

specialization or diversification on a small scale.

DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN AGRICULTURE.

The changes which have taken place in British agriculture have more recently occurred in South Africa. During the eighteenth century agricultural production was very limited; was confined in fact to narrow belts of land adjacent to Cape Town and a few other settlements. Away from the few small towns the pioneers were largely self-sufficing and produced only enough food for their own uses. During the nineteenth century population increased and towns grew in size and number, with the resulting creation of limited markets. As these small centres of population arose, the pioneer class moved further and further inland and was thus practically beyond the influence of markets.

With the discovery of diamonds in 1870 and of gold in the '80's, came a great influx of people to South Africa. These people were not agricultural producers and depended upon others for their food supply. Railways soon penetrated to the most remote parts of the country and rapid transportation of foodstuffs became possible. The South African war, at the opening of the present century, brought ruin to large numbers of farmers, many of whom had lived a quiet, pastoral life. With the cessation of war came the necessity for them to re-establish themselves and it was but natural that they should consider the business side of farming, a point largely disregarded in the past. Many had been in the custom of selling any surplus produce or animals, with the possible exception of wool, to country buyers and country storekeepers. As a general rule the storekeepers gave more credit than actual cash. Prices obtained (either in cash or credit) were for the main part not representative of market conditions and with the growing prosperity of many of the speculative buyers, numerous farmers began to consign their stuff to various markets.

Today the old pastoral life of the people has largely disappeared and is

to be found only in the more outlying districts. Farmers are no longer isolated individuals knowing little of the world at large. Rapid transportation, communication, the motor car and newspapers have brought knowledge of modern conditions of life to the door-step of the majority of farmers. They know certain markets are open to them and it is but natural that they should produce foodstuffs to supply these markets as by doing so they can benefit financially. In certain sections there are still many farmers who are virtually in the hands of country storekeepers because of the excessive credit given in past years by the storekeepers.

South Africa has very recently become a country which produces food chiefly for export, as can be seen in the growth of the deciduous and citrus fruit industries, the mealie and cotton industries and other new and rapidly growing branches of agriculture. The export market was **created** as a result of the Industrial Revolution and it has been made **available** to South Africa through the development of rapid land and sea transportation and refrigeration. The local market in the country is not large as there are only six or seven cities with a white population of over 20,000, two of which have a population of over 100,000. According to the census of 1921 the white population equalled 1,519,488 of which 347,508 or more than 50% lived in urban areas. Thus we can see that the movement of the rural population to the towns has occurred and is occurring in South Africa as well as elsewhere.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION.

The introduction of labour-saving machinery brought about a complete change in the status of manufacturing. At the present time the manufactured goods of the world are for the most part produced on a large scale whereas formerly they were produced in small quantities by hand labour. The development of scientific research has brought about perfection and invention of new machines, new uses for