

To realize what this means it only requires to remember that ten years ago, before the advent of the Canadian banks, the deposits in the Colonial Savings Bank were only \$3,000,000, and now they are almost as much, while a similar sum is invested as savings in the Canadian banks. In the same way the deposits in the Colonial Banks at that time was about \$2,000,000, while to-day they are \$3,500,000. The investments in the Colony in Colonial ventures now total \$3,000,000 against \$1,000,000 fifteen years ago, while the items of private savings must be regarded as correspondingly increased, so that a reasonable conclusion is that the people's condition is three times better than it was in 1894.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

Development along other lines has been equally marked and satisfactory. The Colony now maintains its own telegraph service, a branch of the Postal Department, operating 2,000 miles of telegraph lines and 135 offices, and, notwithstanding a reduction in the rate for a ten-word message from 50 cents to 30 cents, the service has been growing so rapidly that it is now virtually self-supporting. Successive reductions in the postage rates by which within the past few years the British postage figure has been reduced from five cents per half-ounce to two cents an ounce, and domestic postage from three cents a half ounce to two cents an ounce, and within the past year a reduction in postage with the United States from five cents a half-ounce to two cents an ounce have all been followed by substantial betterments in the postal revenue, the amazing fact being shown by the postal returns that the serious loss expected from the reduction in American postage has not alone been overcome, but that there is a surplus in the revenue of the department for the current year as a result of the increased correspondence following upon this reduction.

CROWN LANDS REVENUE.

A very notable increase, too, has resulted in the revenue of the Crown Lands Department. The Colonial fiscal year ends on 30th June, and the Crown Lands revenue for the year which closed on the 30th June, 1909, was \$53,700, the largest on record.