

well-ordered and thoroughly centralized government. So stable indeed has the new system proved itself to be, that without doubt South Africa will have every opportunity in the years to come for the rapid development of its rich natural resources upon a scale even more enterprising than in the past.

South African Industry

But if politically and historically United South Africa and the Dominion of Canada present resemblances, economically they show striking contrasts. In area, South Africa is only one-tenth as large as Canada; but its population is nearly one-third that of the Dominion. Both are countries of vast distances; but South Africa, unlike Canada, can boast of few cities of large size. Both occupy a prominent place among the world's producers, but in their primary products they differ materially. A favouring climate and a com-
plaisant soil have made Canada the granary of the Empire; its chief product is golden wheat. The beneficent hand of Nature has made South Africa the Empire's treasure-house; it is the world's most prolific producer,

not of grain, but of gold and diamonds. Though South Africa exports large quantities of hides, skins, wool, and of foodstuffs, and though tobacco, sugar, tea, mealies and other tropical and sub-tropical products are extensively cultivated at the Cape and in Natal, the prominent position occupied by South Africa in the commercial world to-day is mostly due to two entirely dissimilar products of the soil—diamonds and gold, the production of both of which is organized on a vast and stable basis.

Diamond-Mining

In its output of diamonds, South Africa leads the world. During 1911 the value of the precious stones exported from the Union was \$41,409,535; in 1912, \$45,765,580 and in 1913, \$60,082,625. The first diamond was discovered in South Africa by a trader named O'Reilly who obtained a stone weighing 21½ carats from a Dutchman who was utterly ignorant of its value. The stone was later purchased by Sir Philip Wodehouse for \$2500.

From 1867, the growth of the diamond industry has been rapid, until to-day there is



PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town was founded in the same year as the city of New York. It is the legislative centre for the four provinces comprising the Union of South Africa.