

STATISTICAL SYSTEMS.

(Concluded from page 3.)

considered of sufficient importance to be published in 1899 by the Central Bureau of Statistics. "Faire de la statistique, c'est le meilleur moyen de plaire à Napoleon," said one of his officers, and it was to the rule of the Emperor that the Dutch owe the beginning of vital statistics on January 1, 1812.

As is well known, Germany owes much to the thoroughness of its statistical organization, and the Imperial Statistical Office was established in 1872. Its expenditures in normal times amount annually to more than 2½ million marks (\$595,000). The expenditure of other State Statistical Bureaus amounts to 2 million marks (\$476,400) and that of municipal statistical bureaus to one million marks (\$238,200); so that the total annual statistical expenditure of the Empire was about 5½ million marks (\$1,310,100), besides special appropriations for censuses and other non-annual statistical investigations. There were, before the war, about 1,500 permanent statistical officials including 130 to 140 scientifically trained officers, about 650 calculators and clerks and 700 occasional assistants.

In Russia, the earliest beginnings of administrative statistics date from 1802, and in 1810 a statistical division was established under the Ministry of Police. The Russian Central Statistical Office dates from 1858; but it was not until 1897 that a scientific statistical census of the population was undertaken. Valuable statistical reports have been published by the different administrative departments, but the present condition of the country is unhappily so chaotic that for the future, administrative reform will have to precede any further attempts to improve statistical organization.

STATISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES.

As might naturally be expected, the articles at the end of the book, describing the statistical organization of the United States are the longest and most complete in the volume. Dr. John Cummings of the United States Bureau of the Census, writes on the statistical work of the Federal Government, and Mr. Charles F. Getterny, Director of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics describes the "work of the States of the United States in the field of statistics." Dr. Cummings' article opens with the statement that the late Gen. Francis A. Walker is regarded by Americans as "the leading authority upon the statistical work of the United States during the early period of its development." By another statistician (Dr. North) Gen. Walker, who was the fourth president of the American Statistical Association, is described as "King among census takers." Gen. Walker himself, at the Chicago Session of the International Statistical Institute, in 1893, stated that "a strong passion for statistics early developed itself in the life of our people, and such statesmen and publicists as Hamilton, Pelletier Webster, Alkanah Watson, Tenbe Cox, Seybert and Pitkin became working statisticians and founded their theories of economics and taxation inductively." Walker's claim to fame is founded largely upon the success of the tenth census taken in 1880, when, in the words of Dr. North, he "conceived the idea of making this, the centennial census, a national inventory such as had never before been dreamed of." Statistics of the United States foreign commerce have been compiled annually since 1789, thus covering the entire period of national existence. For many years the compilation of these data constituted the most considerable statistical undertaking of the Federal Government. In 1866, a Bureau of Statistics was created in the Treasury Department, and in 1875 a Division of Internal Commerce was created. In 1888 the first report was published of the Interstate Commerce Commission. This showed that there were then in the United States nearly 1,500 railway companies representing 150,000 miles of line, with a property value exceeding 8 billion dollars. In 1903 a Bureau of Corporations was created in the Depart-

ment of Commerce and Labor, and the reports of this Bureau are necessarily largely of statistical character. Passing over the statistics of foreign markets and of labour, it is interesting to glance at the efforts made to collect statistics of agriculture, admittedly one of the most difficult branches of statistical inquiry. The Department of Agriculture now covering so vast a field and having so many ramifications, was established in 1862 by an Act which defined the general design and duty of the Department to be to acquire and diffuse information and to preserve all such information as the Commissioner can obtain by the collection of statistics or in any other way. But the origin of the Department goes back to 1839, when Congress appropriated \$1,000 out of the Patent Fund to be extended in "the collection of agricultural statistics and for other agricultural purposes." The Department of Agriculture therefore grew out of a provision for statistical work in the Patent Office, and the amounts appropriated in single years for this purpose increased from \$1,000 to more than \$100,000. A description is given of the present crop-reporting service of the Department, and the system by which crop acreages and the numbers of farm live stock are annually estimated is discussed. Despite the utmost care, the expenditure of large aggregate sums and the voluntary assistance of 140,000 crop reporters, it is shown that the estimates of the Department of Agriculture and the returns of the census for the same year often differ very widely. Considerable space is devoted to the United States Census, "unquestionably the most considerable single statistical undertaking of the Federal Government." For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914, the publications of the Census Bureau aggregated 15,520 pages, and the expenditure of the Bureau for the year for purely statistical work amounted to \$1,333,026. Its office force numbered 644, and it carried on its rolls 754 special agents for the collection of cotton statistics. In the course of a decade, the publications of the Bureau aggregate some 40,000, and its expenditures approximate \$25,000,000. Upon the occasion of the last decennial census its office force increased by 3,000 or 4,000, and an army of 70,000 enumerators was organized, trained, and supervised.

CONCLUSION.

Altogether, the volume will prove of fascinating interest to statisticians, and it will also doubtless be some insight into the scope and procedure of the frequently consulted by those desirous of obtaining statistical offices of the principal countries of the world.

SCENERY AND SERVICE ARE UNEXCELLED.

Miss Harriette Ewen, of New York, who has just completed a trip, by the Grand Trunk steamship and rail lines, from Seattle to Alaska and from Prince Rupert to Winnipeg writes as follows:

"I have travelled quite a little in Europe and quite extensively in the United States, having visited Yellowstone Park, Yosemite, Grand Canyon in Arizona, Honolulu, Newfoundland, Bermuda, up and down the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, through the Panama Canal from New York to San Francisco, and not on one of these trips did I see such wonderful scenery, either by rail or boat.

"The state-rooms on the steamer 'Prince George,' are all outside rooms, good meals, excellent service, and everyone connected with the steamer is unusually courteous and solicitous of one's comfort. As regards meals and service, the same thing can be said in connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, and not only are the meals excellent but very reasonable when compared with those of other railroads over which I have travelled this summer, on my way out to Seattle."

sioners of Montreal in their report to the Minister of Finance show that a larger number of ocean-going vessels called at that port during 1917 than in any previous year. The tonnage was the highest since 1914 for ocean-going vessels, but considerably less for other vessels. The total trade of the port of Montreal in 1917 as compared with that of the four largest Atlantic ports in 1916 is as follows:

	Montreal.	New York.	Boston.	Philadelphia.	Baltimore.
Imports	\$194,924,348	\$1,191,865,982	\$210,900,243	\$ 95,801,175	\$ 27,808,916
Exports	382,741,463	2,332,286,213	131,229,946	193,495,296	180,703,374
Total	\$577,665,811	\$3,524,152,195	\$342,130,189	\$289,296,471	\$208,512,290

—Monthly Letter of Canadian Bank of Commerce.

GRAND TRUNK AT TORONTO EXHIBITION.

This year the Grand Trunk System is installing in its own building at the Canadian National Exhibition, at Toronto, a very interesting and comprehensive exhibit covering the natural resources of the country contiguous to its lines and depicting the many attractions offered in the tourist districts of Eastern and Western Canada. The exhibit contains large pictures of typical scenes in these summer playgrounds and in addition there are handsomely mounted specimens of fish and game taken from the waters and forests of these territories. Western Canada is represented by an exhibit of grains and grasses from Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia. There are also samples of the dairy products of the West. The territory served by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway offers to homeseekers some of the most attractive lands in the west. There will be in attendance at this exhibit representatives thoroughly conversant with the western country who can give first hand information to inquirers. Do not fail to see the Trunk exhibit in the Railways Building situated on the Exhibition Grounds.

NET LOSSES IN WAR.

Canada's net losses in the war to date are 115,806. This does not include wounded men who have returned to duty or who will be fit for duty in six months. It includes officers and men killed in action, died of wounds or sickness, prisoners, missing, those sent home medically unfit, and those of the Canadian overseas forces given commissions in the Imperial army. The total commissions granted in the Imperial from the Canadian overseas forces are 3,833. The officers killed or died of wounds are 1,879, other ranks 28,560, and other ranks died of sickness 8,953, the total deaths being 38,893.

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