

Automatic counting. Perfect coins are counted by a telling machine which automatically counts and delivers into a bag any number of coins as required from 100 to 2,000, and any size of coin from 50 cent to 5 cent pieces.

Storage of bullion. Bullion is stored at the Mint in three strong rooms, fire and burglar proof, and fitted with doors each of which has four combination locks controlled by triple time clocks and arranged so that no door may be opened without the presence of at least two officials.¹

Agricultural census of Eastern Canada, 1907. An agricultural census of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces was taken through the medium of the post office during the year 1907 by the Census and Statistics Office of the Department of Agriculture. The Bureau of Industries for the province of Ontario co-operated by undertaking the compilation of the statistics received for that province. The results are tabulated in this volume of the Year Book. In comparison with the general census of 1901, for the five provinces, the amount of cleared farm land shows an increase of 2,877,992 acres. The acreage of all field crops has increased by 1,535,679 acres, including 451,270 acres in oats, 333,798 acres in mixed grains and 1,128,256 acres in hay. Wheat shows a net decrease of 699,814 acres and of 10,533,604 bushels, which is no doubt a result of the larger and cheaper production of this cereal in the Northwest provinces. All descriptions of live stock show numerical expansion, the most noteworthy increases being 310,912 in the number of milch cows, 488,691 in the number of other horned cattle, and 947,677 in the number of pigs.

Progress of the experimental farms. The central and branch experimental farms, which were established under an act of the Dominion Parliament passed in 1886, have during 20 years exercised a constantly increasing influence upon the progress of agriculture in Canada. By the original scheme five experimental farms were created consisting of the central farm, near Ottawa, for the provinces of Ontario and Quebec and four branch farms at (1) Nappan, N. S., for the Maritime Provinces, (2) Brandon, for the province of Manitoba, (3) Indian Head, for the Northwest Territories and (4) Agassiz, for British Columbia, all five farms being under the control of the Director of Experimental Farms at Ottawa.

The work of the farms. Ranging over the whole of the wide fields covered by agriculture, arboriculture and horticulture, the work of the farms has included experiments relating to the breeding and feeding of farm live stock, the production of butter and cheese, field crops, natural and artificial fertilizers, cereals, grasses, forage plants, fruits, vegetables, plants, trees, plant diseases, and injurious insects. An annual distribution to farmers of carefully selected seed has had a widespread influence in improving the quality

¹ These particulars are abstracted from a paper on the Mechanical Equipment of the Ottawa Mint by A. H. W. Cleave, superintendent of the works, which was read before the Mechanical Section of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers on February 27, 1908.