,373	Pesos mexicanos.....cajas..	84
Cueros.....bultos..	4,436	Tecali.....trozos..	49
Ixtle.....pacas..	4,968	Pelo.....pacas..	50
Pieles de cabra.....tercios..	2,477	Barras de plomo.....número..	20,853
Pieles de venado.....id..	244	Zarzaparilla.....tercios..	739
Utule.....id..	5,348	Vainilla.....cajas..	99
Tabaco en rama.....id..	1,321	Pieles de cocodrilo.....número..	60
Puros.....cajas..	50	Huesos.....bultos..	31
Zacatón.....tercios..	617	Miel de abeja.....bariles..	239
Chicle.....id..	3,197	Cedro.....trozos..	184
Fuste.....trozos..	3,374	Caoba.....id..	24
Moneda acuñada.....cajas..	237	Purga de Jalapa.....sacos..	160
Plata acuñada.....barras..	483	Cobre.....barras..	4,061

PANAMÁ.

ORGANIZACIÓN DE UNA OFICINA DE ESTADÍSTICA.

El 10 de mayo de 1907 se organizó en la República de Panamá una oficina de estadística, bajo el nombre de "Dirección General de Estadística," y teniendo al frente como Director al Señor Don LEÓN FERNÁNDEZ GUARDIA. La nueva oficina tendrá á su cargo la colección y publicación de estadísticas demográficas, comerciales y agrícolas de la República.

LA CRÍA DE ABEJAS EN LA REPÚBLICA.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de Panamá, del 6 de marzo de 1907, publica el contrato celebrado el 5º del mismo entre el Gobierno y el Señor VÍCTOR VARGAS GAMALLO para que éste organice en la República un apiario modelo, é importe de los Estados Unidos abejas fecundadas, de pura raza italiana.

DELEGADO Á LA JUNTA PAN-AMERICANA DE JURISCONSULTOS.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de la República de Panamá, de fecha 5 de abril de 1907, publica el texto de un decreto del Presidente AMADOR, fechado el 1º del mismo mes, por el cual se nombra al Señor Doctor BELISARIO PORRAS delegado del Gobierno á la Junta de Jurisconsultos que debe reunirse en este año en la ciudad de Río Janeiro, para pre-

parar proyectos de Códigos de Derecho Internacional Público y Privado, según lo estipulado por la Convención de 23 de agosto de 1906, de la Tercera Conferencia Internacional Americana.

PERÚ.

LEYES AGRARIA Y DE IRRIGACIÓN.

Los terrenos de bosques del Perú están situados en un lugar conocido por "Montaña," que es el territorio más extenso del país. Dicho territorio ofrece un amplio campo á los inmigrantes, por virtud de la fertilidad de sus diferentes distritos, la variedad de sus productos y las franquicias especiales que las leyes les confieren. Los inmigrantes gozan de los mismos derechos civiles que los nativos, y con arreglo á los preceptos de la ley de diciembre 21 de 1898, pueden fácilmente comprar terrenos en la Montaña, por cuanto dicha ley establece como métodos de adquisición (1) por compra al precio de 5 soles (\$2.50 oro americano) por hectárea, siendo un hectárea equivalente á 2.47 acres; (2) por contrato de colonización; (3) mediante el pago de una renta anual de un sol, ó 50 centavos oro americano, por hectárea, y (4) por concesión gratuita, con tal que los lotes no excedan de dos hectáreas. Pero deberá tenerse en cuenta que puesto que la ley se propone fomentar el cultivo de los terrenos de la Montaña, nada hay que impida á cualquiera persona que haya obtenido y cultivado un lote, que adquiera otros sucesivamente con sujeción á la misma obligación respecto del cultivo. El espíritu de la ley es tal, que al ponerla en práctica, el Gobierno procura proporcionar á los colonos todos los medios y ventajas posibles.

En la falda occidental de los Andes y en la región de la costa, donde la irrigación se hace más ó menos necesaria, la concesión de terrenos baldíos se rige por la ley de irrigación de octubre 9 de 1893, la cual prescribe lo siguiente:

"ARTÍCULO 1º. Autorízase al Poder Ejecutivo para hacer concesiones ó contratos de irrigación con sujeción estricta á las prescripciones de esta ley.

"ART. 2º. Sólo se otorgarán concesiones para el aprovechamiento de las aguas, cuando éstas sean del dominio público; se destinen á la irrigación de terrenos cultivables, y no afecten directa ni indirectamente derechos adquiridos por terceras personas.

"Para los efectos de esta ley, se reputan del dominio público:

"1º. Los ríos.

"2º. Los torrentes, manantiales y arroyos constantes ó periódicos, siempre que no hayan sido objeto de apropiación anterior.

"ART. 3º. Las aguas á que se refiere el artículo anterior podrán concederse á los ocupantes de terrenos eriazos pertenecientes al Estado.

"En uno ú otro caso el derecho á las aguas será perpetuo. Cuando se conceda la propiedad de las aguas á sociedades ó particulares, para regar tierras de propiedad privada, los propietarios de las aguas y del terreno celebrarán entre sí los convenios que para la irrigación creyeren necesarios. Si en el contrato se estipulase el pago de un canon anual por el uso de las aguas, ese gravamen no podrá exceder de noventa años.

"Vencido este plazo, las tierras quedarán exentas de la obligación de pagar el canon y el dominio del agua, acequias, represas y demás obras exclusivamente destinados al regadío, pasará libre de todo gravamen á la empresa irrigadora.

"ART. 4º. Las peticiones que se presenten al Gobierno para adquirir los derechos que esta ley acuerda, contendrán:

"(a) La designación de las aguas y el sistema de aprovechamiento que se va á emplear.

"(b) Indicación precisa de los terrenos que han de irrigarse.

"(c) El plazo en que se ejecutará la obra.

"(d) La fianza que asegure su ejecución.

"(e) Los documentos que comprueben el derecho de propiedad que sobre el terreno tenga el peticionario, en caso de que la concesión se solicite para regar.

"(f) Las tarifas con arreglo á las cuales los dueños de los terrenos deben pagar el canon respectivo, en caso de que la concesión se solicite para regar terrenos ajenos.

"(g) El plano, memoria descriptiva, condiciones y presupuestos de la obra.

"ART. 5º. Las empresas de irrigación gozarán de las siguientes ventajas:

"1ª. Exención de derechos de importación sobre las máquinas, herramientas y demás materiales que la empresa introduzca para la construcción de las obras hidráulicas, y exención del pago de alcabala de los terrenos de particulares que compre para la misma.

"2ª. La propiedad de los terrenos eriazos del Estado ó municipales que lleguen á ser irrigados suficientemente.

"3ª. Exoneración de todo impuesto directo, durante los tres primeros años, en favor de los pobladores que trabajen los terrenos irrigados, y

"4ª. Facultad de cambiar el curso de las aguas que no estén poseídas por alguien, de acrecentar su aprovechamiento por medio de estanques y de ejecutar las obras necesarias para aplicar las aguas públicas al regadío.

"ART. 6º. Los empresarios tendrán derecho á usar gratuitamente los terrenos de dominio público que fuesen necesarios para la construcción de estanques, cauces de acueductos y demás obras indispensables á la irrigación. Si los terrenos que se necesiten para estas obras fuesen de particulares, el Gobierno, en virtud de la presente ley, declarará la obra de utilidad pública, y se efectuará la expropiación conforme á las leyes.

"ART. 7º. En caso de inexecución de la obra, se hara efectiva en favor del Estado, la fianza que se hubiere otorgado.

"ART. 8º. Ninguna concesión podrá ser transferida sin consentimiento previo del Gobierno.

"ART. 9º. El empresario queda sujeto á las leyes de la República, y no podrá entablar reclamaciones sino ante los tribunales en ella constituidos.

"ART. 10. Quedan nulas y sin valor todas las concesiones sobre irrigación otorgadas antes de los últimos veinte años y de las cuales no se hubiese hecho uso hasta la fecha.

SALVADOR.

IMPORTACIONES DURANTE EL TERCER TRIMESTRE DE 1906.

Durante el tercer trimestre de 1906, la importación de mercancías por los puertos del Salvador fué como sigue:

Por el Puerto de Acajutla se introdujeron 160,158 bultos, cuyos valores ascendieron á \$1,930,723.98; por el de la Libertad, 31,570 bultos, avaluados en \$494,490.19, y por el de la Unión, 65,498 bultos, valorados en \$700,501.56. El total de bultos importados por los tres puertos mencionados durante el trimestre mencionado fué de 257,226, con un valor de \$3,126,165.73.

La Gran Bretaña envió mercaderías á el Salvador en el referido trimestre por valor de \$1,063,679.92; los Estados Unidos, \$979,746.08; Francia, \$267,387.57; Alemania, \$334,177.35; Bélgica, \$120,634.94. Entre los artículos importados, está en primera línea el algodón en tejidos, con un valor de \$1,041,661.47.

LA DEUDA INTERNA DE LA REPÚBLICA.

En la memoria presentada por el Ministro de Hacienda del Salvador á la Asamblea Nacional, el 26 de abril de 1907, la deuda interna del país está demostrada del modo siguiente: Pagadero en oro, \$3,550,232; pagadero en plata, \$1,590,533.84; bonos salvadoreños, \$3,397,775.81, plata.

PAGO EN ORO DE DERECHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN.

El "Diario Oficial" del Salvador, de fecha 26 de marzo de 1907, contiene el siguiente decreto firmado por el Presidente FIGUEROA el 22 del mismo mes.

"El Poder Ejecutivo de la República de el Salvador, considerando:

"Que en virtud de los arreglos hechos con varios acreedores del Estado, se ha convenido en reducir á oro americano las deudas á su favor, y siendo indispensable, por lo tanto, arbitrar los medios necesarios para que los pagos se hagan en dicha clase de moneda, decreta:

"Artículo único. Desde el 1º de abril próximo entrante, los impuestos con que están gravadas las mercaderías de importación, ó sean, los ocho pesos, plata, por cada cien kilogramos á que se refiere el artículo 573 de la Tarifa actual, se reducirán á \$3.70, oro americano, y se percibirán en moneda efectiva ó en giros bancarios sobre los Estados Unidos, á la vista.

"Dado en el Palacio Ejecutivo, en San Salvador, á 22 de marzo de 1907."

DERECHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN SOBRE AGUARDIENTE.

Por decreto publicado en el "Diario Oficial" de marzo 27 de 1907, desde el 1º de abril 1907 se aumentan veinticinco centavos plata en el impuesto sobre cada botella de aguardiente que se expenda en los depósitos fiscales, tanto en las cuotas de obligación como en las compras extras.

URUGUAY.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR DEL PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1906.

Las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de la República Oriental del Uruguay demuestran que las importaciones recibidas durante el primer trimestre de 1906 estuvieron avaluadas en \$17,052,581, un aumento sobre el mismo período del año anterior de \$2,356,098. Las exportaciones estuvieron avaluadas en \$20,178,400, con un aumento de \$1,874,786 sobre el mismo semestre de 1905, pero con una disminución de \$5,000 y \$3,000,000 en comparación con los primeros seis meses de 1903 y 1904, respectivamente.

La Gran Bretaña suministró el grueso de las importaciones, por más que la proporción de 30 por ciento que tenía en anteriores años ha bajado á 27 por ciento. Alemania ocupa el segundo lugar con una proporción de 16 por ciento; Francia el tercero, con 12.3 por ciento; los Estados Unidos el cuarto; la Argentina el quinto; é Italia el sexto.

De las exportaciones, Francia recibió la mayor parte, tomando unos \$5,000,000 del total; Bélgica y Alemania tomaron cada una unos \$3,000,000; la Argentina y el Brasil, \$2,800,000 y \$1,800,000, respectivamente, en tanto que los Estados Unidos están acreditados con \$750,000 solamente.

APROBACIÓN DE LA PROYECTADA JUNTA DE JURISCONSULTOS.

El Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos ha informado á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas que el Presidente de la República Oriental del Uruguay aprobó el 20 de marzo de 1907 la convención firmada en 23 de agosto de 1906, en la ciudad de Rio Janeiro, relativa á la reunión de una junta internacional de juriconsultos; esta aprobación está sujeta á la decisión final de la Asamblea General.

Esta junta estará compuesta de un representante de cada uno de los Estados signatarios, nombrado por el respectivo Gobierno, y se reunirá con el fin de preparar un proyecto de código de Derecho Internacional Privado y otro de Derecho Internacional Público.

Una de las disposiciones de la convención es la de que los nombramientos de los representantes sean notificados al Gobierno Brasileño antes del 1° de abril de 1907; el Presidente WILLIMAN ha designado al Dr. GONZALO RAMÍREZ para representar al Uruguay en la Junta.

El Dr. RAMÍREZ fué el organizador del Congreso Legal de Montevideo, es un publicista de fama y catedrático de Derecho Internacional Privado en la Universidad del Uruguay.

VENEZUELA.

TRÁFICO DE CIUDAD BOLÍVAR, PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

El valor total de las importaciones recibidas por el Puerto de Ciudad Bolívar durante el primer trimestre de 1907 fué de 1,767,572.90 bolívares, y el de las exportaciones de 1,149,350 bolívares. Los derechos de aduanas recaudados durante el mismo período ascendieron á la suma de 1,159,887.15 bolívares.

El principal producto exportado fué la goma de balata, de la cual se enviaron al extranjero 150,987 kilos valorados en 643,412 bolívares. Otras exportaciones consistieron en oro, 174,904 bolívares; cueros, 146,744 bolívares, y 700 terneras avaluadas en 70,000 bolívares.

COMERCIO EXTERIOR DE CARÚPANO EN EL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1907.

Según el "Boletín de la Cámara de Comercio de Carúpano," correspondiente al primer trimestre de 1907, el comercio exterior del puerto del mismo nombre durante el mencionado período ascendió á 1,920,912 bolívares, en comparación con 1,467,438 bolívares que

sumó el total del tráfico de igual período de 1906. Los 361,953 kilogramos importados durante el primer trimestre de 1907 tuvieron un valor de 258,123 bolívares, contra el de 295,354 bolívares en que estuvieron avalorados los 408,995 kilogramos de mercancía importada durante el período correspondiente á 1906. El valor de los 1,172,084 kilogramos de productos exportados durante el trimestre de que se trata fué de 1,662,789 bolívares, contra 1,165,055 bolívares, valor de 1,129,354 kilogramos de mercancía exportada en igual período de 1906. Los rendimientos fiscales de la aduana durante el primer trimestre de 1907 hicieron un total de 368,695.74 bolívares, siendo el ramo principal de ingreso los derechos de importación que se hallan acreditados con la suma de 189,662.26 bolívares.

LIBRE ENTRADA DE CIERTOS ARTÍCULOS.

El 18 de abril de 1907, el Presidente CASTRO, con el fin de proteger la industria de destilación del alcohol, tuvo á bien disponer la libre entrada por las aduanas de la República, por dos años, á contar de la citada fecha, de los siguientes artículos:

Aparatos de calefacción que funcionan con el alcohol, y sus motores.

Lámparas construídas especialmente para alcohol y que no funcionan con otro agente, así como los accesorios correspondientes que no sean adaptables á otras lámparas.

Mecheros ó quemadores de alcohol para producir luz y sus accesorios, tales como Manchons ó camisas incandescentes.

Tubos de talco y de vidrio que se usan exclusivamente para estas lámparas.

Mechas de algodón especiales para dichas lámparas y las Arcusas pequeñas para encenderlas.

IMPORTACIÓN DE BULTOS POSTALES.

Con fecha 23 de abril de 1907, el Presidente Castro expidió el siguiente decreto:

"ARTÍCULO 1º. Para regularizar el servicio interior de bultos postales, se limita como máximo á cuatro bultos de cinco kilogramos de un mismo artículo en un mismo buque, para un mismo importador; sin alteración de los derechos arancelarios y los demás impuestos vigentes.

"ART. 2º. Cuando el importador introduzca mayor número de kilos en bultos postales de una misma mercancía, por un mismo buque, pagará además de los derechos é impuestos actuales, veinte por ciento sobre los derechos arancelarios sobre el peso total de la misma mercancía.

"ART. 3º. Se concede á los importadores de bultos postales el plazo ultramarino que acuerda el Código de Hacienda, á partir de la fecha de este decreto."



SEÑOR DON ALBERTO YOACHAM, CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES OF CHILE TO THE UNITED STATES.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

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São tantos os pedidos de informação que se tem recebido de todas as partes do mundo relativa ao trabalho, escopo e fins da Secretaria Internacional, que se julgou conveniente incluir nesta edição do BOLETIM um esboço geral della, o qual contem dados sufficientes para responder á maior parte desses pedidos. Mesmo os que estão mais ou menos ao corrente não só do que a Secretaria tem feito, mas do que se propõe fazer, talvez encontrem neste resumo alguns dados sobre a importância, oportunidades e responsabilidades da Secretaria, que até agora não têm comprehendido.

O NOVO MEMBRO DO CONSELHO DIRECTOR.

A Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas tem muito prazer em receber, como membro do seu Conselho Director, o Senhor JOSÉ AUGUSTIN ARANGO, novo Ministro de Panamá nos Estados Unidos, que foi recebido oficialmente pelo Presidente ROOSEVELT em 13 de Maio ultimo. O Director conhece bem o Senhor ARANGO, tendo-se aproveitado dos seus bons conselhos quando occupava o posto de Ministro dos Estados Unidos em Panamá. O novo Ministro é um dos homens mais proeminentes da jovem Republica e ha de ser um digno representante do seu paiz em Washington. O Director aproveita esta oportunidade para exprimir o pesar que sente por motivo da partida do Senhor Ministro OBALDIA, que sempre tomou grande interesse nos trabalhos e bem-estar da Secretaria. O Senhor OBALDIA deixa o seu posto para assumir maiores responsabilidades, pois foi nomeado para occupar o posto de Chefe Executivo de Panamá durante a proxima ausencia do Presidente AMADOR.

A AMERICA LATINA NA CONFERENCIA DE LAGO MOHONK.

Talvez a feição mais notavel da Conferencia sobre Arbitramento Internacional que se realizou em Lago Mohonk nos dias 22 a 24 de Maio, foi a importancia que nella se ligava á America Latina. Em nenhuma das doze reuniões anteriores se manifestou semelhante interesse no que os paizes da America Central e do Sul tem feito para promover o arbitramento internacional. Os discursos do Senhor CREEL, Embaixador do Mexico, e do Senhor CALDERÓN, Ministro da Bolivia, figuram entre os mais notaveis, importantes e significativos que se pronunciaram na Conferencia. Esses discursos attrahiram a attenção em toda a parte dos Estados Unidos, e foram commentados favoravelmente pelos principaes jornaes. Breves discursos foram tambem pronunciados pelo Ex^{mo} Sr. FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, ex-Ministro dos Estados Unidos em Venezuela e antigo Subsecretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, e pelo Director da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, os quaes occuparam-se dos esforços que se tem feito na America Latina em prol da paz e do progresso. Neste numero do BOLETIM se publicam extractos de alguns dos discursos proferidos nesta Conferencia.

HONRA EXCEPCIONAL CONFERIDA AO EMBAIXADOR CREEL.

É de esperar-se que a honra excepcional que o povo do Estado de Chihuahua acaba de conferir ao Senhor ENRIQUE C. CREEL, Embaixador do Mexico, elegendo-o Governador desse Estado, não occasionese que se retire de Washington. O Embaixador CREEL não só tem manifestado grande interesse nos trabalhos e ampliada esphera de acção da Secretaria, tendo cooperado para que os esforços desta resultem beneficios tanto ao Mexico, como aos Estados Unidos, mas no curto periodo de sua permanencia aqui tem feito muito para fazer o Mexico melhor conhecido e respeitado em toda a parte dos Estados Unidos. Com effeito, é uma rara honra para um homem occupar o duplo cargo de Embaixador de seu paiz e Governador de um dos seus principaes Estados. Não poderia haver melhor prova do quanto o estimam em seu paiz, não só o Governo em geral, mas o povo de uma região especial situada a grande distancia da capital.

PROGRESSO E PROSPERIDADE DO BRAZIL.

A mensagem apresentada ao Congresso Nacional na occasião de sua abertura, aos 3 de Maio, pelo Presidente da Republica, Dr. AFFONSO PENNA, deve ser lida attentamente por todos os que se interessam pelo desenvolvimento deste paiz, o maior da America Latina. Os

extractos della que se publicam neste numero do BOLETIM mostram que o paiz vae desenvolvendo-se rapidamente e que é muito auspicioso o seu futuro. O Presidente do Brazil diz que um exame minucioso dos negocios publicos confirma a opinião que externou em seu manifesto inaugural de que o paiz caminha com passo firme e seguro para seus grandes destinos, e que essa opinião é partilhada por eminentes estrangeiros que têm visitado o paiz e outros que o estudam desde longos annos. O extraordinario progresso realizado na capital da Republica causa surpresa a todos que a visitam. Os algarismos da estatistica commercial mostram que a produção tem augmentado, ao passo que a situação do Thesouro que reflecte o estado economico é satisfactoria. Faz referencia especial á Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, á visita do Secretario Root á America do Sul, á participação do Brazil na Conferencia da Haya, á negociação de um tratado de limites com a Colombia, e ao progresso que se tem feito nas negociações para a solução das questões pendentes com o Equador, Peru, Uruguay e Bolivia. Chama a attenção para a necessidade de desenvolver a viação-ferrea e recommenda ao Governo que preste seu auxilio e cooperação para levar a effeito varias emprezas. Segundo dados estatisticos, o valor do commercio exterior do Brazil no anno de 1906, foi de \$430,000,000. O valor da exportação foi approximadamente de \$265,000,000, e o da importação foi de \$165,000,000, o que mostra um augmento de \$60,000,000 e \$70,000,000, respectivamente, sobre a exportação e importação de 1905.

EXPOSIÇÃO DE BUENOS AIRES CELEBRANDO O CENTENARIO DA INDEPENDENCIA EM 1910.

Nesta época em que as exposições se tornaram uma feição proeminente da vida nacional americana, é muito interessante notar que o Governo da Republica Argentina está se preparando para celebrar em Buenos Aires, em 1910, o centenario da Independencia Argentina, uma grande exposição de artes, industrias, agricultura e gado. O Congresso Argentino acaba de votar uma lei que prescreve a nomeação de uma Comissão Nacional que será incumbida de preparar os planos da exposição e de despertar um interesse nella, não só na Argentina mas no mundo inteiro. Como esta exposição acaba de annunciar-se, nem os Estados Unidos nem a Europa têm tido tempo para consagrar-lhe muita attenção, mas é de esperar que, si as nações estrangeiras são convidadas para tomar parte nella, os Estados Unidos não deixarão de votar uma somma liberal para sua representação. A Republica Argentina cresce com tanta rapidez e está-se tornando um factor tão importante no commercio do mundo, que os fabricantes e exportadores dos Estados Unidos não devem deixar de

aproveitar esta opportunidade para dar a conhecer seus productos. Si os americanos recordassem que a cidade de Buenos Aires tem na actualidade mais de 1,000,000 de habitantes e que o valor do commercio estrangeiro da Republica, o anno passado, ascendeu a \$563,000,000, ou sejam \$100 por habitante, se convenceriam de que não deve perder-se a opportunidade que os Estados Unidos tem para fortalecer seu commercio com este paiz. É excusado dizer que a exposição ha de ter um grande exito. A Republica Argentina é tão progressista e o povo de Buenos Aires tão energico, que não ha duvida de que a exposição ha de ser uma das mellores de sua classe que até agora se tem levado a cabo no mundo. Pode accrescentar-se que o anno de 1910 seria muito propicio para que os Americanos que desejam ver a America do Sul fizessem uma visita a esta parte do mundo. Com relação a isto, ha de ser interessante ler os extractos que se publicam da mensagem do Presidente da Republica Argentina, lida por occasião da abertura do Congresso Nacional, em 8 de Maio de 1907. O Presidente chama a attenção para muitos pontos que merecem ser tomados em consideração pelos que estão interessados nos assumptos latino-americanos.

REGULAMENTO DE MINAS DA BOLIVIA.

A Secretaria recebe constantemente pedidos de informação relativa ás leis e regulamentos de minas nos differentes paizes latino-americanos. Neste numero do BOLETIM se publica o texto de um novo decreto que o Governo Boliviano expediu o 20 de Abril relativo ás concessões, petições, medições de terrenos mineiros, opposições, approvações, titulos registrados e jurisdicção. É a intenção da Secretaria publicar no BOLETIM, de tempo em tempo, todos os novos regulamentos de minas ou as modificações de antigas leis que fôrem decretados nas differentes Republicas Americanas afim de que o crescente numero dos que se dedicam á industria mineria estejam ao corrente das condições mineiras de cada paiz.

ESTADO FINANCEIRO DO CHILE.

Neste numero do BOLETIM se publicam extractos tomados de uma publicação financeira de Santiago, que contem uma relação fornecida pela Repartição de Estatistica, a qual mostra que o estado financeiro desta progressiva Republica é muito satisfactorio. Por exemplo, o valor total da propriedade sujeita a tributos em 1904 foi de \$1,512,591,127, o que, comparado com o valor que a dita propriedade tinha em 1897, mostra um augmento de \$112,507,766. Segundo os

ultimos informes, os depositos dos bancos foram na importancia de \$314,240,433, o que mostra um augmento de \$193,078,147, ou seja 159 por cento, comparados com os depositos em 31 de Dezembro de 1901. O capital social das companhias que se incorporaram em 1905 foi de \$25,000,000, o que mostra um augmento de 800 por cento em confronto com 1901. O numero dos estabelecimentos industriaes existentes em 1905, foi de 10,152, contra 7,315 em 1901, ao passo que em 1905 havia 35,018 estabelecimentos commerciaes, contra 32,944 em 1901.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE REYES DA COLOMBIA.

Colombia caminha tão rapidamente para a frente que não ha duvida de que os extractos da mensagem que o Presidente REYES apresentou ao Congresso Nacional por occasião de sua abertura, em 1 de Abril, serão lidos com muito interesse. A proximidade da Colombia aos Estados Unidos, sua favoravel situação tanto no Atlantico como no Pacifico, a admiravel variedade de seus recursos naturaes, e a boa fortuna de ter um Executivo que reúne qualidades de estadista tão notaveis como o Presidente REYES, estão demonstrando ao mundo que Colombia é um campo em que ha de ser realizado grande desenvolvimento material.

OUTROS ARTIGOS DE INTERESSE ESPECIAL.

Não ha espaço nesta secção para fazer commentarios sobre todos os assumptos de interesse em cada um dos paizes, mas chama-se a attenção para a mensagem do Presidente de Costa Rica, lida por occasião da abertura do Congresso Nacional em 1 de Maio de 1907; para o relatório sobre minas da Provincia de Santiago de Cuba; os regulamentos relativos á colonização e irrigação da Republica Dominicana; a recepção official do Ministro dos Estados Unidos, o Senhor Fox, pelo Presidente ALFARO do Equador; o commercio de Guatemala com Nova York em 1906; as condições commerciaes, mineiras e geraes do Mexico; a organização da Repartição de Estatistica de Panamá; as obras de melhoramento dos portos do Paraguay; as novas leis agrarias e de irrigação do Peru; o commercio geral dos Estados Unidos com a America Latina; o commercio estrangeiro de Venezuela, e a proporção do valor do commercio entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos.

ESBOÇO DA SECRETARIA INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.

A Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas está estabelecida em Washington, Districto da Columbia, e é mantida pelas quotas que contribuem todas as Republicas do hemispherio occidental com o fim de não só promover o commercio e aperfeiçoar o conhecimento reciproco, mas de estabelecer relações mais intimas de ordena material, intellectual e social.

Esta organização é a unica no seu genero. Não é uma dependencia de nenhum Departamento do Governo dos Estados Unidos, como muita gente suppõe, mas uma repartição independente tanto dos Governos da America Central e do Sul, como do dos Estados Unidos. E' gerida por um Conselho Director, constituído pelos Representantes Diplomaticos de todos os Governos das Republicas Americanas aacreditados junto ao Governo dos Estados Unidos, o qual é presidido pelo Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos. Este Conselho Director, por sua vez, nomeia o chefe administrativo que é responsavel ao Conselho da direcção da Secretaria. O Director é o funcionario de vinte-uma Republicas, mas como a Secretaria tem sua sede em Washington, é designado, por cortesia e costume, pelo Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, dependendo a nomeção da approvação dos Embaixadores e Ministros dos demais paizes. O Director actual é o Senhor JOHN BARRETT, ex-Ministro dos Estados Unidos na Argentina, Panamá e Colombia.

As despesas de custeio da Secretaria são pagas com as quotas que contribuem as Republicas Americanas, as quaes são fixadas em proporção com a população de cada paiz, de forma que a nação que tenha a menor area tem tanto interesse na Secretaria como os paizes maiores, como os Estados Unidos, por exemplo. As vinte-uma Republicas representadas pelo Conselho Director, dadas na ordem de sua população, são as seguintes: Os Estados Unidos, o Brazil, Mexico, a Argentina, o Chile, o Peru, a Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Cuba, Haiti, Guatemala, Equador, Salvador, Uruguay, Paraguay, São Domingos, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica e Panamá.

ESTABELECIMENTO DA SECRETARIA EM 1890.

A Secretaria foi estabelecida em 1890, em virtude de uma resolução da Primeira Conferencia Internacional Americana que se realizou em Washington, em 1889-90, e foi presidida pelo Senhor JAMES G. BLAINE. O que motivou o seu estabelecimento era o desejo manifestado pelos delegados de dissipar a ighorancia que existia nos Estados Unidos acerca das Republicas irmãs, e, por sua

vez, entre estas ultimas a respeito dos Estados Unidos. Primeiramente se lhe denominou "Bureau de Informação," e teve por fim especial subministrar aos fabricantes, exportadores, importadores, commerciantes e todos os que se interessem no desenvolvimento do commercio, dados e informações fidedignos, o que daria em resultado uma nova era nas relações materiaes das Republicas Americanas.

O primeiro Director da Secretaria foi o distincto jornalista, Senhor WILLIAM E. CURTIS. Em pouco tempo o Senhor Curtis fez com que a Secretaria adquirisse uma importancia tal, que desde logo foi reconhecida em todos os paizes como uma instituição util e pratica. Succederam-lhe neste posto os Senhores CLINTON FURBISH, JOSEPH P. SMITH, FREDERIC EMORY, e W. W. ROCKHILL, que na actualidade é Ministro dos Estados Unidos na China. Na Segunda Conferencia Internacional Americana, reunida em Mexico em 1901, o plano e a esphera de acção da Secretaria foram ampliados de modo que pudesse levar a effeito as resoluções desta reunião internacional.

Em 1905, quando o Senhor ROCKHILL foi á China, succedeu-lhe o Senhor WILLIAMS C. FOX, que é actualmente Ministro dos Estados Unidos junto ao Governo do Equador. Sob as administrações destes differentes directores, a Secretaria cresceu gradualmente em influencia e utilidade, mas lhe faltavam o interesse directo e franco apoio de todos os Governos nella interessados de que necessitava para que se convertesse em uma instituição poderosa e util. Foi precisa uma nova força para dar-lhe maior influencia e valor pratico.

A VISITA DO SECRETARIO ROOT Á AMERICA DO SUL.

Quando o Senhor ELIHU ROOT assumiu o posto de Secretario de Estado, reconheceu logo que era preciso fazer algo sobre uma base nova e mais ampla, para estabelecer relações diplomaticas, commerciaes e sociaes mais intimas entre os Estados Unidos e suas Republicas irmãs. Por consequente, ficou resolvido pelo Executivo que o Senhor Root fizesse uma viagem á America do Sul, e que na Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana, reunida no Rio de Janeiro no verão de 1906, se tomassem as medidas precisas para reorganizar a Secretaria Internacional e ampliar sua esphera de acção e utilidade. Nas discussões que tiveram lugar nas sessões do Conselho Director, antes da Conferencia do Rio de Janeiro, os representantes latino-americanos apoiaram cordialmente o interesse que o Secretario de Estado tomava pela America Latina e nos planos da Secretaria, com o resultado de que, quando a Conferencia se reuniu, adoptou por unanimidade de votos resoluções que farão com que a Secretaria se converta em uma instituição poderosa e pratica para fomentar o commercio americano internacional, para facilitar meios de contacto nas questões politicas e intellectuaes, para estabelecer relações mais intimas e aperfeiçoar o conhecimento mutuo.

RESOLUÇÕES ESPECIAES RELATIVAS Á SECRETARIA.

As seguintes resoluções approvadas na Terceira Conferencia Internacional dão uma idea do alcance de seus trabalhos:

“A Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana resolve:

“ARTIGO 1º. A Terceira Conferencia Internacional Americana resolve continuar a União Internacional das Republicas Americanas creada pela Primeira Conferencia e confirmada pela Segunda.

Os fins da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, que representará a referida União, são os seguintes:

“1º. Compilar e distribuir dados commerciaes e proporcionar informações a respeito.

“2º. Compilar e classificar tudo quanto se refira aos Tratados e Convenções entre as Republicas Americanas, e entre estas e outros Estados não Americanos.

“3º. Informar sobre assumptos de educação.

“4º. Informar sobre as questões designadas em accordo com as Conferencias Internacionaes Americanas.

“5º. Contribuir para obter a ratificação das resoluções e convenções adoptadas pelas differentes Conferencias.

“6º. Dar cumprimento a todas as Resoluções que lhe tenham imposto ou lhe imponham as Conferencias Internacionaes Americanas.

“7º. Funcionar como Comissão Permanente das Conferencias Internacionaes Americanas, propondo projectos que possam ser incluídos entre os themas da proxima Conferencia, devendo os mesmos ser levados ao conhecimento dos differentes Governos que formam a União, seis mezes, antes da data em que se deve reunir a proxima Conferencia.

“8º. Apresentar, com a mesma antecedencia, aos differentes Governos, uma memoria sobre os trabalhos da Secretaria no periodo comprehendido entre a ultima Conferencia e a seguinte, e informações especiaes sobre cada um dos assumptos de cujo estudo tenha sido encarregada.”

RESOLUÇÕES ADDICIONAES QUE COMPREHENDEM NOVOS TRABALHOS.

Outras resoluções em virtude das quaes a Secretaria assume novas responsabilidades e despezas addicionaes, estabelecem que se deem os passos precisos para que a Secretaria esteja installada “de modo a poder desempenhar as importantes funções de que esta Conferencia a encarregou;” que cada um dos Governos nomeie uma comissão afim de que auxilie a Secretaria no preparo dos seus trabalhos; que se estabeleça, subordinada á Secretaria, uma secção especial de estatística commercial; que a Secretaria elabore um projecto para o estabelecimento de linhas de navegação entre os principaes portos dos

paizes americanos, com o fim de facilitar o commercio e a communicação geral; que estude o projecto da Estrada de Ferro Pan-Americana e faça com que os diversos Governos determinem quanto antes as concessões de terras, subvenções, garantia de juros sobre o capital empregado, isenção de direitos aduaneiros para o material de construção e exploração e quaesquer outros auxilios que julguem conveniente conceder; que estude os systemas monetarios dos Governos Americanos com o fim de preparar para a proxima Conferencia um relatorio sobre o systema vigente em cada uma das Republicas Americanas, sua historia, as fluctuações do typo de cambio, e o preparo de tabellas que demonstrem a influencia das referidas fluctuações sobre o commercio e o desenvolvimento industrial; que estude as leis que regem as concessões publicas nos diversos paizes da America com o fim de conseguir informações que lhe possam ser uteis; e que, finalmente, formule o programma para a Quarta Conferencia Internacional que deve reunir-se dentro dos proximos cinco annos.

A BIBLIOTHECA DE COLOMBO.

Uma feição importante da Secretaria Internacional, que ainda não tem sido bem apreciada, é a Bibliotheca de Colombo. Esta contém na actualidade cerca de 13,000 volumes, que abrangem uma grande variedade de informação commercial, historica e geral acerca das differentes Republicas Americanas. Tenciona-se ampliar esta bibliotheca de maneira que chegue a ser a collecção mais completa de obras sobre America no mundo. Uma resolução da Segunda Conferencia Pan-Americana que foi approvada pela Terceira, recommenda que cada Governo envie a esta bibliotheca exemplares de todas as suas publicações officiaes. Bastaria esta collecção para que fosse de inestimavel valor como bibliotheca de consulta. Na actualidade, è frequentada por estadistas, escriptores, estudantes, viajantes, homens de negocio, e outras pessoas que desejam obter informações fidedignos acerca dos paizes americanos.

DONATIVO FEITO PELO SENHOR CARNEGIE PARA A CONSTRUÇÃO DE UM NOVO EDIFÍCIO.

No dia 1º de Janeiro de 1907, o EXMO. SR. ELIHU ROOT, Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos e Presidente *ex-officio* do Conselho Director da Secretaria, annunciou a generosa offerta de \$750,000 que fez o Senhor ANDREW CARNEGIE para a construção de um novo edificio para a Secretaria Internacional.

Os differentes Governos que contribuem para a manutenção da Secretaria, já haviam votado a somma de \$250,000 para a compra de um loal formoso na esquina das ruas Dezesete e B, na cidade de Washington. Este terreno comprehende cinco geiras, e faz frente, pelo lado de leste ao Parque da Casa Branca, e ao Parque do Poto-

mae, pelo lado do sul. Na actualidade está aberto um concurso para a escolha de um architecto, e é provavel que os trabalhos de excavação do terreno para este "Templo Americano de Paz," como o denomina o Senhor CARNEGIE, sejam iniciados a principios do outono de 1907.

A ELEIÇÃO DO DIRECTOR' SR. JOHN BARRETT.

Em Dezembro de 1906, o Senhor JOHN BARRETT, que então era Ministro dos Estados Unidos na Colombia, como o havia sido antes daquella data em São, Argentina e Panamá, respectivamente, foi unanimemente eleito Director da Secretaria pelo Conselho Director, para succeder ao Senhor WILLIAMS C. FOX, que havia sido nomeado Ministro dos Estados Unidos no Equador. Ao Senhor BARRETT se confiou a execução do novo programma que a Conferencia do Rio adoptou para a reorganização da Secretaria. O Senhor BARRETT foi tambem delegado dos Estados Unidos á Segunda Conferencia Pan-Americana na cidade de Mexico em 1901, na qual foi membro da subcommissão encarregada das resoluções relativas á Secretaria que foram approvadas na dita Conferencia.

TRABALHOS PRATICOS DA SECRETARIA.

Como prova dos trabalhos praticos que a Secretaria está levando avante sob a actual administração, podem citar-se os seguintes factos:

1º. Durante os cinco primeiros mezes de 1907, a Secretaria recebeu cerca de 6,000 cartas de todas as partes do mundo, solicitando informações especiaes e importantes sobre varios assumptos pertencentes á America Latina. No mesmo periodo foram enviadas cerca de 6,000 cartas subministrando dados especiaes, cuja colleção exigia muito trabalho.

2º. Além destas cartas, foram recebidas mais de 2,000 cartas pedindo a remessa de impressos, e foram distribuidos mais de 60,000 BOLETINS, manuaes, folhetos e circulares.

3º. Cada mez a Secretaria envia 10,000 BOLETINS, de 300 paginas, pelo menos, cada um, que contem os ultimos informes descriptivos e estatisticos acerca do commercio e o desenvolvimento industrial das vinte-uma Republicas Americanas.

4º. Já se tem publicado ou estão em via de preparação varios manuaes sobre os principaes paizes americanos, de 200 a 400 paginas cada um, os quaes se distribuem gratuitamente ou a um preço que apenas cobre o custo de impressão e do papel.

5º. Publicam-se folhetos e circulares que contem informações relativas ás leis de minas, immigração, tarifas aduaneiras, de terras, relatorios dos agentes consulares, artigos e discursos de diplomatas ou de especialistas sobre os varios paizes e suas feições caracteristicas, os quaes se distribuem onde quer que possam ser uteis.

6º. Aos fabricantes, exportadores e commerciantes que desejam explorar os mercados de outros paizes, se proporcionam informações acerca das condições que existem no campo em que se propõem entrar, assim como do melhor meio de chegar a conhecê-lo, enquanto que ás pessoas que desejam viajar com fins commerciaes ou por recreio, se lhes indicam os melhores itinerarios que devem seguir.

7º. Em quanto ao campo intellectual e docente, se estão estudando os systemas das universidades e collegios da America do Norte e do Sul, e se estão fazendo esforços no sentido de effectuar um intercambio de homens eruditos e publicistas de representação.

8º. Nas differentes escolas da America do Norte se está recommendando com insistencia o estudo do hespanhol e o portuguez, e o mesmo se faz nas escolas e instituições analogas da America do Sul quanto ao inglez, ao passo que tanto ás bibliothecas dos collegios como ás publicas se estão proporcionando listas de livros que contem informações sobre o desenvolvimento historico, politico, intellectual e material de cada paiz.

9º. Já se tem dado os passos precisos para levar avante por completo o programma organizado na Conferencia do Rio de Janeiro, e descrito neste esboço sob o titulo de "Resoluções Especiaes Relativas á Secretaria," e "Resoluções Adicionaes que Comprehendem novos Trabalhos." Ainda que é um pouco difficil pôr em pratica este amplo programma com a rapidez que seria de desejar, por causa do facto de que ainda não se tem augmentado nem a renda nem o pessoal da Secretaria, todavia, o que já se tem feito basta para dar uma idea dos grandes beneficios que hão de receber todas as Republicas Americanas da ampliada esphera de acção da Secretaria, que ha de levar avante seu amplo programma á medida que as differentes Republicas augmentem suas quotas, que o pessoal seja augmentado e que o novo edificio esteja concluido e prompto para ser occupado.

VALOR DO COMMERCIO DOS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS COM OS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Segundo os ultimos dados estatisticos de que se pode dispor, o valor do commercio entre os diversos paizes da America Latina e os Estados Unidos foi o seguinte:

O valor total das mercadorias importadas pela Republica Argentina em 1906 foi de \$269,970,521, dos quaes \$39,474,894, ou seja 14.62 por cento do total, representam o valor dos productos provenientes dos Estados Unidos, ao passo que da exportação total que foi pelo valor de \$292,253,829, sómente \$13,332,112, ou 4.56 por cento, foram com destino áquelle paiz. A importação da Republica Argentina em 1905 foi pelo valor de \$197,974,000, dos quaes \$27,902,000, ou 14.62 por

cento, representam o valor das mercadorias provenientes dos Estados Unidos, recebendo este paiz \$15,167,000, ou 4.87 por cento da exportação total, que foi pelo valor de \$311,544,000.

A importação da Bolivia em 1905 foi pelo valor de \$13,377,000, sendo \$756,000, ou 5.6 por cento, provenientes dos Estados Unidos, ao passo que este paiz recebeu neste anno productos bolivianos pelo valor de \$27,000, ou seja 0.13 por cento do total, que foi pelo valor de \$20,062,049. Segundo os dados estatisticos dos Estados Unidos, este paiz exportou em 1906, com destino á Bolivia, productos pelo valor de \$242,616, mas segundo a estatistica boliviana esta exportação foi consideravelmente maior.

O Brazil importou em 1906 productos norte-americanos pelo valor de \$19,000,000, ou seja 11.46 por cento da importação total, que foi pelo valor de \$165,000,000, e exportou para este paiz productos pelo valor de \$93,000,000, ou seja 36 por cento de sua exportação total, que foi pelo valor de \$265,000,000. Os dados estatisticos correspondentes ao anno de 1905 mostram que foram importados productos norte-americanos pelo valor de \$14,961,000, ou 10.33 por cento do total, ao passo que o Brazil exportou com destino aos Estados Unidos productos pelo valor de \$89,108,000, ou seja 41.13 pelo cento do total, que era de \$216,000,000.

A Republica de Costa Rica importou em 1905 productos pelo valor de \$5,239,000, dos quaes \$2,706,000, ou 51.65 por cento, eram de origem dos Estados Unidos, e exportou mercadorias pelo valor de \$8,138,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$3,836,000, ou 47.14 por cento do total. Segundo os dados estatisticos correspondentes ao anno de 1906, os Estados Unidos exportaram para Costa Rica productos pelo valor de \$2,473,281, e importaram deste paiz productos pelo valor de \$4,715,510.

A importação de Guatemala em 1905 foi pelo valor de \$6,844,000, dos quaes \$2,707,000, ou 39.55 por cento, representaun o valor dos productos importados dos Estados Unidos. A exportação deste paiz em 1905 foi pelo valor de \$8,238,000, dos quaes \$2,875,000, ou 34.90 por cento, foram com destino aos Estados Unidos. Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para Guatemala productos pelo valor de \$2,980,072, ao passo que importaram productos provenientes deste paiz pelo valor de \$2,822,020.

A importação de Honduras em 1905 foi pelo valor de \$2,293,000, contribuindo os Estados Unidos com productos pelo valor de \$1,690,000, ou seja 73.70 por cento do total; sua exportação neste anno foi pelo valor de \$5,564,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos mercadorias pelo valor de \$4,623,000, ou seja 83.09 por cento do total. Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para Honduras productos pelo valor de \$1,896,204, e importaram productos provenientes de Honduras pelo valor de \$2,204,692.

Em 1904, que é o anno mais recente de que se pode obter estatística, a importação de Nicaragua foi pelo valor de \$3,202,000, contribuindo os Estados Unidos com \$1,668,000, ou 52.09 por cento do total; a exportação foi pelo valor de \$3,926,000, sendo enviados para os Estados Unidos productos pelo valor de \$2,089,000, ou seja 53.21 por cento. Em 1905 e 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para Nicaragua productos pelo valor de \$1,833,595 e \$2,041,231, respectivamente, ao passo que importaram nos dous referidos annos productos pelo valor de \$1,433,815 e \$1,331,172.

Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para Panamá productos pelo valor de \$14,239,471, contra \$7,831,564 em 1905, ao passo que importaram daquelle paiz productos pelo valor de \$1,448,686 em 1906, contra \$879,145 no anno anterior.

Os productos importados por Salvador em 1905 foram pelo valor de \$4,346,000, dos quaes \$1,355,000, ou 31.18 por cento, eram provenientes dos Estados Unidos, e foram exportados productos pelo valor de \$5,640,000, dos quaes \$1,225,000, ou 23.49 por cento, representam o valor dos enviados para os Estados Unidos. Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para Salvador productos pelo valor de \$1,321,765, e importaram daquelle paiz productos pelo valor de \$1,216,262.

Cuba importou em 1906 productos pelo valor de \$98,530,622, dos quaes \$47,717,618, ou mais de 48 por cento, foram de origem dos Estados Unidos, ao passo que da exportação total, que foi avaliada em \$106,258,613, aquelle paiz recebeu \$88,175,451, ou mais de 82 por cento.

Os productos importados por Haiti no periodo comprehendido de Outubro de 1904 até Setembro de 1905, inclusive, foram pelo valor de \$3,871,069, contribuindo os Estados Unidos para esta somma com \$2,746,851, ou mais de 71 por cento. Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram com destino a Haiti productos pelo valor de \$3,266,425, e importaram deste paiz productos pelo valor de \$1,036,330, contra \$2,916,379 e \$1,171,303, respectivamente, em 1905.

A Republica Dominicana importou em 1906 productos pelo valor de \$4,065,437, sendo no valor de \$2,271,292, ou mais de 48 por cento do total os provenientes dos Estados Unidos, e exportou mercadorias pelo valor de \$6,536,379, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$3,464,425, ou 53 por cento. Em 1905 esta República importou mercadorias pelo valor de \$2,737,000, contribuindo os Estados Unidos com \$1,961,000, ou 71.65 por cento, e exportou productos pelo valor de \$6,881,000, sendo no valor de \$4,484,000, ou 65.16 por cento do total, os enviados para os Estados Unidos.

Chile importou em 1905 productos pelo valor de \$71,868,000, sendo no valor de \$7,129,000, ou 9.92 por cento do total os importados dos Estados Unidos, e exportou productos pelo valor de \$103,223,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$15,693,000, ou 15.20 por cento. Em

1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para o Chile productos por valor de \$9,392,453, e importaram deste paiz productos pelo valor de \$18,146,232.

Os Estados Unidos exportaram para Colombia em 1906 mercadorias pelo valor de \$2,961,671, contra \$3,635,417 em 1905, e importaram deste paiz productos pelo valor de \$6,669,461 em 1906, contra \$6,268,939 no anno anterior. Em 1904 a Republica da Colombia importou productos pelo valor de \$14,453,000, sendo no valor de \$4,936,000, ou 34.15 por cento os provenientes dos Estados Unidos, ao passo que exportou productos pelo valor de \$12,658,000, cabendo aos Estados Unidos \$6,837,000, ou 54.01 por cento do total.

A importação do Equador em 1905 foi avaliada em \$7,657,000, fornecendo os Estados Unidos \$2,210,000, ou 28.86 por cento, ao passo que a exportação attingiu a \$9,468,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$2,468,000, ou 27.32 por cento. Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para o Equador productos pelo valor de \$1,834,756, ao passo que importaram productos equadorianos pelo valor de \$3,281,684.

Os generos importados pela Republica do Mexico no anno final de 1906 foram avaliados em \$109,884,000, dos quaes \$72,509,000, ou 65.99 por cento, foram de origem dos Estados Unidos; foram exportados neste periodo productos pelo valor de \$135,027,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$92,635,000, ou 68.6 por cento.

O Paraguay importou mercadorias pelo valor de \$3,566,000 em 1904, que é o anno mais recente de que ha estatistica, sendo no valor de \$125,000, ou 3.51 por cento do total os productos de origem norte-americana; a exportação neste anno foi pelo valor de \$3,179,000. Em 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para o Paraguay productos pelo valor de \$110,496, contra \$6,719 em 1905, e importaram productos pelo valor de \$1,200, contra \$2,205 em 1905.

O Peru importou em 1904 productos pelo valor de \$20,916,000, sendo \$3,761,000, ou 17.98 por cento, o valor dos productos de origem norte-americana, e exportou productos pelo valor de \$19,790,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$1,849,000, ou 9.34 por cento. Em 1906 o Peru importou productos norte-americanos pelo valor de \$5,193,455, contra \$4,287,228 em 1905, ao passo que exportou para os Estados Unidos productos pelo valor de \$2,933,508, contra \$2,608,665 em 1905.

O commercio de importação do Uruguay em 1904 foi avaliado em \$21,938,000, dos quaes \$2,121,000, ou 9.67 por cento, correspondem a productos norte-americanos, e a exportação attingiu ao valor de \$39,793,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos \$2,137,000, ou 5.37 por cento. Em 1906 o Uruguay importou dos Estados Unidos productos pelo valor de \$3,160,000, contra \$2,703,761 em 1905, e exportou para este paiz productos pelo valor de \$2,453,013, contra \$3,529,495 em 1905.

Os productos importados por Venezuela durante o exercicio de 1906 foram avaliados em \$8,676,000, dos quaes \$2,622,000, ou 30.22 por

cento, foram importados dos Estados Unidos, ao passo que foram exportados productos pelo valor de \$15,630,000, sendo \$4,862,000, ou 31.11 por cento, com destino aos Estados Unidos. No anno civil de 1906 os Estados Unidos exportaram para Venezuela productos pelo valor de \$3,310,518, contra \$3,208,864 em 1905, e importaram deste paiz nos dous periodos referidos productos no valor de \$7,789,893 e \$7,010,357, respectivamente.

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

PRODUÇÃO DE ASSUCAR EM 1906.

Segundo os dados estatísticos publicados no Boletim da *Unión Industrial Argentina*, em sua edição de 15 de Abril de 1907, a produção dos 39 engenhos de assucar existentes na Republica Argentina no anno de 1906, foi de 1,919,593 saccos com 118,817,528 kilos, contra 1,919,593 saccos com 137,090,770 kilos em 1905, o que mostra uma differença para menos em 1906 de 224,270 saccos com 18,273,242 kilos.

RENDA PROVENIENTE DOS IMPOSTOS TERRITORIAL, PROFISSIONAL E DE SELLOS EM 1906.

Segundo o relatório do Chefe da Administração dos Impostos Territorial, Profissional e de Sellos da Republica Argentina, a receita proveniente deste ramo do serviço publico foi de \$21,238,512.59 em 1906, contra \$19,971,443.19 em 1905, o que accusa um augmento de \$1,267,069.40.

Da somma total arrecadada, \$7,211,046.25 representam o producto do imposto territorial, contra \$6,946,085.21 em 1905; o producto do imposto de industrias e profissões foi de \$4,442,512.04, contra \$3,858,421.17 em 1905; o do imposto de sellos, \$9,584,954.30, contra \$9,166,936.81 em 1905.

O novo lançamento a que se procedeu para a cobrança do imposto territorial, dará em resultado um accrescimento na renda desta fonte, calculado em 30 por cento, ao passo que a lista recentemente organizada das profissões e industrias que ficam sujeitas ao imposto profissional e de industria, parece indicar um augmento consideravel na renda desta fonte.

BRAZIL.

MENSAGEM DO PRESIDENTE AFFONSO PENNA.

Por ocasião da abertura do Congresso Nacional, no dia 3 de Maio de 1907, foi lida a mensagem apresentada pelo Sr. AFFONSO PENNA, Presidente da Republica.

O Presidente começa dizendo que a impressão que recebeu de um exame mais minucioso dos negocios publicos confirma a opinião que externou em seu manifesto inaugural de que a patria caminha com passo firme e seguro para seus grandes destinos. Essa impressão é partilhada por eminentes estrangeiros que têm visitado o paiz e outros que o estudam desde longos annos. A situação do Thesouro que reflecte o estado economico da nação é satisfactoria, e sente-se como que um sopro de vida nova agitar e impulsionar o organismo nacional.

Quanto ás relações exteriores, diz que a Republica continua a manter relações de perfeita amizade com as demais potencias e que fará tudo que possa para estreitar ainda mais essas relações. A Conferencia Internacional Americana, que se reuniu na cidade do Rio de Janeiro em Julho do anno passado, realizou uma obra fecunda de paz e de concordia em beneficio das relações entre os paizes americanos. Entre as suas mais importantes deliberações está a reorganização da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, que será cada vez mais o centro desse sentimento de solidariedade dos povos do continente occidental. Foi assignada uma convenção fixando a condição dos cidadãos naturalizados que renovam a sua residencia no paiz de origem, e votada a prorrogação até 1912 do tratado sobre reclamações pecuniarias, assignado no Mexico em 1902. Creou-se como uma dependencia da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, uma secção especial de estatística commercial, e constituiu-se uma união das nações da America para a protecção da propriedade intellectual e industrial. A Conferencia occupou-se com interesse da estrada de ferro pan-americana e do systema monetario das Republicas da America e resolveu que fossem estudadas as fluctuações do cambio nos ultimos vinte annos.

Diz que por essa occasião "o Brazil teve a satisfação de receber a visita do Secretario de Estado da Republica dos Estados Unidos da America, Senhor ELIHT ROOR, o digno collaborador do grande Presidente THEODORE ROOSEVELT; elle teve assim occasião de ver em varias das nossas principaes cidades a estima em que é tido e a sincera amizade que a Republica brazileira vota a sua grande irmã do norte. Essa visita que começou pelo Brazil, em occasião tão assignalada, foi estendida a quasi todos os paizes da America do Sul e muito concorreu e concorrerá para que se fortifiquem os laços de confraternidade entre as nações desta parte do mundo."

A 11 de Junho do anno passado reuniu-se em Genebra a conferencia Internacional incumbida de rever e aperfeiçoar a convenção communmente chamada, da Cruz Vermelha, concluida aos 22 de Agosto de 1864, naquella cidade. Nella foi firmada uma convenção internacional para o melhoramento da sorte dos feridos e enfermos nos exercitos em campanha, que foi approvada pelo Congresso em 20 de Dezembro ultimo. Na mesma data foi autorizada a adhesão do

Brazil a duas das convenções concluídas em Haia, a 29 de Julho de 1890: uma regulando as leis e usos da guerra terrestre, outra adaptando ás guerras marítimas os princípios da convenção de Genebra, de 22 de Agosto de 1864.

O Governo do Brazil aceitou o convite para a Segunda Conferencia Internacional de Paz e nomeou como seus delegados os Senhores Senador RUY BARBOSA e EDUARDO LISBOA.

O tratado de limites concluído entre o Brazil e a Colonia Neerlandeza de Surinam na cidade do Rio de Janeiro em 5 de Maio de 1906, já foi submettido ao Senado Federal. Foi assignado em Bogotá, no dia 24 de Abril ultimo, um tratado de limites e navegação fluvial entre o Brazil e a Colombia. Nelle ficaram inscriptas as linhas de fronteira commum, desde Cucuhy no Rio Negro até a confluencia do Apaporis, no Japurá. Sobre os territorios que ficam para o sul do Japurá á margem septentrional do Amazonas, ha litigios pendentes entre Colombia, Equador, e Peru. No mesmo dia 24 do mez passado, foi assignado em Bogotá, um *modus vivendi* sobre a navegação e commercio pelo Iça ou Putumayo com o Peru; está vigente o accordo de 29 de Setembro de 1876, relativo á navegação do mesmo rio, e brevemente ficará concluído um tratado de navegação e commercio com o Equador. A commissão mixta encarregada da demarcação da fronteira entre o Brazil e a Bolivia deve reunir-se em Corumbá antes de 6 de Julho do corrente anno.

Já foram approvadas pelos Governos do Brazil e da Republica Argentina as plantas apresentadas pela commissão mixta que fez a demarcação da fronteira commum ao longo dos rios Uruguay, Pípiry-guay, Santo Antonio e Iguaçu, desde a confluencia do Guarahim até á daquelle ultimo rio, no alto Paraná. No dia 15 de Abril foram denunciados o tratado de amizade, navegação e commercio entre o Brazil e a França, concluído em 8 de Janeiro de 1826, e os accordos existentes entre o Brazil e a Alemanha, Belgica, França, Hespanha, Italia, Portugal e Suissa, sobre arrecadação e administração de heranças.

O Governo do Brazil foi representado na Conferencia Internacional de radio-telegraphin que se reuniu em Berlin a 3 de Outubro de 1906. Nella foi assignada uma convenção internacional radio-telegraphica, que será submettida ao Congresso para sua approvação.

O Governo do Brazil restabeleceu sua legação em Haia e creou uma na America Central.

Fallando da instrucção publicen chama a attenção para o ensino profissional e tecnico tão necessario no progresso da lavoura, commercio, industrias e artes, e propõe que seja modificado o decreto que estabelecen a sua orgmizacão provisoria.

As linhas do telegrapho nacional attingem actualmente a 27,349 kilometros, com uma extensão em fios, superior a 50,000.

Prosegue com regularidade a execução das obras do porto do Rio de Janeiro, devendo achar-se concluídas até fins de Dezembro de 1910. As obras dos portos da Bahia e de Belém vão ser effectivamente iniciadas, já tendo sido approvados os estudos e orçamentos definitivos; as dos portos da Victoria e Rio Grande dependem ainda da approvaçõ de estudos definitivos.

A extensão das vias ferreas attinge actualmente a 1,703,714 metros, tendo sido construidos durante o anno 77,420 metros. A renda dos transportes de mercadorias cresceu de 15,642:955\$840 em 1905 a 17,441:447\$202 em 1906, que só pode ser attribuido ao desenvolvimento das linhas, não tendo havido augmento de tarifas. A receita geral em 1906 foi de 31,156:705\$055, contra a de 28,641:492\$942 em 1905, accusando o acrescimo de 2,515:212\$123. A despeza geral ascenden de 27,823:789\$591 em 1905 a 30,077:284\$487 em 1906.

Referindo-se á situação financeira diz a mensagem que a receita arrecadada no exercicio de 1906, e já escripturada, eleva-se a 71,640:400\$177, ouro, e 219,292:095\$464, papel, estando por escripturar as importancias approximadas de 1,601:116\$960, ouro, e 42,173:117\$200, papel, o que perfaz o total de 88,651:568\$137, ouro, e 261,465:212\$664, papel. A lei de 30 de Dezembro de 1905 orçõ a receita geral da Republica para 1906 em 69,074:930\$889, ouro, e 223,825:000\$000, papel. A despeza do exercicio foi fixada em 48,311:512\$347, ouro, e 286,348:218\$321, papel. A despeza até agora escripturada, attinge a 48,882:503\$507, ouro, e a 227,542:073\$132, papel. Adicionando-se a essas importancias a despeza ainda não escripturada que é calculada em 17,181:829\$576, ouro, e 110,863:720\$775, papel, a despeza total ficará elevada a 66,064:333\$083, ouro, e 332,405:793\$907, papel. Confrontadas a receita e despeza já escripturadas, verifica-se um saldo, ouro, de 23,757:896\$670, e um *deficit*, papel, de 8,249:978\$668. Computando, porém, a parte ainda não escripturada, obtem-se o saldo, ouro, de 22,587:235\$054, e o *deficit*, papel, de 76,940:581\$243.

A renda do trimestre de Janeiro a Março do corrente anno, segundo os dados estatisticos, apresenta sobre a de egual periodo do anno anterior um excesso de 231,742:021\$510, cabendo ás alfandegas a importancia de 18,139:386\$000, e o restante as demais repartições fiscaes.

A divida externa da União é actualmente de £69,608,351 9s. 0d. por haver sido reduzida pelos resgates de 31 de Dezembro e 10 de Janeiro findos, referentes ao emprestimo de 1901. O fundo de amortização dos emprestimos internos, papel, creado pelo decreto de 8 de Abril de 1902, possuía em 31 de Março ultimo 21,456 apolices no valor de 21,441:700\$000. O valor do fundo de garantia do papel-moeda, em 31 de Dezembro de 1906, era representado por £5,015,181 1s. 11d.

O movimento do commercio com o exterior foi muito satisfactorio. O valor da exportação era de 799,670:295\$000, e o da importação

era de 499,383:319\$000, verificando-se, portanto, um saldo a favor da exportação de 300,383:319\$000. É animador o movimento de exportação realizado no 1º trimestre do corrente anno.

CHILE.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS, PRIMEIRO TRIMESTRE, 1907.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfândegas da Republica do Chile durante o primeiro trimestre de 1907, mostram um augmento de 2,630,310.73 pesos sobre as do mesmo periodo do anno anterior. Essas rendas são discriminadas assim: direitos de importação, 12,679,442.9 pesos; direitos de exportação, 13,607,742.82 pesos; outras receitas, 608,597.28 pesos.

Comparando-se as rendas com as cobradas no periodo correspondente do anno anterior, verifica-se que houve um augmento nos direitos de importação de 2,795,591.65 pesos; uma diminuição nos direitos de exportação de 266,361.44 pesos, e um augmento nas taxas cobradas por outros serviços, de 101,280.52 pesos.

PRODUÇÃO E CONSUMO DO ASSUCAR EM 1906.

Com dados fornecidos pelos gerentes dos engenhos de assucar de Viña del Mar, Penco e Membrillo, a Repartição de Estatística do Chile organizou a estatística da produção e consumo do assucar na Republica em 1906.

O engenho de Viña del Mar produziu no anno de 1906, 19,922,268 kilos de assucar, contra 22,607,055 kilos em 1905. Com excepção de, mais ou menos, 800,000 kilos, que ficam depositados no engenho, toda a produção foi consumida no paiz.

A produção do engenho de Penco em 1906 foi de 18,652,208 kilos, contra 12,404,812 kilos em 1905; foram vendidos 17,368,515 kilos em 1906, contra 13,575,307 kilos em 1905.

As vendas de assucar destas duas fabricas elevaram-se a 36,890,783 kilos em 1906; addicionando-se a esta quantidade os 934,470 kilos de assucar refinado importados em 1905, vê-se que o consumo total do paiz no anno de 1906 attingiu a 37,825,253 kilos, o que dá um consumo por habitante de 9½ kilos ou 20½ libras. Segundo o *Mulhall's Statistical Dictionary*, o consumo de assucar por habitante nos diversos paizes é o seguinte: Grã Bretanha, 69 libras; França, 23 libras; Alemanha, 15 libras; Austria, 13 libras; Russia, 8 libras; Suecia, 18 libras; Noruega, 11 libras; Hollanda, 29 libras; Belgica, 16 libras; Dinamarca, 30 libras; Suissa, 23 libras; Italia, 7 libras; Hespanha, 6 libras.

Segundo estimativas feitas pelo gerente do engenho de Membrillo, a produção desta fabrica será de 45,050 toneladas em 1908, de 39,300 toneladas em 1909 e de 71,950 toneladas em 1910.

ESTADO FINANCEIRO.

O "Boletim de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril," de Santiago, publica em sua edição de abril de 1907, dados estatísticos sobre a situação financeira da Republica, organizados pela Repartição de Estatística do Chile.

Segundo essas cifras, a contribuição paga por cada habitante durante os cinco annos de 1901 a 1905, foi a seguinte: 1901, \$11.59; 1902, \$11.56; 1903, \$11.85; 1904, \$11.93; 1905, \$11.82; a contribuição média durante este periodo foi de \$11.75. Neste calculo não foram incluídas as rendas de vias ferreas e do serviço postal e telegraphico, por serem estas utilidades publicas e não impostos; nem foram comprehendidos os impostos sobre nitrato e o iodo, pois estes affectam somente um numero limitado de individuos.

Referindo-se á capacidade do paiz em materia de tributos, diz a Repartição de Estatística que a contribuição annual, que é de \$11.75, poderia ser elevada ao dobro, isto é a \$23.50, contribuição que, comparada com as pagas por outros paizes, não é elevada. Na França, cada habitante paga \$36; na Grã Bretanha, \$29.66; na Hollanda, \$23.17; na Italia, \$23; na Austria, \$31.78; na Dinamarca, \$19.78.

O valor das propriedades sujeitas a impostos foi de \$1,512,591,127 em 1904, contra \$1,400,084,362 em 1897, o que mostra um augmento de \$112,507,766.

Os depositos dos bancos em 31 de Dezembro de 1903 foram na importancia de \$314,240,435, contra \$121,162,288 em igual data de 1901, o que mostra um augmento de \$193,078,147, ou seja 159 por cento.

Foram organizadas durante o anno de 1905 companhias com um capital de £5,741,240, contra £475,000 em 1901, o que mostra um augmento de 859 por cento.

O numero dos estabelecimentos industriaes existentes em 1905, foi de 10,152, contra 7,315 em 1901, o que accusa um augmento de 2,837 ou seja 38 por cento. O numero dos estabelecimentos commerciaes foi de 35,018 em 1905, contra 32,944 em 1901, o que mostra um augmento de 2,074 ou seja 6 por cento.

 COLOMBIA.

PATENTES DE INVENÇÃO E MARCAS DE FABRICA EM 1906.

Segundo os dados officiaes publicados pelo Departamento de Obras Publicas da Colombia, foram concedidas durante o anno de 1906, 39 patentes de invenção e registradas 61 marcas de fabrica.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM OS PAISES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

RELAÇÃO MENSAL DAS IMPORTAÇÕES E EXPORTAÇÕES.

O quadro dado na pagina 1397 é extrahido da relação compilada pelo Chefe da Repartição de Estatistica do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, mostrando o commercio entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos. A relação corresponde ao mez de Abril de 1907, com uma relação comparativa para o mez correspondente do anno anterior, assim como para os doze mezes findos em Abril de 1907, comparados com o periodo correspondente do anno anterior. Deve-se explicar que os algarismos das varias 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 Abril, por exemplo, não são publicadas até os Primeiros dias de Junho.

MEXICO.

RENDAS ADUANEIRAS EM ABRIL DE 1907.

As rendas arrecadadas pelas alfandegas do Mexico durante o mez de Abril de 1907, attingem a \$4,690,884.92, moeda nacional, sendo \$83,129.81 o producto dos direitos de exportação, e \$4,607,755.11 o dos direitos de importação. O porto de Vera Cruz foi o principal porto de entrada, tendo sido importados por este porto generos no valor de \$1,616,384.85, ao passo que o porto de Progresso occupa o primeiro lugar como ponto de sahida, tendo sido exportados por este porto productos no valor de \$41,578.07.

URUGUAY.

APPROVAÇÃO DA CONVENÇÃO ESTABELECEENDO UMA COMMISSÃO INTERNACIONAL DE JURISCONSULTOS.

O Departamento de Estado dos Estados Unidos notificou a Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, a 10 de Maio ultimo, de que foi approvada pelo Presidente da Republica do Uruguay em 27 de Março, 1907, a convenção assignada na cidade do Rio de Janeiro a 23 de Agosto de 1906, relativa á reunião de uma Commissão Internacional de Jurisconsultos, ficando dependente da approvação da Assembleia Geral.

Esta Comissão será constituída por um representante de cada um dos Estados signatarios, nomeado pelo seu respectivo Governo, e será encarregada de preparar um Código de Direito Internacional Privado e outro de Direito Internacional Publico.

Uma das clausulas da Convenção prescreve que as nomeações dos membros dessa Comissão sejam communicadas ao Governo dos Estados Unidos do Brazil antes do dia 1 de Abril de 1907, e o Presidente do Uruguay designou o Senhor Dr. GONZALO RAMIREZ, como representante deste Governo, ficando a nomeação dependente da approvação do Congresso Nacional.

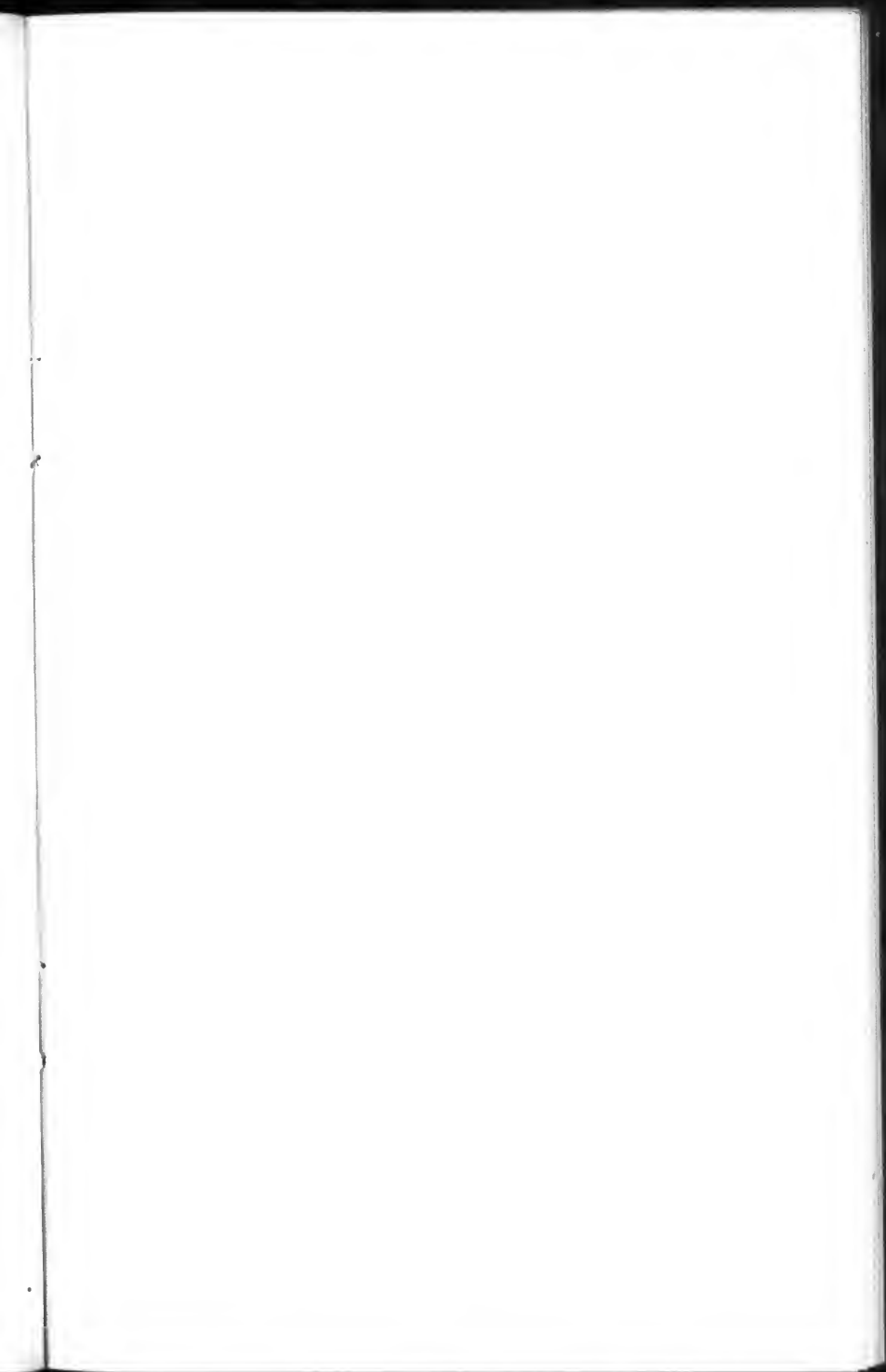
O Dr. RAMIREZ foi o organizador do Congresso de Jurisconsultos de Montevidéo, e é um publicista de renome, sendo lente de Direito Internacional Privado na Universidade de Uruguay.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR NO PRIMEIRO SEMESTRE DE 1906.

Segundo os dados fornecidos pela Repartição de Estatística da Republica do Uruguay, o valor da importação no primeiro semestre de 1906 elevou-se a \$17,052,581, o que mostra um augmento de \$2,356,098 sobre o do mesmo periodo do anno anterior. O valor da exportação foi de \$20,178,400, que é \$1,874,786 mais que em egual periodo de 1905, e \$5,000 e \$3,000,000, respectivamente, menos que no primeiro semestre de 1903 e 1904.

A maior parte dos generos importados foram provenientes da Grã Bretanha, mas não obstante a percentagem correspondente a este paiz baixou de 30 por cento a 27 por cento. A Allemanha occupa o segundo lugar com 16 por cento; a França, o terceiro, com 12.3 por cento; os Estados Unidos, o quarto; a Republica Argentina, o quinto, e a Italia, o sexto.

A França foi o maior comprador dos generos exportados, recebendo mercadorias no valor de cerca de \$5,000,000 do total de \$20,000,000. Com destino á Belgica foram exportadas mercadorias no valor de \$3,000,000; Allemanha, \$3,000,000; Republica Argentina, \$2,800,000; Brazil, \$1,800,000; e os Estados Unidos, só \$750,000.





SEÑOR DON AUGUSTO F. PULIDO, CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED STATES.

BULLETIN MENSUEL

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Les demandes qu'on reçoit de toutes les parties du monde pour avoir des renseignements sur le but, le travail et l'étendue du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines arrivent en si grand nombre qu'on a pensé que le mieux à faire serait d'insérer dans ce numéro des renseignements généraux sur le Bureau pouvant répondre d'une manière suffisante à la majorité de ces demandes. Ceux mêmes qui ne savent pas beaucoup ce que le Bureau International a déjà fait ou ce qu'il a encore à faire, peuvent trouver dans cet exposé certains faits montrant l'importance du Bureau, son utilité et sa responsabilité, choses qu'ils n'ont pas encore pu apprécier.

L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE À LA CONFÉRENCE DU LAC MOHONK.

L'importance que l'on a donnée à l'Amérique Latine a peut-être été le fait le plus saillant de la Conférence du Lac Mohonk qui a eu lieu du 22 au 24 mai au sujet de l'arbitrage international. Dans les douze réunions annuelles précédentes on n'a jamais montré autant d'intérêt dans ce que les pays de l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud ont fait pour encourager l'arbitrage international. Parmi les discours les plus remarquables, les plus importants et les plus significatifs prononcés à la Conférence on remarquait ceux de M. CREEL, Ambassadeur du Mexique et de M. CALDERON, Ministre de Bolivie. Ces discours ont attiré la plus grande attention dans les États-Unis et les principaux journaux en ont parlé. L'Honorable FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, ancien Ministre des États-Unis au Venezuela et sous-secrétaire d'État des États-Unis et le Directeur du Bureau International ont parlé brièvement sur les efforts incessants faits par l'Amérique Latine pour jouir de la paix et du progrès.

NOUVEAU MEMBRE DU CONSEIL DE DIRECTION.

Le BUREAU International souhaite la bienvenue à Señor Don JOSE AUGUSTIN ARANGO, nouveau ministre de Panama aux États-Unis, comme membre du Conseil de Direction. Le nouveau ministre a été reçu le 13 mai par le Président ROOSEVELT. M. ARANGO est très connu du Directeur du BUREAU, qui a joui de son amitié et profité de ses conseils pendant son séjour à Panama en qualité de ministre des États-Unis. Le nouveau ministre est un des hommes les plus en vue de la jeune République et il s'en montrera digne représentant pendant son séjour à Washington. Le Directeur profite de cette occasion pour exprimer ses regrets au sujet du départ de M. OBALDIA, ancien ministre de Panama qui a toujours pris le plus grand intérêt dans le travail et les progrès du Bureau. Toutefois le ministre démissionnaire retourne à Panama pour avoir de plus grandes responsabilités que celles qu'il avait à Washington. En effet, il sera Président de la République intérimaire pendant l'absence prochaine du Président AMADOR.

 HONNEURS EXCEPTIONNELS RENDUS À M. CREEL, AMBASSADEUR DU MEXIQUE.

Il est à espérer que l'honneur exceptionnel qui vient d'être conféré à M. ENRIQUE CREEL, Ambassadeur du Mexique, par les habitants de la Province de Chihuahua en le nommant Gouverneur ne l'obligera pas à quitter le poste qu'il occupe à Washington. L'Ambassadeur a non seulement manifesté un intérêt pratique dans l'agrandissement de la sphère d'action et le travail du Bureau et contribué à rendre ses efforts profitables au Mexique aussi bien qu'aux États-Unis mais encore, il a fait énormément en très peu de temps pour faire mieux connaître le Mexique aux États-Unis et l'en faire respecter. C'est vraiment un honneur exceptionnel que celui d'occuper la double position d'Ambassadeur de son pays et de gouverneur de l'une de ses principales provinces. Il ne pouvait y avoir de meilleure preuve de la considération dont il jouit dans son pays non seulement de la part du gouvernement mais aussi de la part des habitants d'une province éloignée.

 EXPOSITION CENTENAIRE DE BUENOS-AYRES EN 1910.

Dans cette ère d'expositions qui semblent faire partie maintenant de la vie nationale des États-Unis on apprendra avec le plus grand intérêt que le gouvernement de la République Argentine se prépare à faire en 1910, à Buenos-Ayres, pour célébrer le centenaire de son Indépendance, une grande exposition comprenant les arts, l'industrie, l'agriculture et l'élevage. Le Congrès de la République Argentine

vient de passer une loi pour nommer une commission nationale qui préparera les plans de l'exposition et fera tout son possible pour éveiller l'intérêt général du public, non seulement dans la République Argentine mais dans le monde entier. Comme cette exposition n'a été décidée que dernièrement, il n'y a pas eu encore assez de temps pour que les États-Unis et l'Europe y aient porté leur attention mais il faut espérer que si l'on invite les nations étrangères à y prendre part, les États-Unis ne manqueront pas de voter une somme suffisante pour s'y faire représenter dignement. La République Argentine se développe si rapidement et devient un facteur si important dans le commerce mondial que les fabricants et les exportateurs des États-Unis ne doivent pas manquer de profiter de cette occasion pour écouler leurs produits. Si l'Américain qui, peut-être ne s'intéresse pas à l'exposition de Buenos-Ayres, voulait bien se souvenir que cette ville a une population de plus d'un million d'habitants et que le commerce extérieur de la République s'est élevé l'année dernière à \$563,000,000, soit une moyenne de près de \$100 par tête, il serait convaincu que les États-Unis ne doivent pas négliger l'occasion d'affermir leur position matérielle. Il va sans dire que l'Exposition aura un grand succès. La République Argentine fait des progrès si rapides et les habitants de Buenos-Ayres sont si énergiques qu'ils sont sûrs de faire de cette exposition une des plus belles que le monde ait jamais vues. Soit dit en passant, l'Américain qui désire voir l'Amérique du Sud ne pourra mieux faire que d'y aller en 1910. À ce sujet, il est intéressant de lire les extraits du message que le Président de la République Argentine a prononcé le 8 mai 1907, à l'occasion de l'ouverture de la 46^e Assemblée nationale. Il fait ressortir beaucoup de choses qui méritent l'attention de tous ceux qui s'intéressent aux affaires latino-américaines ainsi que le démontrent les progrès de la République Argentine.

LOIS MINIÈRES DE LA BOLIVIE.

Le Bureau reçoit constamment des demandes de renseignements au sujet des lois minières existant dans les différents pays de l'Amérique Latine. On trouvera in-extenso dans ce BULLETIN un nouveau décret du Gouvernement bolivien en date du 20 avril 1907 au sujet des concessions minières, des demandes, de l'arpentage, de l'établissement des ouvriers, des oppositions, des approbations, de l'enregistrement des titres et de la juridiction. Le Bureau se propose de publier de temps en temps dans le BULLETIN toutes les nouvelles lois minières ou les changements opérés dans les anciennes lois promulguées dans les différentes Républiques Américaines, de manière que les intérêts miniers du monde entier, qui augmentent tous les jours, puissent être au courant des conditions existant dans chaque pays.

PROGRÈS ET PROSPÉRITÉ DU BRÉSIL.

Toutes les personnes qui s'intéressent à la marche en avant du plus grand pays de l'Amérique Latine doivent lire avec attention le message de M. ALPHONSO PENNA, Président de la République du Brésil, lu le 3 mai à l'ouverture de la session du Congrès National. Les extraits de ce message que l'on insère dans ce BULLETIN montrent que le pays marche rapidement en avant sous tous les rapports et qu'il a devant lui un avenir des plus brillants. Le Président du Brésil déclare qu'un examen sérieux des affaires publiques confirme la croyance qu'il a déjà exprimée dans un message précédent que le pays marche sans cesse vers une grande destinée et que des étrangers d'un certain renom qui ont visité le pays et examiné ses ressources et suivi les progrès qu'il a faits depuis un certain nombre d'années sont du même avis. Il dit que les progrès merveilleux faits par Rio de Janeiro ont étonné tous ceux qui ont visité cette ville. Les statistiques commerciales montrent que la production a augmenté et celles du Ministère des Finances qui font voir les conditions économiques sont des plus satisfaisantes. Il parle spécialement du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines, de la visite du Secrétaire Root dans l'Amérique du Sud et de la participation du Brésil à la Conférence de la Haye, de la négociation d'un traité de délimitation de frontières avec la Colombie et des progrès qui se font dans le règlement des questions pendantes avec l'Équateur, le Pérou, l'Uruguay et la Bolivie. Il appuie surtout sur l'importance de multiplier les lignes de chemins de fer du pays et il conseille au gouvernement de prêter son aide et son appui pour mener à bonne fin différentes entreprises. Les statistiques du commerce extérieur du Brésil en 1906 font ressortir que les exportations se sont élevées à \$265,000,000 environ et les importations à \$165,000,000 soit un total de \$430,000,000 ou une augmentation de \$60,000,000 à \$70,000,000 sur l'année 1905.

CONDITIONS FINANCIÈRES DU CHILI.

Le BULLETIN publie dans ce numéro des extraits d'une publication financière de Santiago qui contient un rapport envoyé au Département de l'Intérieur du Chili par son Bureau de Statistiques, faisant ressortir une condition d'affaires très favorables dans cette République, amie du progrès. Par exemple, l'évaluation totale de la propriété soumise à l'impôt en 1904 se monte à \$1,512,591.12, soit une augmentation de \$112,507,766 sur l'évaluation de 1897. Les dépôts en banque d'après les derniers rapports se sont élevés à \$314,240,433, soit une augmentation de \$193,078,147, ou 159 pour cent sur les dépôts du 31 décembre 1901. En 1905 on a organisé des compagnies anonymes

pour une valeur de \$25,000,000, soit une augmentation de 800 pour cent sur l'année 1901. En 1905 il y avait 10,152 établissements commerciaux contre 32,944 en 1901.

MESSAGE DE M. REYES, PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE COLOMBIE.

La Colombie fait en ce moment des progrès si rapides qu'on lira avec le plus grand intérêt les extraits du message de M. REYES, Président de la République de Colombie, message lu le 1er avril devant l'Assemblée nationale de ce pays. La proximité de la Colombie et des États-Unis, sa situation sur les deux océans, la grande variété de ses ressources et le grand avantage qu'elle a d'avoir à sa tête un homme d'État comme M. REYES, montrent au monde entier que ce pays offre un champ illimité à de grands progrès matériels.

AUTRES FAITS PRÉSENTANT UN INTÉRÊT PARTICULIER.

Il n'y a pas assez de place dans l'introduction du BULLETIN pour parler de tous les sujets d'intérêt particulier dans chacun des pays, mais on attire l'attention sur le sage message du Président de Costa-Rica, lu devant le Congrès le 1^{er} mai 1907; le rapport sur les mines de la Province de Santiago, Cuba; les dispositions au sujet de la colonisation et de l'irrigation dans la République dominicaine; la réception de M. Fox, Ministre des États-Unis, par le Président Alfaro de l'Équateur; le commerce du Guatemala avec New-York en 1906; le commerce, l'industrie minière et les conditions générales du Mexique; l'organisation d'un bureau de statistiques panaméen; l'amélioration des facilités des ports au Paragway; les nouvelles lois sur les terres et l'irrigation au Pérou; le commerce général du Venezuela et la comparaison du commerce entre l'Amérique Latine et les États-Unis.

APERÇU DU BUREAU.

Le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines qui a son siège à Washington, D. C., est maintenu par l'action combinée et les subventions de toutes les Républiques de l'Hémisphère Occidental, non seulement dans le but d'encourager le commerce et l'industrie, mais aussi de développer parmi elles une meilleure entente, des relations plus suivies et des rapports plus intimes au point de vue matériel, instructif, intellectuel et social.

C'est la seule organisation de ce genre qui existe dans le monde entier. Ce Bureau ne dépend d'aucun ministère du Gouvernement

des Etats-Unis comme le pensent beaucoup de personnes; c'est le Bureau indépendant des Gouvernements de l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud et des Etats-Unis. La direction de ce Bureau est confiée à un Conseil d'Administration composé de tous les représentants diplomatiques des Républiques Américaines à Washington et du Secrétaire d'Etat des Etats-Unis qui en est le Président. Ce Conseil à son tour, choisit le Directeur, qui est le principal fonctionnaire administratif responsable devant le Conseil d'Administration. Le Directeur est le fonctionnaire de vingt-et-une Républiques, mais comme le siège du Bureau est à Washington, il est nommé par courtoisie et par suite d'un précédent par le Secrétaire d'Etat des Etats-Unis et ensuite le choix en est approuvé par les Ambassadeurs et Ministres des autres pays. Le Directeur actuel est M. JOHN BARRETT, ancien ministre plénipotentiaire et envoyé extraordinaire des Etats-Unis.

Le Bureau se trouve maintenu par les allocations que donnent les Républiques Américaines suivant l'importance de leur population, de sorte que les plus petites nations ont autant d'intérêt dans son maintien que les plus grandes, telles que les Etats-Unis. Voici, d'après leur population, les vingt-et-une Républiques représentées dans le Conseil d'Administration: Les Etats-Unis, le Brésil, le Mexique, la République Argentine, le Chili, le Pérou, la Colombie, le Venezuela, la Bolivie, Cuba, Haïti, le Guatémala, l'Equateur, le Salvador, l'Uruguay, le Paraguay, la République Dominicaine, le Honduras, le Nicaragua, Costa-Rica et Panama.

ETABLISSEMENT DU BUREAU.

Le Bureau a été fondé en 1890 par la Première Conférence Internationale des Républiques Américaines qui s'était réunie à Washington sous la présidence de JAMES G. BLAINE. La raison qui a contribué à son établissement était le désir qu'avaient les délégués de faire disparaître l'ignorance existant dans les Etats-Unis au sujet de ses Républiques sœurs et aussi l'ignorance qui existait parmi ces dernières au sujet des Etats-Unis. On l'a d'abord désigné sous le nom de "Bureau de Renseignements," et en l'établissant, ses fondateurs comptaient que le Bureau fournirait aux manufacturiers, aux exportateurs, aux importateurs, aux commerçants et à tous ceux qui cherchaient des données exactes pour le développement du commerce, des renseignements devant amener une nouvelle ère dans les relations matérielles des Républiques Américaines.

C'est M. WILLIAM E. CURTIS, journaliste distingué, qui a été le premier Directeur. En peu de temps il sut donner au Bureau une place préminente qui l'a fait considérer parmi toutes les nations comme étant une institution utile et pratique. Les Directeurs qui lui ont succédé jusqu'à la Seconde Conférence Pan-Américaine, tenue

à Mexico en 1901, ont été, d'après l'ordre de leur entrée en fonctions: MM. CLINTON FURBISH, JOSEPH P. SMITH, FREDERIC EMORY et W. W. ROCKHILL, actuellement Ministre en Chine. À la Conférence mexicaine, on a élargi le plan et la sphère d'action du Bureau afin d'en faire l'agent pour la mise à exécution des décisions prises à cette réunion internationale.

Lors du départ de M. ROCKHILL pour la Chine en 1905 c'est M. WILLIAMS C. FOX, en ce moment Ministre des Etats-Unis à l'Equateur, qui lui a succédé. Sous les diverses administrations de ces différents Directeurs, l'influence et l'utilité du Bureau ont constamment augmenté, mais il y manquait l'intérêt personnel et la coopération de tous les Gouvernements intéressés pour en faire une institution aussi puissante et utile qu'on le désirait pour le bien des nations qui contribuaient à son maintien. Il fallait une nouvelle énergie pour lui donner plus d'influence, de popularité et de valeur pratique.

VISITE DU SECRÉTAIRE ROOT DANS L'AMÉRIQUE DU SUD.

Lorsque M. ELHU ROOT fut nommé Secrétaire d'Etat, il vit immédiatement qu'il fallait faire quelque chose pour rapprocher les liens diplomatiques, commerciaux et sociaux entre les Etats-Unis et ses Républiques sœurs. L'Administration a donc décidé que M. Root ferait le tour de l'Amérique de Sud et qu'à la Troisième Conférence Pan-Américaine, qui a eu lieu à Rio de Janeiro pendant l'été de 1906, on prendrait des mesures pour réorganiser le Bureau International et étendre sa sphère d'action et d'utilité. Dans les discussions qui ont eu lieu dans les réunions du Conseil d'Administration à Washington avant la Conférence de Rio de Janeiro, les représentants de l'Amérique Latine ont répondu avec empressement à l'intérêt que le Secrétaire d'Etat prenait dans les progrès de l'Amérique Latine et dans les projets de réorganisation du Bureau, de sorte qu'à la réunion de la conférence cette dernière a approuvé à l'unanimité les propositions qui lui étaient soumises pour faire du Bureau une institution puissante et pratique afin d'augmenter le commerce international américain, de rapprocher l'une de l'autre les différentes Républiques Américaines au point de vue politique, instructif et intellectuel et enfin d'accroître une connaissance plus générale et des rapports plus intimes.

DÉCISIONS PRISES AU SUJET DU BUREAU.

L'extrait suivant des décisions prises par la Troisième Conférence donne une idée du travail du Bureau.

"La Troisième Conférence Américaine a décidé ce qui suit:

"ARTICLE unique. La Troisième Conférence Internationale Pan-Américaine a décidé que l'on continuera l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines créée par la première conférence et ratifiée par la seconde.

“Voici les raisons pour lesquelles le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines a été établi :

“1. Pour compiler et distribuer des renseignements commerciaux et préparer des rapports de même nature.

“Pour compiler et classer les renseignements au sujet de traités et de conventions entre les Républiques Américaines et entre ces dernières et d'autres pays en dehors du Continent américain.

“3. Pour fournir des renseignements sur des sujets d'éducation.

“4. Pour préparer des rapports sur des questions qui lui seront assignées par les vœux des Conférences Internationales Américaines.

“5. Pour aider et obtenir la ratification des décisions et conventions adoptées à ces conférences.

“6. Pour mettre en vigueur toutes les décisions dont l'exécution peut ou pourra dans la suite lui être confiée par la Conférence Internationale Américaine.

“7. Pour instituer un comité permanent des Conférences Internationales Américaines, recommandant les sujets à comprendre dans le programme de la conférence suivante, ces projets devant être communiqués aux différents Gouvernements qui constituent l'Union six mois au moins avant la date de la réunion de la conférence suivante.

“8. Pour soumettre dans le même délai aux différents Gouvernements un rapport sur le travail du Bureau pendant la période comprise depuis la réunion de la dernière conférence, ainsi que des rapports spéciaux sur tout sujet qui pourra avoir été désigné pour en faire un rapport.

“9. Pour conserver les archives des Conférences Internationales Américaines.”

DÉCISIONS SUPPLÉMENTAIRES AYANT TRAIT AU NOUVEAU TRAVAIL DU BUREAU.

D'autres décisions imposant au Bureau de nouvelles obligations disaient que des démarches devaient être faites pour obtenir un bâtiment convenable pour l'institution “afin de lui permettre de remplir, d'une manière satisfaisante, les obligations importantes imposées par cette conférence.” Un comité devait être nommé dans chaque République pour aider le Bureau dans l'exécution de son travail. Une section spéciale de statistiques commerciales devait être établie sous sa direction. Le Bureau devait aussi préparer un projet pour établir de meilleurs moyens de communication entre les principaux ports des Républiques Américaines afin de faciliter le commerce, les voyages, l'industrie et les communications en général. Il devait étudier la question du chemin de fer intercontinental et s'entendre avec les différents Gouvernements pour prendre une décision aussi prompte que possible au sujet des concessions de terrain, subventions, garanties d'intérêts, franchises de droits sur les articles nécessaires à la construction du maté-

riel roulant et autres concessions qu'ils jugeront bon d'accorder. Il devait étudier les différents systèmes monétaires des Gouvernements de l'Amérique dans le but de soumettre à la prochaine conférence un rapport circonstancié sur les systèmes existant dans chacun de ces Gouvernements, leur histoire, leur fluctuations et le taux du change tel qu'il a existé dans les vingt dernières années. Ce rapport contiendra aussi des tableaux montrant l'influence de ces diverses fluctuations sur le développement du commerce et de l'industrie. Il étudiera les lois réglant les concessions publiques dans les différentes Républiques de l'Amérique pour obtenir des renseignements qui pourraient lui être utiles. Il préparera enfin un programme pour la conférence internationale qui aura lieu d'ici cinq ans.

LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE COLOMB.

Une des choses les plus importantes du Bureau International mais qu'on n'apprécie pas à sa juste valeur est la Bibliothèque de Colomb. Elle renferme maintenant environ 13,000 volumes comprenant une grande variété de renseignements commerciaux, historiques et généraux sur les différentes républiques américaines. On compte agrandir cette bibliothèque de manière qu'elle soit la collection la plus complète du monde entier sur les Républiques Américaines. Les décisions de la Seconde Conférence Américaine approuvées par la Troisième Conférence recommandent que chaque Gouvernement envoie à cette bibliothèque des exemplaires de toutes ses publications officielles. Une collection de cette importance en ferait une source inestimable pour y puiser des renseignements de toute sorte. Aujourd'hui les hommes d'État, les écrivains, les étudiants, les voyageurs, les hommes d'affaires et tous ceux qui désirent obtenir des données exactes sur certains pays de l'Amérique consultent cette Bibliothèque.

DON DE M. CARNÉGIE POUR UN NOUVEAU BÂTIMENT.

Le jour de l'an 1907, M. ELIHU ROOT, Secrétaire d'État des États-Unis, et Président ex-officio du conseil de direction du Bureau, a annoncé le don généreux de \$750,000 fait par M. ANDREW CARNÉGIE pour la construction d'un nouveau bâtiment pour le Bureau International.

Les différents Gouvernements qui maintiennent le Bureau y compris les États-Unis avaient déjà voté environ \$250,000 pour l'achat d'un bel emplacement à Washington au coin des rues 17ème et B. Cet emplacement contient cinq acres faisant face aux terrains de la Maison Blanche du côté est et au Parc du Potomac du côté sud. Le concours pour le choix d'un architecte se poursuit et il est probable que les premières excavations pour ce "Temple américain de la Paix," ainsi que l'appelle M. CARNÉGIE, seront faites au commencement de l'automne de 1907.

NOMINATION DE M. JOHN BARRETT COMME DIRECTEUR.

En décembre 1906, le Conseil l'Administration a nommé Directeur, à l'unanimité, M. JOHN BARRETT, ancien Ministre des États-Unis en Colombie et antérieurement Ministre des États-Unis près des gouvernements de Siam, de la République Argentine et de Panama, pour succéder à WILLIAMS C. FOX, qui a été nommé Ministre des États-Unis dans l'Équateur. On a chargé M. BARRETT du soin de mettre à exécution le nouveau programme de la Conférence de Rio de Janeiro pour la réorganisation et l'agrandissement du Bureau. M. BARRETT a été aussi délégué des États-Unis à la Seconde Conférence Pan-Américaine à Mexico en 1901, où il était membre du sous comité s'occupant des changements à opérer dans le Bureau, changements approuvés par cette Conférence.

TRAVAIL PRATIQUE S'Y FAISANT ACTUELLEMENT.

Comme preuve du travail pratique du Bureau sous l'administration actuelle on cite les faits suivants:

1°. Pendant les cinq premiers mois de l'année 1907, le Bureau a reçu environ six mille lettres de toutes les parties du monde demandant des renseignements détaillés et importants sur divers sujets ayant trait à l'Amérique Latine. Dans la même période on a envoyé près de six mille lettres fournissant des données directes et spéciales nécessitant un travail soigné.

2°. En plus de ces lettres, on a reçu plus de deux mille lettres demandant des imprimés et on a distribué plus de soixante mille bulletins, manuels, brochures et circulaires.

3°. Chaque mois le Bureau envoie dix mille Bulletins contenant chacun au moins trois cents pages et donnant les derniers renseignements descriptifs et statistiques sur le commerce et le développement industriel des vingt et une Républiques.

4°. On distribue soit gratuitement, soit à un prix couvrant les frais de papier et d'impression, des manuels de 200 à 400 pages contenant des renseignements sur les principaux pays américains.

5°. On publie des brochures et circulaires contenant des renseignements exacts sur l'industrie minière, l'immigration, les tarifs douaniers, les lois sur les terres publiques et aussi des rapports consulaires ainsi que des articles et des discours faits par des diplomates ou autorités compétentes sur les divers pays et les choses spéciales qui les caractérisent et on les distribue là où l'on pense qu'elles porteront le plus de fruit.

6°. Les manufacturiers, exportateurs et commerçants désirant exploiter les débouchés d'autres pays que les leurs sont renseignés sur les conditions qui y existent et sur les meilleurs moyens de se familiariser avec ces dernières. On indique aussi aux personnes

désirant voyager soit pour leurs affaires, soit pour leur plaisir, quelles sont les meilleures routes à prendre.

7°. Au point de vue de la science et de l'instruction on étudie les systèmes des Universités et Collèges de l'Amérique du Nord et du Sud et on fait tous les efforts possibles pour que les savants et les écrivains des différentes Républiques aillent d'un pays dans l'autre pour y échanger leurs vues.

8°. On engage fortement à étudier l'espagnol et le portugais dans les différentes écoles de l'Amérique du Nord et l'anglais dans les écoles et institutions de l'Amérique de Sud et en même temps on donne aux collèges et aux bibliothèques publiques des listes de livres pouvant donner des renseignements sur le développement historique, politique, intellectuel et matériel de chaque pays.

9. On a déjà pris des mesures pour exécuter à la lettre le programme esquissé dans la Conférence de Rio de Janeiro qu'on vient de décrire dans ce résumé sous le titre de "Décisions spéciales prises au sujet du Bureau" et "Décisions supplémentaires ayant trait au nouveau travail du Bureau." Bien qu'on éprouve une certaine difficulté à mettre à exécution aussi rapidement qu'on le voudrait ce programme si étendu parce que ni le personnel du Bureau ni les fonds mis à sa disposition n'ont été encore augmentés, on a déjà assez fait pour montrer quels grands avantages toutes les Républiques Américaines retireront de l'agrandissement de la sphère d'action du Bureau. On atteindra ce résultat d'une manière complète lorsque les différentes républiques auront augmenté leurs allocations ou quotes-parts; que le personnel du Bureau aura été renforcé par la nomination de plusieurs employés et que le nouveau bâtiment sera achevé de manière à pouvoir être occupé.

COMPARAISON DU COMMERCE ENTRE LES ÉTATS-UNIS ET L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

Voici, d'après les dernières statistiques, les chiffres montrant la proportion du commerce des États-Unis avec différents pays de l'Amérique latine.

En 1906, les importations totales de la République Argentine se sont élevées à \$269,970,521. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$39,474,894, soit 14.62 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$292,253,829 les États-Unis n'y figurent que pour \$13,332,112, soit 4.56 pour cent. En 1905, les importations se sont élevées à \$197,974,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$27,902,000, soit 14.62 pour cent, et sur la valeur totale des exportations, soit \$311,544,000, les États-Unis figurent pour \$15,167,000, soit 4.87 pour cent.

En 1905, les importations de la Bolivie se sont élevées à \$13,377,000. Sur ce chiffre les États-Unis figurent pour \$756,000, soit 5.6 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$20,062,049 les États-Unis figurent pour \$27,000, ou 0.13 pour cent. Les statistiques des États-Unis font voir que les exportations à destination de la Bolivie pour l'année 1906 se sont élevées à \$242,616, mais les statistiques boliviennes donnent des chiffres beaucoup plus élevés.

En 1906, les importations du Brésil se sont élevées à \$165,000,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$19,000,000, soit 11.46 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$265,000,000, les États-Unis figurent pour \$93,000,000, soit 36 pour cent.

En 1905, les importations du Brésil se sont élevées à \$144,775,000. Sur ce chiffre les États-Unis figurent pour \$14,961,000, soit 10.38 pour cent et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$216,000,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$89,108,000 soit 41.13 pour cent.

En 1905, les importations de Costa Rica se sont élevées à \$5,239,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,706,000, soit 51.65 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$8,138,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$3,836,000, soit 47.14 pour cent. En 1906 les importations de Costa Rica se sont élevées à \$4,715,510. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,437,381.

En 1905, les importations de Guatémala se sont élevées à \$6,844,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,707,000, soit 39.55 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$8,238,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,875,000, soit 34.90 pour cent. En 1906, les exportations des États-Unis au Guatémala se sont élevées à \$2,980,172 et les importations se sont élevées à \$2,822,020.

En 1905, les importations du Honduras se sont élevées à \$2,293,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$1,690,000 ou 73.70 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$5,564,000, les États-Unis figurent pour \$4,623,000, soit 83.09 pour cent. En 1906, les exportations des États-Unis au Honduras se sont élevées à \$1,896,204 et les importations à \$2,204,692.

En 1904, dernière année pour laquelle on a pu avoir des statistiques du Nicaragua, les importations de ce pays se sont élevées à \$3,202,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$1,668,000, soit 52.09 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$3,926,000, les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,089,000, soit 53.21 pour cent. En 1905 et 1906 les exportations des États-Unis au Nicaragua se sont élevées à \$1,833,595 et \$2,041,251 respectivement et les importations du Nicaragua aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$1,433,815 et \$1,331,172 pour les mêmes périodes.

Les exportations des États-Unis au Panama se sont élevées à \$7,731,564 en 1905, et à \$14,239,471 en 1906, et les importations de

Panama aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$879,145 et à \$1,448,686 pour les années correspondantes.

En 1905, les importations du Salvador se sont élevées à \$4,346,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$1,355,000, soit 31.18 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$5,640,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$1,225,000, soit 23.49 pour cent. En 1906 les importations des États-Unis au Salvador se sont élevées à \$1,321,765 et les importations à \$1,216,262.

En 1906 les importations de Cuba se sont élevées à \$98,530,622. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$47,717,618 ou plus de 48 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$106,258,618 les États-Unis figurent pour \$88,175,451 ou plus de 82 pour cent.

Du mois d'octobre 1904 au mois de septembre 1905, inclusivement, les importations d'Haïti se sont élevées à \$3,871,069. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,746,851 ou plus de 71 pour cent. Les exportations des États-Unis à Haïti se sont élevées à \$2,916,379 en 1905 et à \$3,966,425 en 1906, et les importations d'Haïti aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$1,171,303, et \$1,036,330 pour les années correspondantes.

En 1906 les importations de la République Dominicaine se sont élevées à \$4,065,437. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,271,292 ou plus de 48 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$6,536,379 les États-Unis figurent pour \$3,464,425 ou 53 pour cent. En 1905 les importations de la République Dominicaine se sont élevées à \$2,737,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$1,961,000 ou 71.65 pour cent et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$6,881,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$4,484,000 ou 65.16 pour cent.

En 1905, les importations du Chili se sont élevées à \$71,868,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$7,129,000, ou 9.92 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$103,223,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$15,693,000, ou 15.20 pour cent. En 1906 les exportations des États-Unis au Chili se sont élevées à \$9,392,453, et les importations à \$18,146,232.

Les exportations des États-Unis en Colombie se sont élevées en 1905 à \$3,635,417 et en 1905 à \$2,961,671, et les importations de Colombie aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$6,268,939 et \$6,669,461 pour les deux années en question. En 1904 les importations de la Colombie se sont élevées à \$14,453,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$4,936,000 ou 34.15 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$12,658,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$6,837,000 ou 54.01 pour cent.

En 1905, les importations de l'Équateur se sont élevées à \$7,657,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,210,000

ou 28.86 pour cent et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$9,468,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,468,000 ou 27.32 pour cent. En 1906, les exportations des États-Unis à l'Équateur se sont élevées à \$1,834,756 et les importations à \$3,281,684.

En 1906, les importations du Mexique se sont élevées à \$109,884,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$72,509,000, soit 65.99 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$135,027,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$92,633,000 ou 68.6 pour cent.

En 1904, dernière année pour laquelle on a pu se procurer des statistiques du Paraguay, les importations de ce pays se sont élevées à \$9,566,000. Sur ce chiffre les États-Unis figurent pour \$125,000 ou 3.51 pour cent. Pour la même année les exportations se sont élevées à \$3,179,000, mais on n'a pas le chiffre pour lequel les États-Unis figurent dans ce total. Les exportations des États-Unis au Paraguay se sont élevées à \$6,719, en 1905, et à \$110,496 en 1906, et les importations se sont élevées à \$2,205 et \$1,200 pour les années en question.

En 1904, les importations du Pérou se sont élevées à \$20,916,000. Sur ce chiffre les États-Unis figurent pour \$3,761,000, soit 17.98 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$19,790,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$1,849,000 ou 9.34 pour cent.

Les exportations des États-Unis au Pérou se sont élevées à \$4,287,-228 en 1905 et à \$5,193,455 en 1906, et les importations du Pérou aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$2,608,665 et \$2,933,508 pour les années en question.

En 1904 les importations de l'Uruguay se sont élevées à \$21,938,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,121,000 ou 9.67 pour cent et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$39,793,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,137,000 ou 5.37 pour cent. Les exportations des États-Unis dans l'Uruguay se sont élevées à \$2,703,761 en 1905 et à \$3,160,606 en 1906, et les importations de l'Uruguay aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$3,629,495 et \$2,453,013 pour les années correspondantes.

En 1906 les importations du Venezuela se sont élevées à \$8,676,000. Sur cette somme les États-Unis figurent pour \$2,622,000 ou 30.22 pour cent, et sur les exportations s'élevant à \$15,630,000 les États-Unis figurent pour \$4,862,000 ou 31.11 pour cent. Les exportations des États-Unis au Venezuela se sont élevées à \$3,208,864 en 1905 et à \$3,310,518 en 1906, et les importations du Venezuela aux États-Unis se sont élevées à \$7,010,357 et \$7,789,890 pour les années en question.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE AVEC L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE..

IMPORTATIONS ET EXPORTATIONS.

On trouvera à la page 1397 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 d'avril 1907 et donne un tableau comparatif de ce mois avec le mois correspondant de l'année 1906. Il donne aussi un tableau des dix mois finissant au mois d'avril 1907, en les comparant avec la période correspondante de l'année précédente. On sait que les chiffres des différents bureaux de douane montrant les importations et les exportations pour un mois quelconque ne sont reçus au Ministère des Finances que le 20 du mois suivant, et qu'il faut un certain temps pour les compiler et les faire imprimer, de sorte que les résultats pour le mois d'avril ne peuvent être publiés avant le mois de juin.

COMMERCE EXTÉRIEUR EN AVRIL 1907.

D'après le rapport publié par le Département du Commerce et du Travail, le commerce extérieur des États-Unis pour le mois d'avril 1907 fait ressortir des bénéfices considérables sur le même mois de l'année 1906, les importations s'élevant à \$129,554,075 et les exportations à \$157,444,281, contre \$107,318,081 et \$141,946,383 pour les importations et les exportations du mois d'avril 1906.

Pour les dix mois finissant en avril 1907, les importations font ressortir une valeur de \$1,195,399,276 contre \$1,020,873,178 pour la même période de l'année précédente et les exportations se chiffrent à \$1,608,344,680 contre \$1,488,282,130 pour les dix premiers mois de l'année précédente.

ADDITIONS TO THE COLUMBUS MEMORIAL LIBRARY DURING MAY, 1907.

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 American Made Goods. New York. Quarterly.
 American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
 Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. Philadelphia. Bimonthly.
 Bankers' Magazine. New York. Monthly.
 El Boletín Comercial. St. Louis. Monthly.
 Bookman (The). New York. Monthly.
 Bulletin of the American Geographical Society. New York.
 Bulletin of the Geographical Society of Philadelphia. Philadelphia. Monthly.

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- Buyer's Index. New York. Semimonthly. (Alternate Spanish and English editions.)
 Century Magazine. New York. Monthly.
 El Comercio. New York. Monthly.
 Current Literature. New York. Monthly.
 Dun's Review. New York. Weekly.
 Dun's Review. International edition. New York. Monthly.
 Engineering Magazine. New York. Monthly.
 Engineering and Mining Journal. New York. Weekly.
 Engineering News. New York. Weekly.
 Export Implement Age. Philadelphia. Monthly.
 Exporters and Importers Journal. New York. Monthly.
 *Forum (The). New York. Quarterly.
 Independent (The). New York. Weekly.
 India Rubber World. New York. Monthly.
 Journal of American History. New Haven, Conn. Quarterly.
 Journal of Geography. New York. Monthly.
 Library Journal. New York. Monthly.
 Literary Digest. New York. Weekly.
 Mines and Minerals. Scranton, Pa. Monthly.
 Mining World. Chicago. Weekly.
 Modern Mexico. St. Louis. Monthly.
 Monthly Consular and Trade Reports. (Department of Commerce and Labor.) Washington. Monthly.
 National Geographic Magazine. New York. Monthly.
 North American Review. New York. Monthly.
 Novedades (Las). New York. Weekly.
 Outlook (The). New York. Weekly.
 Pan-American Review. New York. Monthly.
 Patent and Trade-Mark Review. New York. Monthly.
 Scientific American. New York. Weekly.
 Scientific American. Export Edition. New York. Monthly.
 Sister Republics. Denver, Colo. Monthly.
 Tea and Coffee Trade Journal. New York. Monthly.
 United States Tobacco Journal. New York. Weekly.
 World To-day (The). Chicago. Monthly.
 World's Work. New York. Monthly.

URUGUAY.

- Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
 *Montevideo Times. Montevideo. Daily.
 Revista de la Asociación Rural del Uruguay. Montevideo. Monthly.
 Revista de la Unión Industrial Uruguaya. Montevideo. Semimonthly.

VENEZUELA.

- Boletín de Estadística. Caracas. Monthly.
 El Fonógrafo. Maracaibo. Daily.
 El Heraldo Industrial. Caracas. Semimonthly.
 Gaceta Oficial. Caracas. Daily.
 *Venezuelan Herald. Caracas.

ADDITIONS TO THE PERIODICAL FILES DURING MAY, 1907.

- American Political Science Review. Baltimore, Md. Quarterly.
 El Porvenir. Cartagena, Colombia. Daily.
 La Lucha. Habana, Cuba. Daily.

HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Countries.	Names.	Residence.
Argentine Republic..	Señor Dr. Don Estanislao S. Zeballos.....	Buenos Ayres.
Bolivia	Señor Don Manuel V. Ballivián ^a	La Paz.
Brazil	Dezenbargador Antonio Bezerra.....	Pará.
	Firmino da Silva	Floriauopolis.
Chile.....	Señor Don Moisés Vargas	Santiago.
Colombia.....	Señor Don Rufino Gutiérrez.....	Bogotá.
Costa Rica.....	Señor Don Manuel Aragón	San José.
Cuba.....	Señor Don Antonio S. de Bustamante	Havana.
	Señor Don Lincoln de Zayas.....	Havana.
Dominican Republic.	Señor Don José Gabriel García ^b	Santo Domingo.
Ecuador.....	Señor Don Francisco Andrade Marín.....	Quito.
	Señor Don Luis Alberto Carbo	Gnayaquil.
Guatemala.....	Señor Don Antonio Batres Jáuregui.....	Guatemala City.
	Señor Don Rafael Moutúfar	Guatemala City.
Haiti.....	Monsieur Georges Sylvain	Port au Prince.
Honduras	Señor Don E. Constantino Fiallos	Tegucigalpa.
Mexico.....	Señor Don Francisco L. de la Barra.....	City of Mexico.
	Señor Don Antonio García Cubas	City of Mexico.
	Señor Don Fernando Ferrari Pérez	City of Mexico.
Nicaragua	Señor Don José D. Gámiz.....	Managua.
Paraguay.....	Señor Don José S. Decoud	Asunción.
Panama	Señor Don Samuel Lewis.....	Panama.
	Señor Don Ramón M. Valdés.....	Panama.
Peru	Señor Don Alejandro Garland	Lima.
Salvador.....	Señor Dr. Don Salvador Gallegos	San Salvador.
Uruguay.....	Señor Don José I. Schiffrino	Montevideo.
Venezuela	Señor General Don Manuel Landaeta Rosales.	Caracas.
	Señor Don Francisco de Paula Alamo.....	Caracas.

^a Honorary corresponding member of the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain.
^b Corresponding member of the Academia Nacional de la Historia de Venezuela

LATIN-AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES.

AMBASSADORS EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

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Argentine Republic	Señor Don EPIFANIO PORTELA, Office of Legation, 2108 Sixteenth street, Washington, D. C.
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Costa Rica	Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Office of Legation, 1329 Eighteenth street NW., Washington, D. C.
Cuba	Señor Don GONZALO DE QUESADA, Absent.
Ecuador	Señor Don LUIS FELIPE CARBO, Absent. Office of Legation, 1222 Connecticut avenue, Washington, D. C.
Guatemala	Señor Dr. Don LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, Office of Legation, "The Highlands," Washington, D. C.
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Nicaragua	Señor Don LUIS F. COREA, Office of Legation, 2003 O street, Washington, D. C.
Panama	Señor Don J. DOMINGO DE OBALDÍA, Absent. Office of Legation, "The Highlands," Washington, D. C.
Peru	Señor Don FELIPE PARDO, Summer address, "Overledge," Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass.
Salvador	Señor Don FEDERICO MEJÍA, Office of Legation, "The Arlington."
Uruguay	Señor Dr. Don LUIS MELIÁN LAFINUR, Office of Legation, 1416 Twenty-first street, Washington, D. C.

MINISTER RESIDENT.

Dominican Republic	Señor Don EMILIO C. JOUBERT, "The Shoreham," Washington, D. C.
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CHARGÉS D'AFFAIRES.

Brazil	Mr. SYLVINO GURGEL DO AMARAL, Office of Embassy, 1710 H street, Washington, D. C.
Chile	Señor Don ALBERTO YOACHAM, Office of Legation, "The Rochambeau," Washington, D. C.
Cuba	Señor Don ARTURO PARDO Y ALMEIDA, Office of Legation, "The Wyoming," Washington, D. C.
Honduras	Señor Dr. SALVADOR CORDOVA, Office of Legation, care of Consulate-General of Honduras, New York City.
Venezuela	Señor Don AUGUSTO F. PULIDO, "The Rochambeau," Washington, D. C.

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AMBASSADORS EXTRAORDINARY AND FLENIPOENTIARY.

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Mexico	DAVID E. THOMPSON, Mexico.

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Bolivia	WILLIAM B. SOBSBY, 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	JOSEPH W. J. LEE, Guatemala City.
Haiti	HENRY W. FURNISS, Port au Prince.
Honduras	(See Guatemala.)
Nicaragua	(See Costa Rica.)
Panama	HERBERT G. SQUIERS, Panama.
Paraguay	(See Uruguay.)
Peru	LESLIE COMBS, Lima.
Salvador	(See Costa Rica.)
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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Bull. No. 6—07—17

RATES OF POSTAGE FROM THE UNITED STATES TO LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

The rates of postage from the United States to all foreign countries and colonies (except Canada, Mexico, and Cuba) are as follows:

	Cents.
Letters, per 15 grams ($\frac{1}{2}$ ounce).....	5
Single postal cards, each.....	2
Double postal cards, each.....	4
Newspapers and other printed matter, per 2 ounces.....	1
Commercial papers.....	5
} Packets not in excess of 10 ounces, for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof.....	1
} Packets in excess of 10 ounces, for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof.....	2
Samples of merchandise.....	1
} Packets not in excess of 4 ounces.....	2
} Packets in excess of 4 ounces, for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof.....	1
Registration fee on letters and other articles.....	8

Ordinary letters for any foreign country (except Canada, Mexico, and Cuba) must be forwarded, whether any postage is prepaid on them or not. All other mailable matter must be prepaid, at least partially.

Matter mailed in the United States addressed to Mexico is subject to the same postage rates and conditions as it would be if it were addressed for delivery in the United States, except that articles of miscellaneous merchandise (fourth-class matter) not sent as *bona fide* trade samples should be sent by "Parcels Post;" and that the following articles are *absolutely excluded* from the mails without regard to the amount of postage prepaid or the manner in which they are wrapped:

All sealed packages, other than letters in their usual and ordinary form; *all* packages (including packages of second-class matter) which weigh more than 4 pounds 6 ounces, except such as are sent by "Parcels Post;" publications which violate any copyright law of Mexico.

Single volumes of printed books in *unsealed packages* are transmissible to Mexico in the regular mails without limit as to weight.

Unsealed packages of mailable merchandise may be sent by "Parcels Post" to Bolivia, British Guiana, British Honduras, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Salvador, and Venezuela, at the rates named on page xv.

PROHIBITED ARTICLES TO ALL FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Poisons, explosives, and inflammable articles, live or dead animals, insects (especially the Colorado beetle), reptiles, fruit or vegetable matter liable to decomposition, and substances exhaling a bad odor, excluded from transmission in domestic mails as being in themselves, either from their form or nature, liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise injure the contents of the mail bags, or the persons of those engaged in the postal service; also obscene, lewd, or lascivious books, pamphlets, etc., and letters and circulars concerning lotteries, so-called gift concerts, etc. (also excluded from domestic mails); postal cards or letters addressed to go around the world; letters or packages (except those to Mexico) containing gold or silver substances, jewelry or precious articles; any packet whatever containing articles liable to customs duties in the countries addressed (except Cuba and Mexico); articles other than letters which are not prepaid at least partly; articles other than letters or postal cards containing writing in the nature of personal correspondence, unless fully prepaid at the rate of letter postage; articles of a nature likely to soil or injure the correspondence; packets of commercial papers and prints of all kinds, the weight of which exceeds 2 kilograms (4 pounds 6 ounces), or the size 18 inches in any direction, except *rolls* of prints, which may measure 30 inches in length by 4 inches in diameter; postal cards not of United States origin, and United States postal cards of the largest ("C") size (except as letters), and except also the reply halves of double postal cards received from foreign countries.

There is, moreover, reserved to the Government of every country of the Postal Union the right to refuse to convey over its territory, or to deliver, as well, articles liable to the reduced rate in regard to which the laws, ordinances, or decrees which regulate the conditions of their publication or of their circulation in that country have not been complied with.

Full and complete information relative to all regulations can be obtained from the United States Postal Guide.

FOREIGN MAILS.

FOREIGN MAILS.

TABLE SHOWING THE RATES OF POSTAGE CHARGED IN LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES ON ARTICLES SENT BY MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES.

Countries.	Letters, per 15 grams, equal to one-half ounce.		Single postal cards, each. ^a		other articles, per 50 grams, equal to 2 ounces.		Charge for registration.	Charge for return receipt.
	Currency of country.	Cen- times.	Currency of country.	Cen- times.	Currency of country.	Cen- times.		
Argentine Republic.	15 centavos.	25	6 centavos.	15	2 centavos.	10	24 centavos.	12 centavos.
Bahia via Panama.	20 centavos.	50	10 centavos.	10	4 centavos.	10	50 centavos.	10 centavos.
Bolivia via other route.	20 centavos.	50	6 centavos.	15	4 centavos.	10	50 centavos.	10 centavos.
Brazil.	200 reis.	25	100 reis.	15	50 reis.	5	400 reis.	200 reis.
Chile.	10 centavos.	50	3 centavos.	15	2 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Colombia.	20 centavos.	50	4 centavos.	10	2 centavos.	5	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Costa Rica.	10 centimos.	25	3 centimos.	7½	2 centimos.	5	10 centimos.	5 centimos.
Cuba. ^b	10 centavos.	25	3 centavos.	10	2 centavos.	5	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Dominican Republic (santo Domingo).	10 centavos.	50	2 centavos.	10	1 centavo.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Ecuador.	10 centavos.	50	3 penny.	15	1 penny.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Falkland Islands.	10 centavos.	50	3 penny.	15	2 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Guatemala.	10 centimos de	50	3 centimos de	15	2 centimos de	10	10 centimos de	5 centimos de
Haiti.	10 centimes de	50	3 centimes de	15	2 centimes de	10	10 centimes de	5 centimes de
Honduras.	15 centavos.	50	3 centavos.	15	2 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Honduras, British.	5 cents.	25	2 cents.	10	1 centavo.	10	10 cents.	5 cents.
Mexico.	5 centavos.	50	2 centavos.	15	1 centavo.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Nicaragua.	15 centavos.	50	5 centavos.	15	3 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Paraguay.	60 centavos.	50	8 centavos.	15	5 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Puerto Rico via San Francisco.	20 centavos.	50	6 centavos.	20	4 centavos.	15	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Puerto Rico via Panama.	22 centavos.	50	6 centavos.	20	4 centavos.	15	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Salvador via Panama.	11 centavos.	55	3 centavos.	15	3 centavos.	15	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Salvador via other route.	10 centavos.	50	3 centavos.	15	2 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Uruguay.	10 centavos.	50	3 centavos.	15	2 centavos.	10	10 centavos.	5 centavos.
Venezuela.	50 centimos.	50	15 centimos.	15	10 centimos.	10	50 centimos.	25 centimos.
British Guiana.	5 cents.	25	2 cents.	10	1 cent.	5	10 cents Dutch.	5 cents.
Dutch Guiana.	25 cents Dutch.	50	7½ cents Dutch.	15	5 cents Dutch.	10	10 cents Dutch.	5 cents Dutch.
French Guiana.	25 centimes.	50	10 centimes.	15	5 centimes.	10	10 centimes.	5 centimes.

^a The rate for a reply-paid (double) card is double the rate named in this column.

^b United States domestic rate and conditions.

PARCELS-POST REGULATIONS.

TABLE SHOWING THE LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO WHICH PARCELS MAY BE SENT FROM THE UNITED STATES; THE DIMENSIONS, WEIGHT, AND RATES OF POSTAGE APPLICABLE TO PARCELS, AND THE EXCHANGE POST-OFFICES WHICH MAY DISPATCH AND RECEIVE PARCELS-POST MAILS.

COUNTRIES.	ALLOWABLE DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHTS OF PARCELS.				POSTAGE.		EXCHANGE POST-OFFICES.	
	Greatest length.	Greatest length and girth combined.	Greatest girth.	Greatest weight.	For a parcel not exceeding 1 pound.	For every additional pound or fraction of a pound.	UNITED STATES.	LATIN AMERICA.
	<i>Fl. in.</i>	<i>Fl.</i>	<i>Fl.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>		
Bolivia.....	3 6	6	.....	11	20	20	New York and San Francisco.	La Paz.
Chile.....	3 6	6	.....	11	20	20	New York and San Francisco.	Vulparaiso.
Colombia.....	2 0	.....	4	11	12	12	} All offices authorized to exchange mails between the two countries.	
Costa Rica.....	2 0	.....	4	11	12	12		
Ecuador.....	3 6	6	.....	11	20	20		
Guatemala.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco.	Guatemala City, Retalhuen, and Puerto Barrios.
Guyana, British.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	All offices authorized to exchange mails.	
Honduras.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco.	Tegucigalpa, Puerto Cortez, Amapala, and Trujillo.
Honduras, British.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	New Orleans.....	Belize.
Mexico.....	2 0	.....	4	11	12	12	All offices authorized to exchange mails.	
Nicaragua.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco.	Bluefields, San Juan del Norte, and Corinto.
El Salvador.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	New York and San Francisco.	San Salvador.
Venezuela.....	3 6	6	.....	11	12	12	All offices authorized to exchange mails.	

UNITED STATES CONSULATES IN LATIN AMERICA.

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

The following is a list of United States Consulates in the different Republics (consular agencies are given in italics):

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—

Bahía Blanca,
Buenos Ayres,
Cordoba,
Rosario,

BRAZIL—

Araçajú,
Bahia,
Ceara,
Macio,
Manaos,
Maranhão,
Natal,
Para,
Peruambuco,
Rio de Janeiro,
Rio Grande do Sul,
Santos,
Victoria,

CHILE—

Antofagasta,
Arica,
Cobque,
Copimbo,
Cunct,
Iquique,
Punta Arenas,
Talcahuano,
Valparaiso,

COLOMBIA—

Barranquilla,
Bogotá,
Bacaramanga,
Cali,
Cartageua,
Cocuta,
Honda,
Sepa Mesa,
Quibdo,

COSTA RICA—

Puerto Limón,
Punta Arenas,
San José,

CUBA—

Havre,
Baracoa,
Cuba Vieja,
Cardenas,
Cienfuegos,
Havana,
Manzanillo,
Matanzas,
Nuevas,
Sagua la Grande,
Santa Clara,
Santiago,

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—

Azua,
Macoris,
Moate Christi,
Puerto Plata,

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—Cont'd.

Samana,
Sanchez,
Santo Domingo,

ECUADOR—

Bahía de Caraquez,
Esmeraldas,
Guayaquil,
Quito,

GUATEMALA—

Champerico,
Guatemala,
Livingston,
Ocos,
San José de Guatemala,

HAITI—

Cap-Haïtien,
Cap-Haïtien,
Gonâves,
Jacmel,
Jeremie,
Miragoâne,
Petit-Goâve,
Port-au-Prince,
Port-de-Paix,
St. Marc,

HONDURAS—

Amatitlan,
Honduras,
Coma,
Puerto Cortes,
San Juanito,
San Pedro Sula,
Tegucigalpa,
Tela,
Tenocilla,
Tostan,
Tulcan,

MEXICO—

Acapulco,
Agua Prietas,
Alamos,
Campoch,
Campana,
Chihuahua,
Ciudad Juarez,
Ciudad Portirio Diaz,
Cordoba,
Durango,
Eusembla,
Franklin,
Guadaluajara,
Guanaxalato,
Guaymas,
Hermosillo,
Jalapa,
Laguna de Terminos,
La Paz,
Manzanillo,
Matamoros,
Mazatlan,
Mexico,

MEXICO—Continued.

Monterrey,
Nogales,
Nuevo Laredo,
Oaxaca,
Paral,
Progreso,
Quibdo,
Saltilla,
San Luis Potosi,
Sierra Mojada,
Tampico,
Thecatalpan,
Topolobampo,
Torreón,
Tuxpan, Vera Cruz,
Veracruz,
Victoria,
Zacatecas,

NICARAGUA—

Bluefields,
Cape Gracias á Dios,
Carolina,
Managua,
Matagalpa,
San Juan del Norte,
San Juan del Sur,

PANAMA—

Bonanza del Toro,
Colon,
David,
Panama,
Santiago,

PARAGUAY—

Asuncion,

PERU—

Callao,
Chimbote,
Eten,
Iquitos,
Mollendo,
Paita,
Salaverry,

SALVADOR—

Acajutla,
La Libertad,
La Unión,
San Salvador,

URUGUAY—

Montevideo,

VENEZUELA—

Barcelona,
Caracas,
Carrapato,
Ciudad Bolívar,
Cora,
La Guayra,
Maracaibo,
Puerto Cabello,
Tovar,
Valera,

CONSULATES OF THE LATIN-AMERICAN REPUBLICS IN THE UNITED STATES.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.		COSTA RICA.	
Alabama.....	Mobile.	Alabama.....	Mobile.
California.....	San Francisco.	California.....	San Francisco.
District of Columbia.....	Washington.	Canal Zone.....	Colon.
Florida.....	Fernandina.		Panama.
Georgia.....	Pensacola.	Colorado.....	Denver.
Illinois.....	Savannah.	Illinois.....	Chicago.
Louisiana.....	Chicago.	Louisiana.....	New Orleans.
Maine.....	New Orleans.	Maryland.....	Baltimore.
Maryland.....	Portland.	Massachusetts.....	Boston.
Massachusetts.....	Baltimore.	Missouri.....	St. Louis.
Mississippi.....	Boston.	New York.....	New York City.
	Gulf Port and	Oregon.....	Portland.
	Ship Island.	Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.
	Pascagoula.	Porto Rico.....	San Juan.
	St. Louis.	Texas.....	Galveston.
Missouri.....	New York City.	Virginia.....	Norfolk.
New York.....	Philadelphia.		
Pennsylvania.....	Manila.	CUBA.	
Philippine Islands.....	Norfolk.	Alabama.....	Mobile.
Virginia.....		California.....	Los Angeles.
BOLIVIA.		Fernandina.....	Fernandina.
California.....	San Diego.	Florida.....	Jacksonville.
	San Francisco.		Key West.
Illinois.....	Chicago.		Pensacola.
Maryland.....	Baltimore.		Tampa.
Missouri.....	Kansas City.	Georgia.....	Brunswick.
New York.....	New York City.		Savannah.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.	Illinois.....	Chicago.
		Kentucky.....	Louisville.
BRAZIL.		Louisiana.....	New Orleans.
Alabama.....	Mobile.	Maine.....	Portland.
California.....	San Francisco.	Maryland.....	Baltimore.
Florida.....	Fernandina.	Massachusetts.....	Boston.
Georgia.....	Pensacola.	Michigan.....	Detroit.
	Brunswick.	Mississippi.....	Gulfport.
Louisiana.....	Savannah.	Missouri.....	St. Louis.
Maine.....	New Orleans.	New York.....	New York City.
Maryland.....	Baltimore.	Ohio.....	Cincinnati.
Massachusetts.....	Boston.	Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.
Mississippi.....	Boston.	Porto Rico.....	Arecibo.
	Gulfport.		Mayagüez.
	Pascagoula.		Ponce.
Missouri.....	St. Louis.		San Juan.
New York.....	New York City.	Texas.....	Galveston.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.	Virginia.....	Newport News.
Porto Rico.....	San Juan.		Norfolk.
Virginia.....	Norfolk.	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.	
		Illinois.....	Chicago.
CHILE.		Maryland.....	Baltimore.
California.....	San Francisco.	Massachusetts.....	Boston.
Canal Zone.....	Panama.	New York.....	New York City.
Georgia.....	Savannah.	North Carolina.....	Wilmington.
Hawaii.....	Honolulu.	Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.
Illinois.....	Chicago.	Porto Rico.....	Aguadilla.
Maryland.....	Baltimore.		Arecibo.
Massachusetts.....	Boston.		Himuceno.
New York.....	New York City.		Mayagüez.
Oregon.....	Portland.		Ponce.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.		San Juan.
Philippine Islands.....	Manila.		Vieques.
Porto Rico.....	San Juan.	ECUADOR.	
Washington.....	Port Townsend.	California.....	Los Angeles.
	Tacoma.		San Francisco.
COLOMBIA.		Illinois.....	Chicago.
Alabama.....	Mobile.	Louisiana.....	New Orleans.
California.....	San Francisco.	Massachusetts.....	Boston.
Connecticut.....	New Haven.	New York.....	New York City.
Florida.....	Tampa.	Ohio.....	Cincinnati.
Illinois.....	Chicago.	Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.
Louisiana.....	New Orleans.	Philippine Islands.....	Manila.
Maryland.....	Baltimore.	South Carolina.....	Charleston.
Massachusetts.....	Boston.	Virginia.....	Norfolk.
Michigan.....	Detroit.	GUATEMALA.	
Missouri.....	St. Louis.	Alabama.....	Mobile.
New York.....	New York City.	California.....	San Diego.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.		San Francisco.
Porto Rico.....	San Juan.	Florida.....	Pensacola.
Virginia.....	Norfolk.	Illinois.....	Chicago.

CONSULATES OF THE LATIN-AMERICAN REPUBLICS—Continued.

GUATEMALA—Continued.		MEXICO—Continued.	
Kansas.....	Kansas City.	Virginia.....	Norfolk.
Kentucky.....	Louisville.	Washington.....	Tocoma.
Louisiana.....	New Orleans.	NICARAGUA.	
Maryland.....	Baltimore.	Alabama.....	Mobile.
Massachusetts.....	Boston.	California.....	Los Angeles.
Missouri.....	St. Louis.		San Diego.
New York.....	New York City.		San Francisco.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.		Chicago.
Porto Rico.....	San Juan.		Kansas City.
Texas.....	Gulveston.		Louisville.
Washington.....	Seattle.		New Orleans.
HAITI.			Baltimore.
Alabama.....	Mobile.		Boston.
Georgia.....	Savannah.		Detroit.
Illinois.....	Chicago.		St. Louis.
Iowa.....	Hartog.		New York City.
Massachusetts.....	Boston.		Philadelphia.
New York.....	New York City.		Manila.
North Carolina.....	Wilmington.		Ponce.
Porto Rico.....	Mayaguez.		San Juan.
HONDURAS.			Gulveston.
Alabama.....	Mobile.		Norfolk.
California.....	Los Angeles.		Newport News.
	San Diego.		Seattle.
	San Francisco.	PANAMA.	
	Chicago.	Alabama.....	Mobile.
Illinois.....	Kansas City.	California.....	San Francisco.
Kansas.....	Louisville.	Georgia.....	Atlanta.
Kentucky.....	Chicago.	Hawaii.....	Hilo.
Louisiana.....	New Orleans.	Illinois.....	Chicago.
Maryland.....	Baltimore.	Louisiana.....	New Orleans.
Michigan.....	Detroit.	Maryland.....	Baltimore.
Missouri.....	St. Louis.	Massachusetts.....	Boston.
New York.....	New York City.	Missouri.....	St. Louis.
Ohio.....	Cincinnati.	New York.....	New York City.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.	Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.
Texas.....	Gulveston.	Porto Rico.....	San Juan.
Washington.....	Seattle.	Tennessee.....	Chattanooga.
MEXICO.		Texas.....	Gulveston.
Alabama.....	Mobile.	Washington.....	Port Arthur.
Arizona.....	Bisbee.		Puget Sound.
	Clifton.	PARAGUAY.	
	Douglas.	Alabama.....	Mobile.
	Naco.	Delaware.....	Wilmington.
	Nogales.	District of Columbia.....	Washington.
	Phoenix.	Georgia.....	Savannah.
	Solomonville.	Illinois.....	Chicago.
	Tucson.	Indiana.....	Indianapolis.
	Yuma.	Iowa.....	Detroit.
California.....	Calexico.	Maryland.....	Baltimore.
	Los Angeles.	Michigan.....	Detroit.
	San Diego.	Missouri.....	Kansas City.
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Colorado.....	Peninsula.		Buffalo.
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Kentucky.....	New Orleans.		Philadelphia.
Louisiana.....	Baltimore.		San Juan.
Maryland.....	Boston.		Norfolk.
Massachusetts.....	Pasagoula.		Richmond.
Mississippi.....	Kansas City.	PERU.	
Missouri.....	St. Louis.	California.....	Los Angeles.
New York.....	New York City.		San Diego.
Ohio.....	Cincinnati.		San Francisco.
Oregon.....	Portland.		Panama.
Pennsylvania.....	Philadelphia.		Savannah.
Philippine Islands.....	Manila.		Honolulu.
Porto Rico.....	Mayaguez.		Chicago.
	Ponce.		New Orleans.
	San Juan.		Baltimore.
	Brownsville.		Boston.
	Eagle Pass.		New York City.
	El Paso.		Portland.
	Gulveston.		Philadelphia.
	Laredo.		San Juan.
	Port Arthur.		Charleston.
	Rio Grande City.		Port Townsend.
	Sabine Pass.		
	San Antonio.		
	Solomonville.		

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following table gives the chief weights and measures in commercial use in Mexico and the Republics of Central and South America, and their equivalents in the United States:

Denomination.	Where used.	United States equivalents.
Are	Metric	0.02471 acre.
Arabe	Paraguay	25 pounds.
Arroba (dry)	Argentine Republic	25.3171 pounds.
Do	Brazil	32.38 pounds.
Do	Cuba	25.3664 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	25.4024 pounds.
Arroba (liquid)	Cuba and Venezuela	4.263 gallons.
Barril	Argentine Republic and Mexico	20.0787 gallons.
Carga	Mexico and Salvador	300 pounds.
Centaro	Central America	4.2631 gallons.
Cuadra	Argentine Republic	4.2 acres.
Do	Paraguay	78.9 yards.
Do	Paraguay (square)	8.077 square feet.
Do	Uruguay	2 acres (nearly).
Cubic meter	Metric	35.3 cubic feet.
Fanega (dry)	Central America	1.5745 bushels.
Do	Chile	2.575 bushels.
Do	Cuba	1.599 bushels.
Do	Mexico	1.54728 bushels.
Do	Uruguay (double)	7.776 bushels.
Do	Uruguay (single)	3.888 bushels.
Do	Venezuela	1.599 bushels.
Frasco	Argentine Republic	2.5096 quarts.
Do	Mexico	2.5 quarts.
Gram	Metric	15.432 grains.
Hectare	do	2.471 acres.
Hectoliter (dry)	do	2.838 bushels.
Hectoliter (liquid)	do	26.417 gallons.
Kilogram (kilo)	do	2.2046 pounds.
Kilometer	do	0.621376 mile.
League (land)	Paraguay	4.633 acres.
Libra	Argentine Republic	1.0127 pounds.
Do	Central America	1.043 pounds.
Do	Chile	1.014 pounds.
Do	Cuba	1.0161 pounds.
Do	Mexico	1.01465 pounds.
Do	Peru	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Uruguay	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	1.0161 pounds.
Liter	Metric	1.0567 quarts.
Livre	Guiana	1.0791 pounds.
Manzana	Costa Rica	1.73 acres.
Mare	Bolivia	0.507 pound.
Meter	Metric	39.37 inches.
Pie	Argentine Republic	0.9478 foot.
Quintal	do	101.42 pounds.
Do	Brazil	130.06 pounds.
Do	Chile, Mexico, and Peru	101.61 pounds.
Do	Paraguay	100 pounds.
Quintal (metric)	Metric	220.46 pounds.
Suerte	Uruguay	2,700 cuadras. (See Cuadra.)
Vara	Argentine Republic	34.1208 inches.
Do	Central America	33.874 inches.
Do	Chile and Peru	33.367 inches.
Do	Cuba	33.384 inches.
Do	Mexico	33 inches.
Do	Paraguay	34 inches.
Do	Venezuela	33.384 inches.

METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

METRIC WEIGHTS.

- Milligram (1,000 gram) equals 0.0154 grain.
 Centigram (1,00 gram) equals 0.1543 grain.
 Decigram (1,10 gram) equals 1.5432 grains.
 Gram equals 15.432 grains.
 Decagram (10 grams) equals 0.3527 ounce.
 Hectogram (100 grams) equals 3.5274 ounces.
 Kilogram (1,000 grams) equals 2.2046 pounds.
 Myriagram (10,000 grams) equals 22.046 pounds.
 Quintal (100,000 grams) equals 220.46 pounds.
 Millier or tonneau—ton (1,000,000 grams) equals 2,204.6 pounds.

METRIC DRY MEASURE.

- Milliliter (1,000 liter) equals 0.061 cubic inch.
 Centiliter (1,100 liter) equals 0.6102 cubic inch.
 Deciliter (1,10 liter) equals 6.1022 cubic inches.
 Liter equals 0.908 quart.
 Decaliter (10 liters) equals 9.08 quarts.
 Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 2.838 bushels.
 Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 1.308 cubic yards.

METRIC LIQUID MEASURE.

- Milliliter (1,000 liter) equals 0.27 fluid dram.
 Centiliter (1,100 liter) equals 0.338 fluid ounce.
 Deciliter (1,10 liter) equals 0.845 gill.
 Liter equals 1.0567 quarts.
 Decaliter (10 liters) equals 2.6417 gallons.
 Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 26.417 gallons.
 Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 264.17 gallons.

METRIC MEASURES OF LENGTH.

- Millimeter (1,000 meter) equals 0.0394 inch.
 Centimeter (1,100 meter) equals 0.3937 inch.
 Decimeter (1,10 meter) equals 3.937 inches.
 Meter equals 39.37 inches.
 Decameter (10 meters) equals 393.7 inches.
 Hectometer (100 meters) equals 328 feet 1 inch.
 Kilometer (1,000 meters) equals 0.62137 mile (3,280 feet 10 inches).
 Myriameter (10,000 meters) equals 6.2137 miles.

METRIC SURFACE MEASURE.

- Centare (1 square meter) equals 1,550 square inches.
 Are (100 square meters) equals 119.6 square yards.
 Hectare (10,000 square meters) equals 2.471 acres.

PRICE LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.

	PRICE.
Bulletin of the Bureau, published monthly since October, 1893, in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French. Average 225 pages, 2 volumes a year.	
Yearly subscription (in countries of the International Union of American Republics and in Canada).....	\$2. 00
Yearly subscription (other countries).....	2. 50
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HANDBOOKS.

Chile.
 Dominican Republic.

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The Bureau has for distribution a limited supply of the following, which will be sent, free, upon written application:

- The case of the United States of Venezuela before the Tribunal of Arbitration to convene at Paris under the provisions of the Treaty between the United States of Venezuela and Her Britannic Majesty, signed at Washington, February 2, 1897, in 10 vols., of which 2 are maps. Sent only to libraries and educational institutions.
- Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of State submitting the report, with accompanying papers, of the delegates of the United States to the Second International Conference of American States, held at the City of Mexico from October 22, 1901, to January 22, 1902. Washington, 1902. 243 pages. 8°. (57th Congress, 1st session, Senate Doc. No. 330.)
- Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a report from the Secretary of State, with accompanying papers, relative to the proceedings of the International Congress for the study of the production and consumption of coffee, etc. Washington, 1903. 312 pages. 8° (paper). (57th Congress, 2d session, Senate Doc. No. 35.)
- Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a report by the Secretary of State, with accompanying papers, relative to the proceedings of the First Customs Congress of the American Republics, held at New York in January, 1903. Washington, 1903. 195 pages. 8° (paper). (57th Congress, 2d session, Senate Doc. No. 180.)
- Brazil at St. Louis Exposition. St. Louis, 1904. 160 pages. 8° (paper).
- Chile—A short description of the Republic according to official data. Leipzig, 1901. 106 pages. Map and 37 illustrations. 8° (cloth).
- Chile—Breve descripción de la República escrita según datos oficiales. Leipzig, 1901. 106 páginas. Mapa y 36 grabados. 8° (en tela).
- Chile at Pan-American Exposition. Buffalo, 1901. 252 pages (paper).
- Costa Rica—Some Facts and Figures. Compiled and arranged by J. B. Calvo. 1894. 56 pages. 8° (paper).
- Guatemala—The Country of the future. By Charles M. Pepper. Washington, 1906. 80 pages. 8° (paper).

Haiti. 1892. Revised to September 1, 1893.

Salvador. 1892. Revised to March 1, 1894.

Uruguay. 1892. Revised to September 1, 1893.

Handbook of the Bureau of the American Republics, in 6 vols., of which there are only Vols. II and IV remaining. Vol. II contains Haiti and Santo Domingo above, Argentine Republic, 1892, revised to February 1, 1894, and Paraguay, 1892, revised to October 15, 1894. Vol. IV contains Ecuador above, Peru, 1892, revised to May 1, 1895, and Bolivia, 1892, revised to July 1, 1893.

Transactions of the Second International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics. Washington, 1906.

NOTE.—Senate documents, listed above, containing reports of the various International American Congresses, may also be obtained through members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

VALUE OF LATIN-AMERICAN COINS.

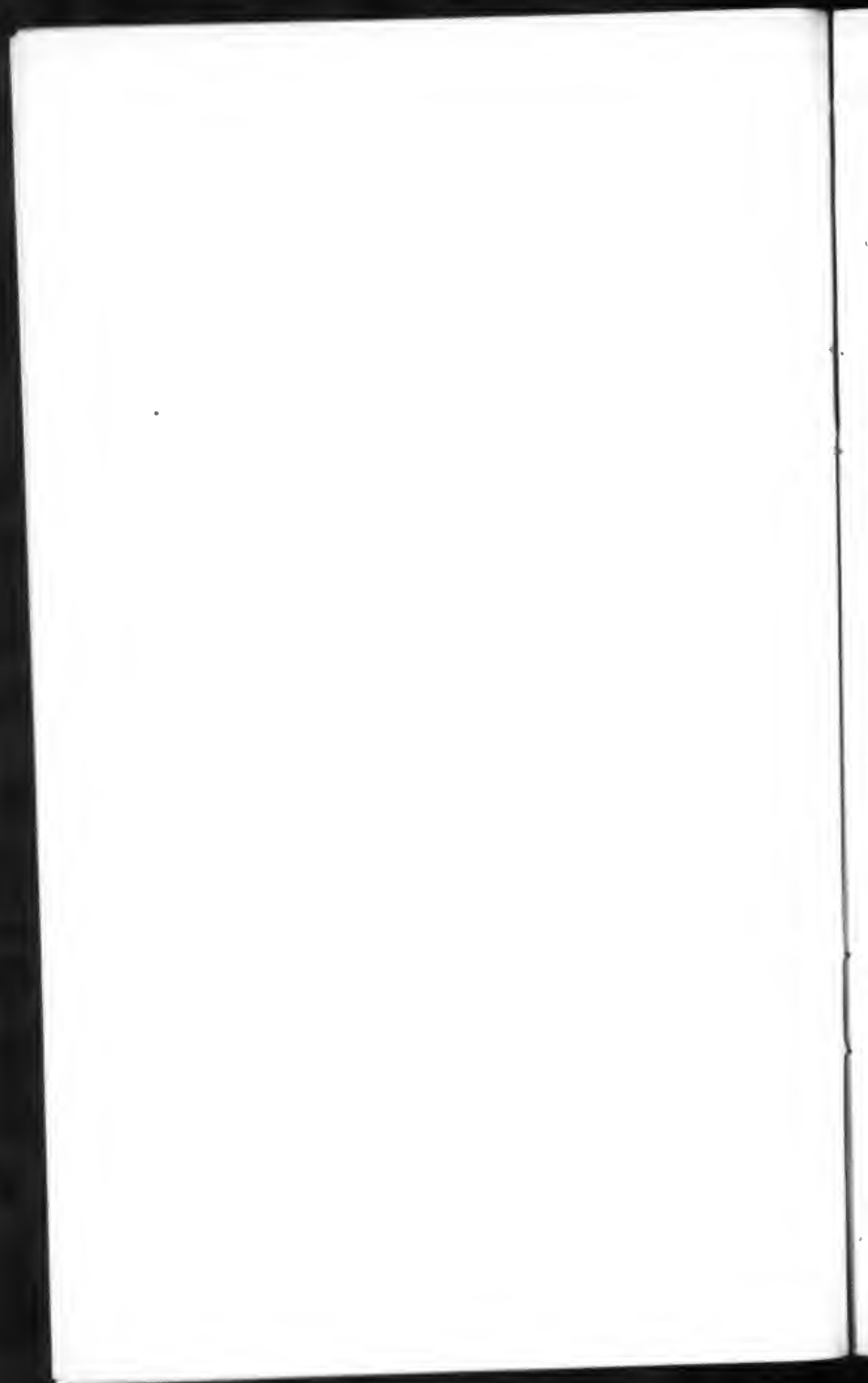
The following table shows the value, in United States gold, of coins representing the monetary units of the Central and South American Republics and Mexico, estimated quarterly by the Director of the United States Mint, in pursuance of act of Congress:

ESTIMATE APRIL 1, 1907.

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	.510	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 Honduras Nicaragua Salvador	Silver	Peso	.500	Silver—Peso and divisions.
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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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS

Vol. XXIV

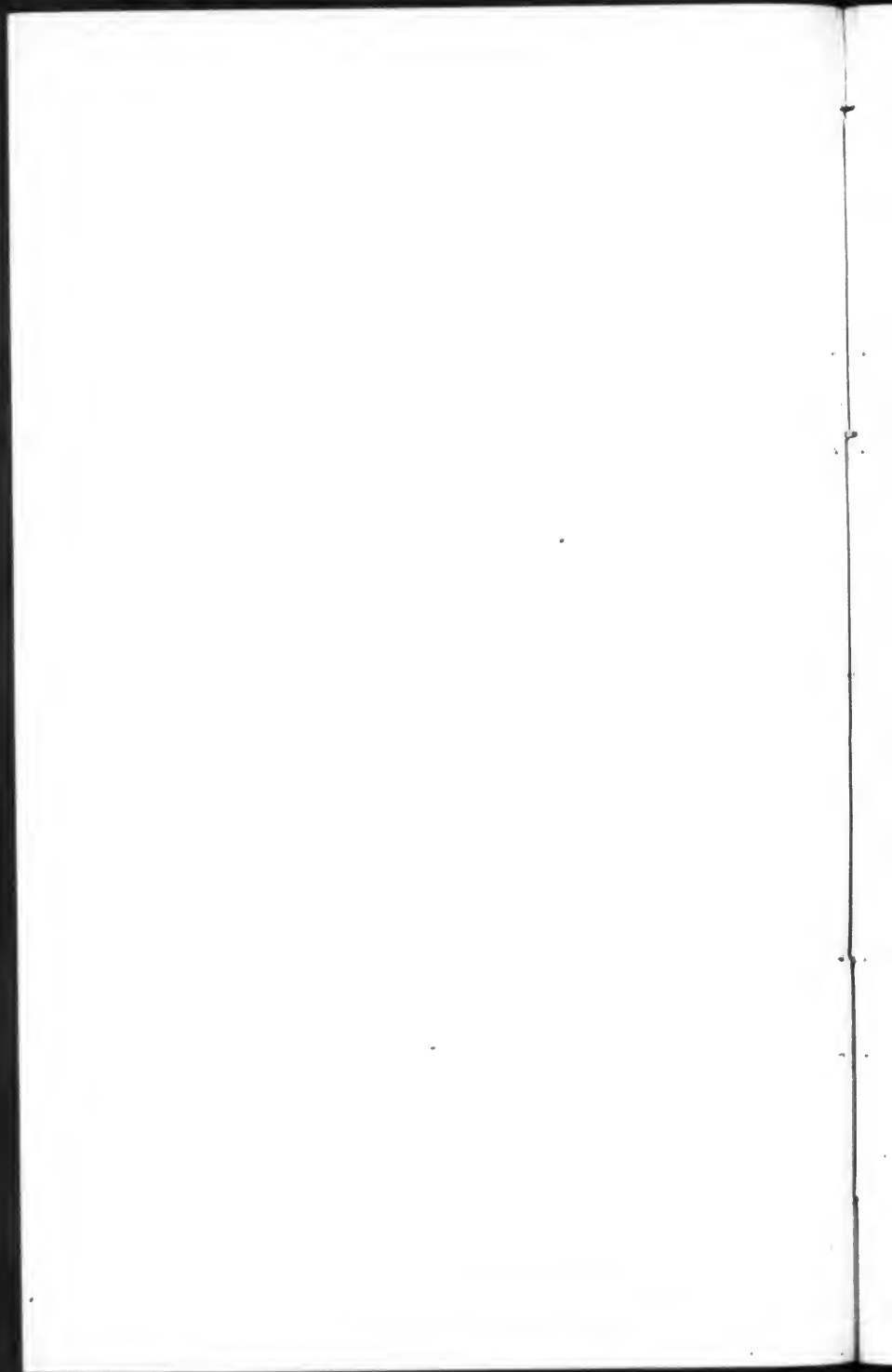
JANUARY—JUNE

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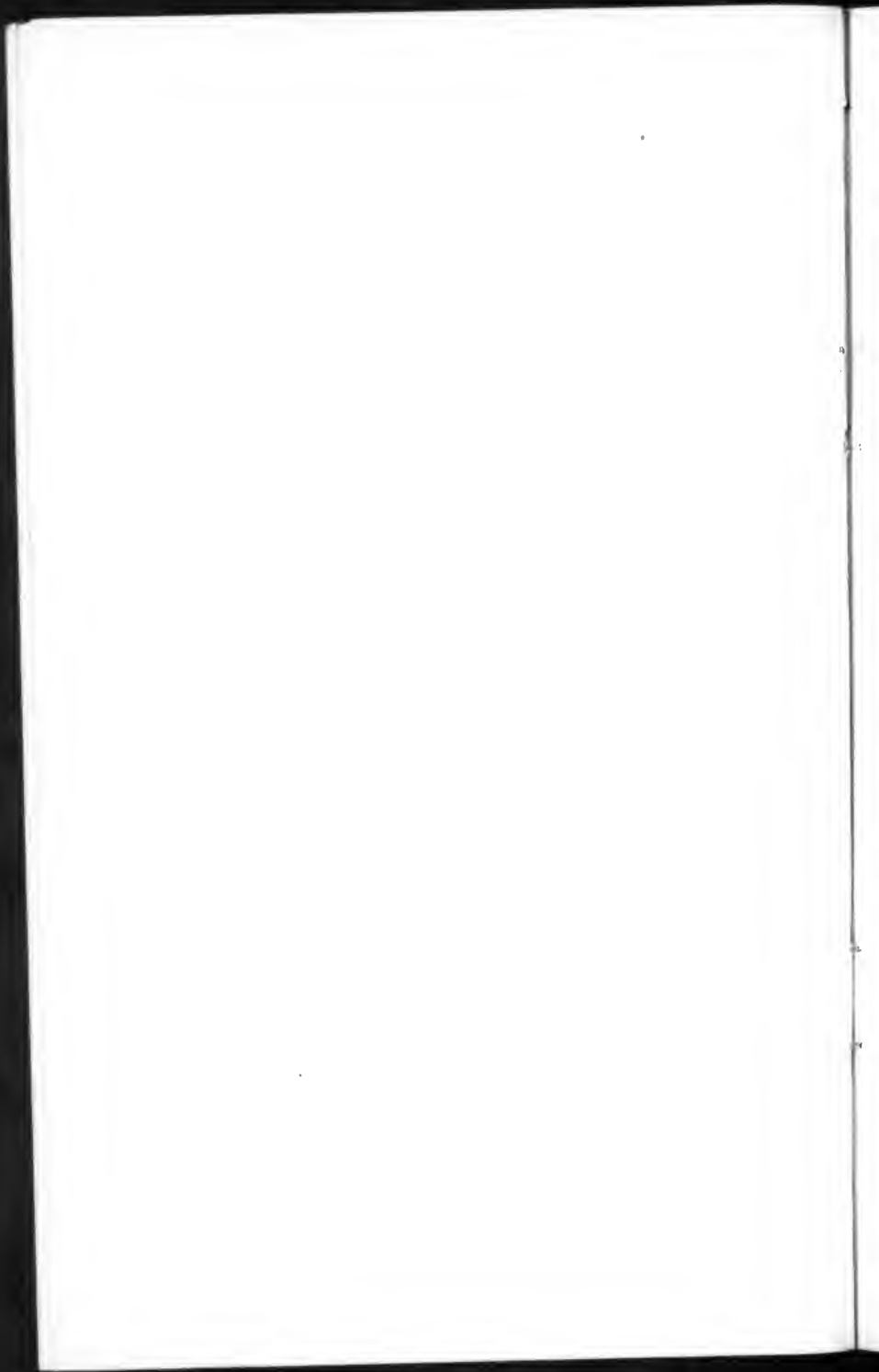
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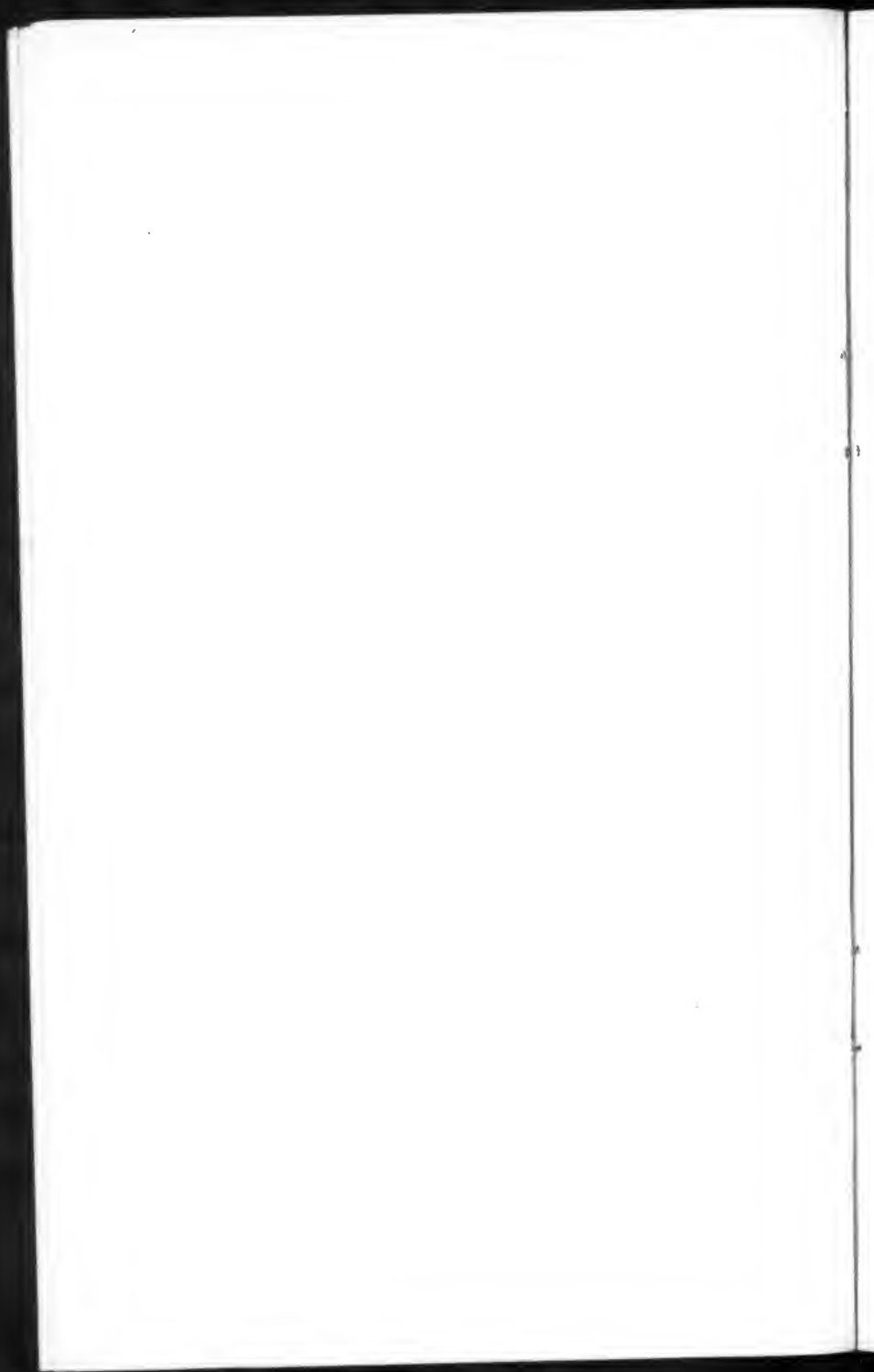
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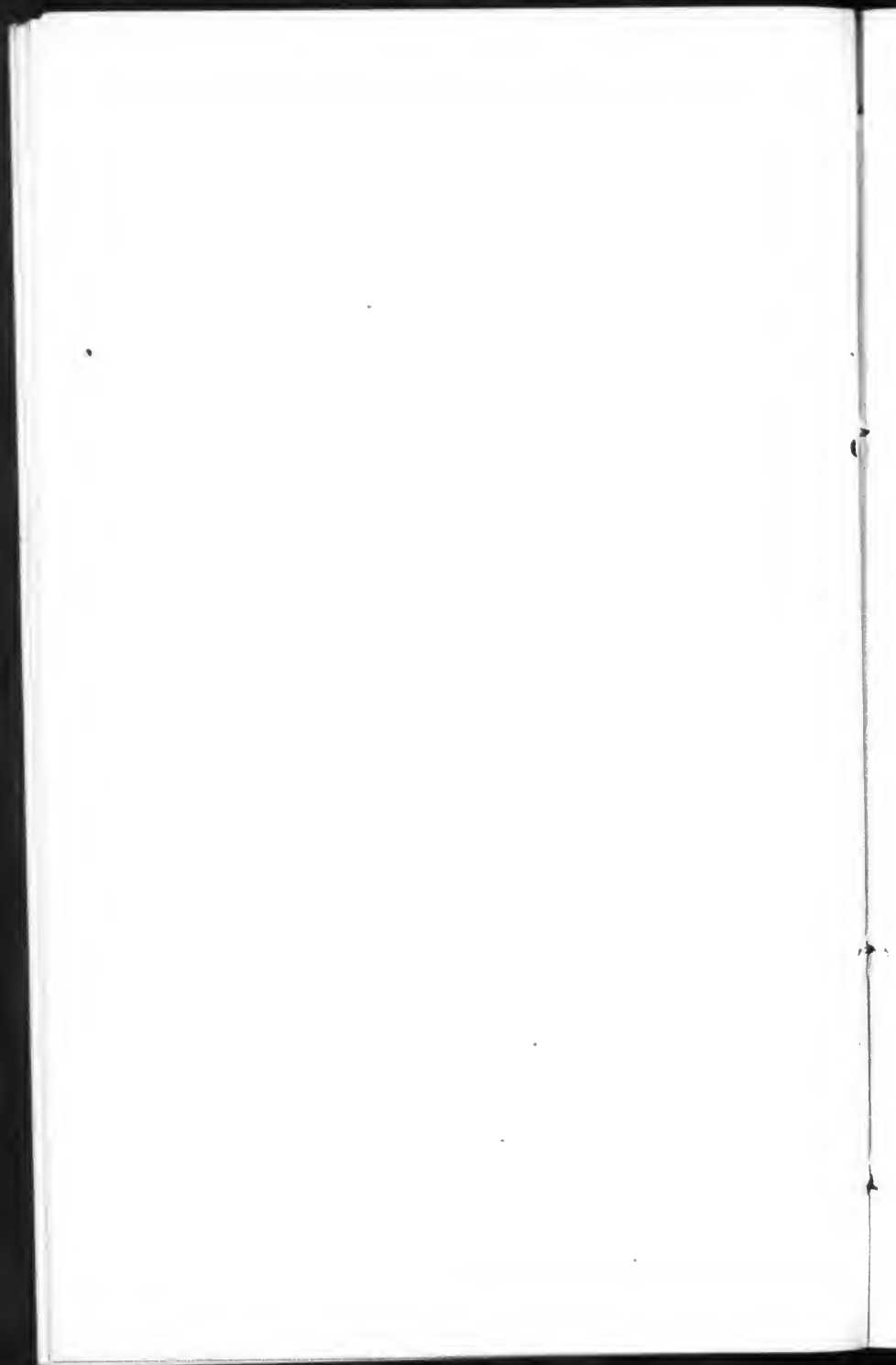
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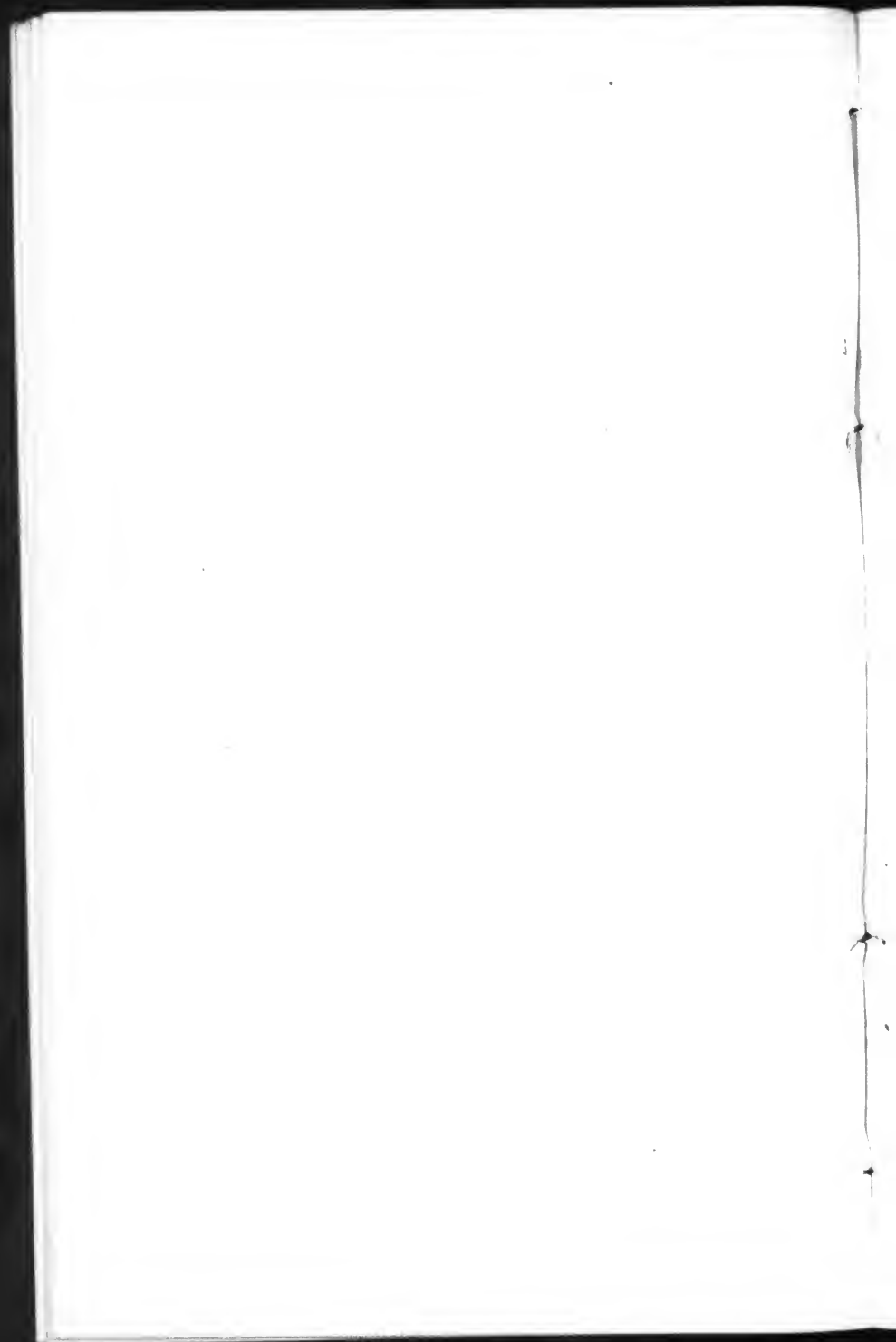


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