

## MILEAGE OF RAILWAYS (Poor's Manual).

	TOTAL MILEAGE	INCREASE MILES	PER CENT OF INCREASE
1867	39,050	.....	.....
1877	79,082	40,032	103% over 1867
1887	149,714	70,132	282% " 1867
1897	184,590	35,376	24% " 1887
1906	222,635	38,045	49% " 1887

Whereas the average increase for the "ten year" period prior to 1887 was 7,000 miles per annum (the year 1887 alone showing an increase of over 12,000 miles), the average increase for the "ten year" period 1887 to 1897 was but 3,500 miles per annum.

(U.S. Census)	1905	1890	Per Cent. of Increase
Manufactures, Value of products.....	\$16,866,700,000	\$9,372,000,000	80%
Agriculture, Value of products.....	5,738,800,000	2,933,900,000	96%
	1906	1888	Per Cent of Increase
Bank Clearings.....	\$1,59,808,000,000	\$49,098,000,000	225%
Pig Iron output.....	28,000,000 tons	7,000,000 tons	300%
Lake Superior Iron Ore shipments...	38,000,000 tons	9,000,000 tons	322%
Total Freight Traffic thro. "Soo" Canal.	51,751,000 "	6,411,000 "	707%
Total Freight Traffic all Railways in U.S.	1,427,731,000 "	539,639,000 "	164%

It is interesting to note that the Bank clearings which usually serve as a safe guide or indicator of the general business conditions, as well as the Iron production and Ore shipments (for which records can be readily obtained), show very marked increases during the period under consideration. Also observe the vast difference between the progress of development in tonnage carried on the Great Lakes (unrestricted by legislation) 707% and the increased tonnage carried by the Railways, under Government supervision 164%.