

some modification in the measures or weights represented by them, to make them exact multiples or sub-multiples of the metric standards. Still, the new system "is regarded as entirely satisfactory by the commercial and industrial classes in Portugal, and there is no desire to return to the various old systems in former use." Again, the report says: "The amount of time saved in commercial counting houses by the simplicity of the metric system . . . is itself a valuable factor . . . It is said that a telegraphic order given in metric terms will always take precedence of an order, from England, for example, expressed in English tons or pounds. . . The school children of Portugal gain many months of time by the omission of the long processes of arithmetic which are necessary for a country with old conventional systems of money, and weights and measures, and the substitution in their place of such subjects as may be more useful commercially, especially foreign languages."

*ROUMANIA* reports that "the only difficulty met with in the adoption of the new system was the obstinacy with which certain tradespeople adhered for some time to the old order, possibly on account of a vague, though thoroughly erroneous, belief that they would lose by the change. . . At the present time it is in vogue throughout Roumania, and is the only legal system; no tendency is observed of any desire to return to the former system." Locally, however, and very generally, the old unit is preserved as to dealings in land.

In *RUSSIA*, the report says: "The immediate adoption of the metric system is not contemplated, in view of the great difficulties which the low standard of culture existing among the masses of the country would present. The project may be considered only as tentative, in the direction of the ultimate and complete adoption of the metric system in Russia."

In *FINLAND* the high educational level existing greatly facilitated the reform. The metric system has been successfully introduced, after a preparation and education of the masses for its reception in schools, the press, etc. The period of enlightenment extended over two years.

*SERVIA* briefly reports that it took ten years, from 1873 to 1883, to introduce the new system, which has proved satisfactory in practice and beneficial to Servian trade.

*SPAIN* took twenty years, from 1849 to 1869, to introduce the metric system, which is to this day not completely in force, there having been a sort of passive resistance, especially as to measures of capacity. The shape of the old measures was preferable to the cylindrical shape of the new ones, which is that adopted. In all the smaller terms, the old system is in vogue, excepting in weight. As for land, official notices, advertisements, contracts, etc., express the equivalents in both systems. But when once the metric system is established anywhere, and the proper weights and measures provided, its employment is continued. The system is considered sure to become universal before long.