

every way to the most progressive examples to be found anywhere in the world.

The revenues of Australia in 1900 amounted probably to \$150,000,000, which is really one-third of that of the average of Great Britain, from which it is evident that, per capita, the people of Australia are three and a third times richer than those of the Mother Country.

Forty years ago the total amount on deposit in Australian banks was £16,000,000—in 1900 the total was £140,000,000. It is estimated that fifteen per cent. of the population of Australia possess £100 each, while in Great Britain only about nine per cent. possess that much. The savings of the people of Australia average £30 per capita, which is said to be the highest average in the world.

A very important indication of a nation's prosperity is seen in the development of its railways. This is particularly the case in a country like Australia, which is ill-supplied with navigable rivers. The first railway in the country—that from Sydney to Parramatta—was opened on September 26, 1855. It was only fourteen miles in length. At the present time the total railway mileage open amounts to about 15,000 miles.

During the last forty years the annual railway revenue has grown from £6,000,000 to £36,000,000—a sixfold increase.

Australia is very largely a pastoral country, immense tracts of prairie grassland being available for cattle raising, whenever roads and railways to the interior shall make them sufficiently accessible. But in addition there are vast areas of grass land that have been artificially sown, and these have immensely increased during the past forty years. In 1861 there were slightly over 200,000 acres of cultivated grass lands which have now increased to about 13,000,000 acres. In 1861 there were 1,337,000 acres under the plow, while at this time there are about 10,000,000 acres. During the forty years sheep in the Australian colonies increased from 20,000,000 to 100,000,000, and cattle from 4,000,000 to 12,000,000 head. The present total value of pastoral property, excluding land devoted to grazing, is about £240,000,000, and the value of animals is estimated at £115,000,000. Forty years ago Australia produced about 85,000,000 pounds of wool, while last year the production was about 700,000,000 pounds.

In 1825 the foreign commerce of Australia was valued at about £500,000, which has now reached the phenomenal figure of £140,000,000. In 1861 the total tonnage entered and cleared aggregated 2,800,000 tons increased in 1900 to 20,000,000 tons.

Although from the earliest days of the settlement of New South Wales it was said that gold was to be found there, it was in 1823 that the precious metal was discovered in considerable quantities near the town of Bathurst, and it was only about fifty years ago that the important discoveries at Ballarat and in Queensland caused the memorable rushes of gold seekers to the diggings in Australia. Since then to the present time the production of gold obtained in Australia has amounted to nearly £400,000,000.

Coal mining is an important and growing industry in New South Wales; in 1847 the production was 41,000 tons, while last year it was about 4,000,000 tons.

In 1861 the total output of wine in Australia amounted to 450,000 gallons, in 1900 to 6,000,000 gallons.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

It was recently announced in these pages that a book called "The Buyers' Guide of Canada" had been placed upon the market, and was available to any who desired to possess it. It contains some 488 pages, and is a complete index of Canadian manufacturing industries, including the addresses of every manufacturer in Canada, and the names of more than 22,000 different articles produced by them, alphabetically arranged, the names of the manufacturers being given under each article enumerated. The Buyers' Guide imparts accurate information regarding every manufacturing industry of Canada, and is not a collection of a few names chosen from a certain number of selected industries. By it the foreign merchant or buyer will be able to see at a glance what all the industries of Canada are, and with whom they may communicate when desiring to establish business relations. Having been prepared with the greatest care by an experienced and impartial compiler, it should be regarded with especial confidence by foreign merchants as a reliable record of all Canadian manufacturing industries; and that it is thus regarded by the Government of the Dominion of Canada is evidenced by the fact that it is being distributed by the Government to every Canadian commercial agent throughout the world. It is not promised to be sent at some future time, but is now—to-day—being thus placed.

In the February issue of this journal, allusion was made to the fact that "at this time the use of acetylene lighting plants is being discontinued, and the manufacture of them abandoned, simply because the necessary calcium carbide cannot be had." We are in receipt of a letter from the Willson Carbide Works Co., St. Catharines, Ont., in which they challenge our statement, and say that they "are prepared to fill, on short notice, any orders for carbide required for consumption in Canada." Our assertion regarding the scarcity of carbide was made upon representations made to us by the proprietors of several factories which had been employed in the manufacture of acetylene gas generators, who informed us that it was useless for them to continue making an article which could not be sold simply because the necessary carbide could not be had. We are told that at this time there are large numbers of acetylene machines in disuse simply because the owners do not know where to obtain carbide.

All the principal offices connected with the commercial departments of the Dominion Government at Ottawa, have been supplied with copies of the "Buyers' Guide of Canada," and copies have also been distributed to the office of the High Commissioner of Canada at London, and the Canadian branch of the Imperial Institute at London, to the offices of the managers of the Canadian sections of the Glasgow Exhibition and the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, and to every Canadian commercial agent throughout the world. This most important record of Canadian manufacturing progress is not a work promised for some future time, but is in existence and can be had now. It is not a selected list, but contains the addresses of every manufacturer in Canada, and the names of all the articles they produce.

The energetic management of the Canadian Manufacturers'