

OTHER COUNTRIES OF AMERICA.

The remaining wheat countries of America show few signs of even minor growth of wheat production. Uruguay seems to have reached a stationary position. Stock-raising seems to be more profitable than wheat-growing in many parts. In Chile, there are large extensions of land not cultivated, and it is assumed that Chile could easily produce 70,000,000 bushels of wheat on 7,500,000 acres. Before, however, Chile can greatly increase her wheat output, she must overcome most, if not all, of the following disadvantages: The scarcity of transportation facilities on account of insufficient railroads from east to west to connect the interior with good shipping ports; the need of more steamship lines for the exportation of the produce; the high freight rates; the lack of sufficient labour, as in Argentina; the primitive farming methods; and, finally, the scarcity of capital, which tends to create high rates of interest on money invested in farming. Mexican agriculture has progressed much in recent years, but is, nevertheless, practically in its infancy, and the soil is cultivated to only a limited extent. Better organization of land and labour, together with improved methods of farming, are essential to increased wheat production in Mexico.

It is safe to conclude that Uruguay, Chile, and Mexico will be very slow in further developing their wheat lands, and that it is improbable that the other republics will ever become even of minor importance as wheat-growing countries.

In conclusion, it is perhaps fitting to indicate what