

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

World's Statistics of Farm Live Stock.—Table 50 shows the numbers of horses and cattle in the principal countries of the world, as derived from the "Annuaire International de Statistique Agricole, 1917 et 1918," which was issued in 1920 by the International Institute of Agriculture. In this table a distinction is made between the countries of the British Empire and those of the rest of the world. In Table 51 the totals for the British Empire are compared for the two periods, and the proportion that each description bears to the world's total live stock is also shown. This table includes all the larger British Dominions, but is not complete, as in it are not included the figures for Newfoundland, and for the smaller Crown Colonies and British Possessions in various parts of the world. It will be noticed that all descriptions of live stock in the British Empire have increased, with the exception of sheep and goats; also that for all descriptions, except goats, the proportion of live stock relative to the world's total has increased as between the two periods. For horses the British Empire possesses $11\frac{1}{2}$, for asses and mules 21, for cattle $43\frac{1}{2}$, for sheep 39, for goats 44·6 and for swine 5 p.c. of the totals for the world. Table 52 gives the world's total for each description of live stock for the two periods. According to this table, horses have increased by $2\frac{1}{2}$, asses and mules by $9\frac{1}{2}$, cattle by 10 and swine by 22 p.c., whilst sheep have decreased by $6\frac{1}{2}$ and goats by 1 p.c. The decline in the number of sheep is perhaps the most significant feature of these tables. It is a feature common to all the large sheep-breeding countries of the world, including Australia, South Africa, the United States and Argentina, and coupled with the increased demand during the war for military equipments, accounts for the large increase in the price of wool and woollen garments. New Zealand is one of the few large sheep countries which show an increase. Canada, too, though not a large sheep country shows an increase of 347,358. It is noteworthy that the net decrease of sheep in the British Empire is not more than 2 p.c., whilst for the other countries of the world it is as much as 9·2 p.c. and for all countries, including the British Empire, it is $6\frac{1}{2}$ p.c., Buffaloes are recorded as existing in 12 countries, the total for the latest year being 27,255,715, of which 21,086,176, or 77 p.c., are in India. These totals do not include buffalo calves, which in a few instances are not separately distinguished from the calves of ordinary cattle.