## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Makes Recommendations for What He Considers Important Legislation.

RAILROAD RATES FIRST TOPIC

Would Materially Increase the Powers of Interstate Commerce Commission.

LIFE INSURANCE QUESTION

Sees Good and Evil in Labor Unions --- Asks for Immediate Appropriations for Panama Canal, and Promises Report of Board of Engineers and Recommendations Later---Other Matters.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The annual message of President Rosevelt was read in both houses of congress to-day. It is a document of some 24,000 words, and contains recommendations for much important legislation.

The subject of federal supervision of corporations, and especially railroad corpora-tions, is the first subject treated of by the president, and to it he gives the greatest amount of attention. After speaking of the general prosperity of the country, and the power of the corporations for good or evil in connection with the nation's prosperity, he says: long as the finances of the nation

are kept upon an honest basis, no other question of internal economy with which the congress has the power to deaf begins to approach in importance the matter of endeavoring to secure proper industrial conditions under which the individuals especially the great corporations doing an interstate business are to act The makers of our national constitution The makers of our national constitution provided especially that the regulation of interstate commerce should come within the sphere of the general government. The arguments in favor of their taking this stand were even then overwhelming. But they are far stronger to-day, in view of the enormous development of great business agencies, usually corporate in Experience has shown conclusivebe effectively exercised by a sovereign whose jurisdiction is coextensive with the by the national government. I believe that this regulation and supervision can be obtained by the enactment of law by the congress. If this proves impossible, it will certainly be necessary ultimately to confer in fullest form such power upon the national government by a proper amendment of the constitution. It would obviously be unwise to endeavor to secure such an amendment until it is certain that the result cannot be obtained under the constitution as it now is. The laws of the congress and of the several states hitherto, as passed upon by the courts, have resulted more often in showing that the states have no power in the matter ing an interstate business occupy the po sition of subjects without a sovereign neither any state government nor the na severed in to assert the sovereignty of

This is only in form an innovation. In of industrial activities has been recog-nized in the action of the law-making bodies; and all that I propose is to meet the changed conditions in such manner as will prevent the commonwealth abdicating the power it has always possessed, not only in this country, but also in England before and since this country

became a separate nation Fresent Laws Inadequate.

It has been a misfortune that the no tional laws on this subject have hitheric been of a negative or prohibitive rather than an affirmative kind, and still more that they have in part sought to prohibit what could not be effectively prohibited, and have in part in their prohibitions and have in part in their prohibitions confounded what should be allowed and what should not be allowed. It is generally useless to try to prohibit all restraint on competition, whether this restraint be reasonable or unreasonable; and where it is not useless it is generally hurtful. Events have shown that it is not possible adequately to secure the otion-because of the myriad brings in its train: for such capitalization often means an inflation that invites business panic; it always coneals the true relation of the profit earned to the capital actually invested, and creates a burden of interest payments which is a fertile cause of improper reduction in or limitation of wages: damages the small investor, discourages thrift, and encourages gambling and speculation; while perhaps worst of all is the trickiness and dishonesty which it implies—for harm to morals is worse than any possible harm to material interests, any possible narm to material interests and the debauchery of politics and busiand the department of points and nusi-ness by great dishonest corporations is far worse than any actual material evil they do the public. Until the national government obtains, in some manner which the wisdom of the congress may suggest, proper control over the hig cor-porations engaged in interstate commerce

that is, over the great majority of the big corporations—it will be impossible to deal adequately with these evils. Bailroad Bate Regulation.

am well aware of the difficulties of the legislation that I am suggest ing, and of the need of temperate and cautious action in securing it. I should emphatically protest against impropradical or hasty action The firs to do is to deal with the great rations engaged in the business

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le rates. It mu

or unreasonable rates. It must include putting a complete stop to rebates in every shape and form. This power to regulate rates, like all similar powers over the buciness world, should be exercised with moderation, caution and self-restraint; but it should exist, so that it can be effectively resercised when the need arises.

The first consideration to be kept in mind is that the power should be affirmative and should be given to some administrative body created by the congress. If given to the present interstate commerce commission or to a reorganized interstate commerce commission, such commission should be made unequivocally administrative. I do not believe in the government interfering with private business more than is necessary. I do not believe in the government undertaking any work which can with propriety be left in private hands. But neither do I believe in the government flinching from overseeing any work when leve in the government flinching from overseeing any work when it becomes evident that abuses are sure to ob-tain therein unless there is governtain therein unless there is governmental supervision. It is not my province to indicate the exact terms of the law which should be enacted; but I call the attention of the congress to certain existing conditions with which it is desirable to deal. In my judgment and regulation of them in the interpretation which such law should contain is that conferring upon some competent adconferring upon some competent administrative body the power to decide, upon the case being brought before it, whether a given rate prescribed by a railroad is reasonable and just and it is the problem. Their contention is true to the content of the content of the problem. Their contention is true to the content of the problem. railroad is reasonable and just, and if it is found to be unreasonable and unjust, then, after full investigation of the complaint, to prescribe the limit of rate beyond which it shall not be lawful to go—the maximum reasonable rate, as it is commonly called—this decision to go into effect within a of the complaint, to prescribe and to go the maximum reasonable rate, as it is commonly called—this decision to go into effect within a reasonable time and to obtain from thence onward, subject to review by thence onward, subject to review by the complaint of the complaint o present, not that a rate is too high but that a favored shipper is given too low a rate. In such case the commission would have the right to fix this already established minimum rate as the maximum; and it would need only one or two such decisions by the commission to cure railroad companies of the practice of giving improper minimum rates. I call your attention to

der the forms of law. It has often occurred that a shipper has been tole by a traffic officer to buy a large form. Experience has shown contents to get any ly that it is useless to try to get any ly that it is useless to try to get any quantity of some commodity and then adequate regulation and supervision of after it has been bought an open rethese great corporations by state action. after it has been bought an open reduction is made in the rate to take after it has been bought an open re-duction is made in the rate to take effect immediately, the arrangement resulting to the profit of the one shipwhose jurisdiction is coextensive with the field of work of the corporations—that is, by the national government. I believe that this regulation and supervision can shippers are at least as much to blame as any railroad in the matter of rebates. The law should make it of rebates. The law should make it clear so that nobody can fail to understand that any kind of commission paid on freight shipments, whether in this form or in the form of fictitious damages, or of a concession, a free pass, reduced passenger rate, or pay-ment of brokerage, is illegal. It is worth while considering whether in would not be wise to confer on the government the right of civil action have resulted more often in showing that the states have no power in the matter than that the national government has power; so that there at present exists a very unfortunate condition of things, under which these great corporations during an interstate business occupy the pomoralizing and are used as rebates. The best possible regulation of rates neither any state government nor the national government having effective control over them. Our steady aim should be by legislation, cautiously and carefully undertaken, but resolutely persevered in to assert the sovereignty of put a stop to the efforts of any one some judges big shipper or big railroad to disonal government by affirmative big shipper or big railroad to discriminate against or secure advantages over some rival; and such agreements would make the railroads themselves agents for enforcing the law. The power vested in the government to put a stop to the enforce and of secure advantages over some rival; and such agreements to the action of the law-making to put a stop to agreements to the selves agents for enforcing the law. The power vested in the government to put a stop to agreements to the detriment of the public should, in my judgment, be accompanied by power to permit, under specified conditions and careful supervision, agreements clearing to the interest of the public. But, in my judgment, the necessity of the suggests of the case; it should not be my judgment. The necessity of the suggests of the case; it should not be my judgment. careful supervision, agreements clear-ly in the interest of the public. But, in my judgment, the necessity for giving this further power is by no means as great as the necessity for giving the commission or administra-tive body the other powers I have enumerated above; and it may well be inadvisable to attempt to vest this particular power in the commission or other administrative body until it al-ready possesses and is exercising what

ally hurtful. Events have shown that it is not possible adequately to secure the enforcement of any law of this kind by incessar! appeal to the courts. The department of justice has for the last four years devoted more attention to the enforcement of the anti-trust legislation than to anything else. Much has been accomplished; particularly marked has been the moral effect of the prosecutions. accomplished; particularly marked has been the moral effect of the prosecutions; but it is increasingly evident that there will be a very insufficient beneficial result in the way of economic change. The successful prosecution of one device to icing charges, or in mileage, or in a division of the rate for refrigerating charges sion of the rate for refrigerating charges are that we cannot afford to neglect is the problem of turning out decent citizens. The future of the nation depends upon the citizenship of the generations to come; the children of to-day are those successful prosecution of one device to evade the law immediately develops another device to accomplish the same purpose. What is needed is not sweeping prohibition of every arrangement, good or bad, which may tend to restrict competition, but such adequate supervision and regulation as will prevent any restriction of competition from being to the detriment of the public—as well as such supervision and regulation as will prevent any restriction of competition from being to the detriment of the public—as well as such supervision and regulation as will prevent develops and the prevent of the public—as well as such supervision and regulation as will prevent develops and the public develops and the public develops and the control of the detriment of the public—as well as such supervision and regulation as will prevent of the accounts of common carrier engaged in interstate business should keep any books or memorand other than those reported purpose. with restriction of competition. Of these abuses, perhaps the chief, although by no means the only one, is overcapitalization—generally itself the result of dishonbooks or memoranda should be open to the inspection of the government. Only in this way can iviolations or evasions of the law be surely detected. A system of examination of railroad accounts should be provided similar to that now conducted into the national banks by the bank examiners; a few first-class railroad accountants, if they had proper direction and proper authority to inspect books and papers, could accomplish much in presenting willful violations of the law. It would not be necessary for them to examine into the accounts of any railroad unless for good reasons they were directioned to do so by the interstate commerce commission. It is greatly to be desired that some way might be found by which it. We must face accomplished facts, that some way might be found by which an agreement as to transportation with in a state intended to operate as a fraud upon the federal interstate commerce laws could be brought under the federal of the federal interstate commerce laws could be brought under the federal of th to enforce fair treatment by the great trunk lines of lateral and branch lines.

> I urge upon the congress the need of the president says: providing for expeditious action by the interstate commerce commission in all these matters, whether in regulating rates for transportation or for storing or for handling property or commodities in transport. The history of the expedition of the formulation of the expedition of the or for handling in transit. The

Immediate Action Urged.

and the revelution in transportation which has taken place during the last half century has been the most important factor in the growth of the new industrial conditions. Most emphatically we do not wish to see the man of great talents refused the reward for his talents. Still less do we wish to see him penalized; but we do desire to see the system of railroad transportation so handled that the strong man shall be given no advantage over the weak man. We wish to insure as fair treatment for the small town as for the big city; for the small shipper as for the big shipper. In the old days the highway of commerce, whether by water or by a road on land, was open to all; it belonged to the public and the traffic along it was free. At present the railway it this highway, and we must do our best to see that it is kept open to all on equal terms. Unlike the old highway it is a very difficult and complex thing to manage, and it is far better that it should be managed by private individuals than by the government. should be managed by private individuals than by the government. But it can only be so managed on condition that justice is done the public. the practice of giving improper minimum rates. I call your attention to the fact that my proposal is not to give the commission power to initiate or originate rates generally, but to regulate a rate already fixed or originate and after investigation. A heavy ponalty should be exacted from any power to establish a maximum rate, as being essential to any scheme of real reform in the matter of railway regulation. The first necessity is to secure it; and unless it is granted to the commission there is little use in tought of any scheme of the commission there is little use in tought of any possess a lofty probity which and squickly at the thought of any gust of insurance, for in the absence of feral reform the matter of railway power to establish a maximum rate, as being essential to any scheme of real reform in the matter of railway regulation. The first necessity is to secure it; and unless it is granted to the commission there is little use in touching the resolution that the secure it; and unless it is granted to the commission there is little use in the same of the commission has proved in the secure of the commission by foreign countries against American insurance companies. These negotiations illustrated the propriety of the compress recognizing the national character of insurance, for in the absence of feral legislation the state department could only give expression to the wishes of the authorities of the seventhanded just system. They should have no other effect than the secure of the commission. I regard this to secure a wise and just system. They should have no other effect than the secure of the commission that the congress should also consider whether the federal government has any power or owes any duty with a surface of an interstate character. That state supervision has proved in adequate is generally. real reform in the matter of railway regulation. The first necessity is to secure it; and upless it is granted to the commission there is little use it touching the subject at all.

Rebates Really Blackmail.

Illegal transactions often occur under the forms of law. It has often occur us a great problem does not warrant us in shrinking from the attempt to solve it. At present we attempt to solve it. At present we face such utter lack of supervision, such freedom from the restraints of aw, that excellent men have often been literally forced into doing what deplored because otherwise they were left at the mercy of unscrupu-lous competitors. To rail at and as-sail the men who have done as they best could under such conditions ac-complishes little. What we need to do is to develop an orderly system; and such a system can only come through the gradually increased exercise of the right of efficient government control. The president asks for legislation com-pelling railroads to install block systems on their lines and also calls the attention of congress to the excessive hours of labor of train service employes of the railroad

> within the scope of the federal power. The Labor Question. The labor question is treated of at considerable length, and in this connection the

companies are often subjected to. He rec ommends that a commission be appointed to study of employers' liability with the ob-

ject of the enactment of a law covering the

president says: There has been demand for depriving courts of the power to issue injunction in tabor disputes. Such special limita-tion of the equity powers of our courts would be most unwise. It is true that have misused this p but this does not justify a denial of the power any more than an improper exercise of the power to call a strike by labor leader would justify the denial of the right to strike. be used as a pretext to permit violation of law, or the jeopardizing of life or property. Of course this would not authorize the issuing of a restraining orde or injunction in any case in which it is not already authorized by existing law. I renew the recommendation I made in my last annual message for an investigation by the department of con merce and labor of general labor cond especial attention to be paid to the conditions of child labor and child labor legislation in the several states. Such an investigation should take into account the various problems with which the question of child labor is connected. It is true that these problems can be actually met in most cases only by the states themselves, but it would be well for the nation to endeavor to secure and publish omprehensive information as to the cor ditions of the labor of children in the different states, so as to spur up those that are behindhand, and to secure approx imately uniform legislation of a hig

upon the federal interstate commerce laws could be brought under the jurisdiction of the federal authorities. At present it occurs that large shipments of interstate traffic are controlled by concessions on purely state business, which of course amounts to an evasion of the law. The commission should have power to enforce fair treatment by the great trunk lines of lateral and branch lines. of an exhaustive investigation. In concluding with the subject of labor

property or commodities which interstate commerce is involved history of the cases liti-should be investigated by the governor interstate transportation. As I said in transit. The history of the cases litting my message of December 6 last, the gated under the present commerce act ment and the facts officially reported to jate and most pressing need. so shows that its efficacy has been to a great the public.

ple. We can get justice and right dealing only if we put as of paramount impor-tance the principle of treating a man on his worth as a man rather than with his worth as a man rather than with reference to his social position, his occupation, or the class to which he belongs. There are selfish and brutal men in all ranks of life. If they are capitalists their selfishness and brutality may take the form of hard indifference to suffering, greedy disregard of every moral restraint which interferes with the accumulation of wealth, and cold-blooded exploitation of the weak; or, if they are laborers, the form of laziness, of sullen envy of the more fortunate, and of willingness to perform deeds of murderous violence. Such conduct is just as reprehensible in one case as in the other, and all honest and farseeing men should join in warring against it wherever it becomes manifest. Individual expitalist and individual wage worker, corporation and union, are alike extention of the superior of the manifest. comes manifest. Individual capitalist and individual wage worker, corporation and union, are alike entitled to the protection of the law, and must alike obey the law.

The Insurance Scandal.

On the subject of life insurance the presion the subject of life insurance the president says recent events have emphasized the importance of early action looking to a solution of the subject of some sort of control that will furnish better surguards than the several states have been able to furnish against corruption of the flagrant kind which has been expected and technically the several states have been applied to the state of the several states have been applied to the state of the several states have been expected and technically several states have been able to several states have been applied and the several states have been able to several states have been expected and the several states have been expected and t kind which has been exposed, and in this connection he continues:

There is need of a stricter and uniform regulation of the vast insurance interests of this country. The United States should in this respect follow the policy of other partial country. States should in this respect follow the policy of other nations by providing adequate national supervision of commercial interests which are clearly national in character. My predecessors have repeatedly recognized that the foreign business of these companies is an important part of our foreign commercial relations. During the administrations of Presidents Cleveland. Harrison and McKinley the state de-Istrations of Presidents Cleveland. Harrison and McKinley the state department exercised its influence, through diplomatic channels, to prevent unjust discrimination by foreign countries against American insurance

sider whether the federal government has any power or owes any duty with respect to domestic transactions in insurance of an interstate character. That state supervision has proved inadequate is generally conceded. The burden upon insurance companies, and therefore their policy holders of conburden upon insurance companies, and therefore their policy holders, of conflicting regulations of many states, is unquestioned, while but little effective check is imposed upon any able and unscrupulous man who desires to exploit the company in his own interest at the expense of the policy holders and of the public. The inability of a state to regulate effectively insurance corporations created under the laws of corporations created under the laws of other states and transacting the larger other states and transacting the larger part of their business elsewhere is also clear. As a remedy for this evil of conflicting, ineffective, and yet burdensome regulations there has been for many years a widespread demand for federal supervision. The congress has already recognized that interstate insurance may be a proper subject for federal legislation, for in creating the bureau of corporations it authorized rederal legislation, for in creating the bureau of corporations it authorized it to publish and supply useful information concerning interstate corporations, "including corporations engaged in insurance." It is obvious that if the compilation of statistics be the limit of the federal power, it is wholly ineffective to regulate this form of commercial intercourse between the states and as the insurance. tween the states, and as the insurance business has outgrown in magnitude the possibility of adequate state supervision, the congress should carefully consider whether further legislation can be had. What is said above

and benevolent organizations which contract for life insurance. Under the subject of national revenues the president makes a plea for the enact-ment of reciprocal arrangements between this and other countries but does not ask for any tariff legislation at the present time. In the same connection he asks for

applies with equal force to fraternal

economy in appropriations, Business Methods in Departments. On the subject of "graft" in the severa

government departments that have been under investigation he says: At various times I have instituted investigations into the organization and conduct of the business of the executive departments. While none of these inquiries have yet progressed far enough to warrant final conclusions, they have already confirmed and emphasized the general impres-sion that the organization of the departments is often faulty in principle and wasteful in results, while many of their business methods are anti-quated and inefficient. There is every reason why our executive govern-mental machinery should be at least as well planned, economical and efficient as the best machinery of the great business organizations, which at present is not the case. To make it so is a task of complex detail and es-sentially executive in its nature; probably no legislative body, no matter how wise and able, could undertake it with reasonable prospect of success I recommend that the congress con-sider this subject with a view to provide by legislation for the transfer distribution, consolidation and assign ment of duties and executive organiza tions or parts of organizations, and for the changes in business methods within or between the several depart-ments, that will best promote the economy, efficiency and high character

of the government work. Federal Elections.

On the subject of federal elections he recommends that it be made unlawful for po-litical parties to receive campaign con-tributions from the corporations, and also

poses; and, moreover, a prohibition of this kind would be, as far as it went, an effective method of stopping the evils aimed at in corrupt practices acts. Not only should both the na-tional and the several state legisla-tures forbid any officer of a corpora-tion from using the money of the corporation in or about any election, but they should also forbid such use of money in connection with any legisla-tion save by the employment of counsel in public manner for distinctly le-

The Hague Conference.

The Hague conference and the sub ject of arbitration generally is treated of at considerable length, and in this connection an explanation is given of this government's connection with the words:

The first conference of nations held at The Hague in 1899, being unable to dis-pose of all the business before it, recom-mended the consideration and settlement of a number of important questions by another conference to be called subsequently and at an early date. These questions were the following: (1) The rights and duties of neutrals; (2) the limitation of the armed forces on land and sea, and of military budgets; (3) the use of new types and calibers of military and naval guns; (4) the inviolability of private property at sea in times of war (5) the bombardment of ports, cities and villages by naval forces. In October, 1904, at the instance of the Interparliamentary union, which, at a co

ated to the

that the conference could be best arranged under the provisions of the present Hague treaty.

From all the powers acceptance was received, coupled in some cases with the condition that we should walt until the end of the war then waging between Russia and Japan. The emperor of Russia, immediately after the treaty of peace which so happily terminated this war, in a note presented to the president on September 13, through Ambassador Rosen, took the initiative in recommending that the conference be now called. The United States government in response expressed States government in response expressed its cordial acquiescence and stated that it would, as a matter of course, take part in the new conference and endeavor to further its aims. We assume that all civilized governments will support the movement, and that the conference is now an assured fact. This government will do everything in its power to secure the success of the conference to the end that substantial progress may be made in the cause of international peace, justice and good will.

In the conclusion of this subject he

I have dwelt much on the dangers to be avoided by steering clear of any mere foolish sentimentality because mere foolish sentimentality because my wish for peace is so genuine and earnest; because I have a real and great desire that this second Hague conference may mark a long stride forward in the direction of securing the peace of justice throughout the world. No object is better worthy the attention of enlightened statesmanshin attention of enlightened statesmanship than the establishment of a surer method than now exists of securing justice as between nations, both for the protection of the little nations and for the prevention of war between the big nations. To this alm we should endeavor not only to avert bloodshed, but, above all, effectively to strengthen the forces of right. The Golden Rule should be, and as the world grows in morality it will be, the guiding rule of conduct among nations as among individuals; though the Golden Rule must not be construed, in fantastic manner, as forbidding the exercise of the police power. This mighty and free republic should ever deal with all other states, great or small, on a all other states, great or small, on a basis of high honor, respecting their rights as jealously as it safeguards its own.

Monroe Doctrine receives lengthy consideration, as does also the appeal of Santo Domingo for assist-ance which the president believes it s our duty to give

In treating of the subject of the army and navy the president favors a change in the method of promotion. He would promote officers on meritinstead of by seniority, believing that this method would be conducive to bet ter efficiency than the one now in vogue. He also recommends an in-rease in the coast artillery; the gar-risoning of considerable bodies of troops at one place, and for an increase and reorganization of the med-ical service in both the army and

Naturalization Laws. Legislation in line with the recommenda tions of the naturalization commission appointed by the president last March is asked for. These recommendations are given as follows:

given as follows:

First. A federal bureau of naturaliza-tion, to be established in the department of commerce and labor, to supervise the administration of the naturalization laws and to receive returns of naturalizations pending and accomplished. Second. Uniformity of naturalization certificates, fees to be charged, and pro-

Third. More exacting qualifications for citizenship.

Fourth. The preliminary declaration of ntention to be abolished and no alien to

he naturalized until at least 90 days after the filing of his petition. Fifth. Jurisdiction to naturalize allemento be confined to United States distric courts and to such state courts as have furisdiction in civil actions in which the United States district courts to have exclusive jurisdiction in the naturalization of the alien residents of such cities.

Public Land Laws. Recommendations for changes in the pubtion the president says:

The creation of small irrigated farms under the reclamation act is a owerful offset to the tendency of cerain other laws to foster or nonopoly of the land. Under monopoly of the land. Under that act the construction of great irrigation works has been proceeding rapidly and successfully, the lands reclaimed are eagerly taken up, and the prospect that the policy of national irrigation will accomplish all that was expected of it is bright. The act should be extended to include the state of Texas. The reclamation act derives f its value from the fact that it tends ate communities of freeholders, in par by settlement on public land, in part by forcing the subdivision of large private holdings before they can get water from government irrigation works. The law requires that no right to the use of water for land in private ownership shall be sold for a tract exceeding 160 acres to any one land owner. This provision has excited ac-tive and powerful hostility, but the success of the law itself depends on the wise and firm enforcement of it. We cannot afford to substitute tenants The greater part of the remaining public lands cannot be irrigated. They are at present and will probably al-ways be of greater value for grazing

than for any other purpose. This fact has led to the grazing homestead of 640 acres in Nebraska and to the pro-posed extension of it to other states. It is argued that a family cannot be supported on 160 acres of arid grazing land. This is obviously true; but land. This is obviously true; but neither can a family be supported on 640 acres of much of the land to which it is proposed to apply the grazing homestead. To establish universally any such arbitrary limit would be unthat it be made unlawful for corporations, and also that it be made unlawful for corporations to give such contributions, and in this connection he says:

(Contributions by corporations to any purpose should be forbidden by law; directors should not be permitted to use stockholders' money for such purposes; and, moreover, a prohibition of the such money for such purposes; and, moreover, a prohibition of the such money for such purposes; and the part of a very considerable proportion of the bona fide settlers who give faith to the implied assurance of the government that such an area is the government that such an area is sufficient. The best use of the public grazing lands requires the careful ex-amination and classification of these ands in order to give each settler land enough to support his family and no more. While this work is being done, and until the lands are settled, the government should take control of the open range, under reasonable reg-ulations suited to local needs, follow-ing the general policy already in sucessful operation on the forest serves. It is probable that the present grazing value of the open public range is scarcely more than half what it once was or what it might easily be again under careful regulation.

> The Immigration Question. Several recommendations looking to are made, and he suggests that United States government agents pass upon immi-grants before they leave their native shores changes in the laws as would not work a hardship on the educated Chinese com into or visiting this country, but without letting down the bars to the Chinese cool!

labor, and in this connection he says: But in the effort to carry out the policy of excluding Chinese laborers. Chinese coolies, grave injustice and wrong have been done by this nation to the pe China, and therefore ultimately to this na-tion itself. Chinese students, business and professional men of all kinds-not only merchants, but bankers, doctors, manufac turers, professors, travelers and the like-should be encouraged to come here and

not be the least danger that any such pro-vision would result in any relaxation of the law about laborers. These will, under all conditions, be kept out absolutely. But it will be more easy to see that both jur and courtesy are shown, as they ought to be shown, to other Chinese, if the law or treaty is framed as above suggested. Examinations should be completed at the port of departure from China. For this purpose there should be provided a more adequate consular service in China than we now have. The appropriations, both for the offices of the consuls and for the office forces in the consulates, should be in-creased.

Adulteration of Foods.

I recommend that a law be enacted to regulate interstate commerce in mis-branded and adulterated foods, drinks and drugs. Such law would protect legitimate manufacture and commerce, and would tend to secure the health and welfare of the consuming public. Traffic in foodstuffs which have been debased or adulterated so as to injure health or to deceive purchasers should be forbidden.

Insular Possessions.

He treats at considerable length of condithe treats at considerable length of condi-tions in the Philippines, and recommends that the coastwise laws of the United States as applied to the archipelago be sus-pended until July 1, 1909. He recommends the immediate fortification of Hawali in order to conserve the interests of this coun-try in the Pacific. He also advocates the adoption of legislation that will consider the adoption of legislation that will explicitly confer American citizenship on the people of Porto Rico, and on the general subject of insular affairs says: I wish also to call the attention of the

I wish also to call the attention of the congress to one question which affects our insular possessions generally; namely, the need of an increased liberality in the treatment of the whole franchise question in these islands. In the proper desire to prevent the islands being exploited by speculators and to have them develop in the interest of their own people an error has been made in refusion. ly regrettable to allow any such jealousy to be developed when we are dealing either with our insular or with foreign affairs. The big corporation has achieved its present position in the business world sin because it is the most effective instrument in business competition. In foreign affairs we cannot afford to put our people at a disadvantage with their competitors by in any way discriminating against the efficiency of our business organizations. In the same way was cannot afford to allow our business. way we cannot afford to allow our insular possessions to lag behind in industrial de-velopment from any twisted jealousy of business success. It is, of course, a mere truism to say that the business interests of come the financial interest of somebody to develop them. Yet this development is one the political and educational interests of the islands, but, important though these objects are, it is not less important that we should favor their industrial development. The government can in certain ways help this directly, as by building good roads; but the fundamental and vital help must be given through the development of the industries of the islands, and a most effi-cient means to this end is to encourage big American corporations to start industries in them and this means to make it advan-tageous for them to do so. To limit the ownership of mining claims as has been done in the Philippines is absurd. In treating of Alaska he asks that that

territory be granted an elective delegate to congress, and of the territories of Oklama, Indian territory, New Mexico and Arizona he says:

Admission to Statehood. . I recommend that Indian territory and go, holds the amateur championship of Oklahoma be admitted as one state and this country. that New Mexico and Arizona be admitted as one state. There is no obligation upon us to treat territorial subdivisions, which are matters of convenience only, as binding us on the question of admission to state-hood. Nothing has taken up more time in the congress during the past few years than the question as to the statehood to be granted to the four territories above mentioned, and after careful consideration of all that has been developed in the discontinuous areas.

delay; and the advisability of making the four territories into two states has been | year to year and clearly established. In some of the territories the legislative assemblies issue licenses for gambling.
The congress should by law forbid this

states. There is no justification for further

practice, the harmful results of which are The Panama Canal.

He refers to the Panama canal, but aside from asking for an immediate appropriation does not give any recommendations as to other legislation at this time, but prom ises a later communication which shall con-tain the report of the board of engineers and his own conclusions as to the type of

canal. On this subject he says: The American people is piedged to the speedlest possible construction of a canal adequate to meet the demands which the commerce of the world will make upon it, and I appeal most earnestly to the con gress to aid in the fulfillment of the pledge Gratifying progress has been made during the past year and especially during the past four months. The greater part of the necessary preliminary work has been done. Actual work of excavation could be begun only on a limited scale till the Canal Zone was made a healthful place to live in and to work in. The isthmus had to be sanitated first. This task has been so thoroughly accomplished that yellow fever has been virtually extirpated from the isthmus and general health conditions vastly improved. The same methods which converted the Island of Cuba from a pest hole, which menaced the health of the world, into a on the isthmus with satisfactory results. There is no reason to doubt that when the plans for water supply, paving and sew age of Panama and Colon and the la labor camps have been fully carried out, the isthmus will be, for the tropics an t usually healthy place of abode. The work is so far advanced now that the health of all these employed in canal work is as well guarded as it is on similar work in this In addition to sanitating the isthmus

satisfactory quarters are being provided for employes and an adequate system of supplying them with wholesome food at reasonable prices has been created. Hospitals have been established and equipped that are without superiors of their kind anywhere. The country has thus been made fit to work in, and provision has been made for the welfare and comfort of those who are to do the work. During the past year a large portion of the plant with which the work is to be done has been o dered. It is confidently believed that by the middle of the approaching year a suffi-cient proportion of this plant will have been installed to enable us to resume the work of excavation on a large scale

What is needed now and without delay is an appropriation by the congress to meet the current and accruing expenses of the commission. The first appropriation of \$10,000,000, out of the \$135,000,000 authorized by the Spooner act, was made three years ago. It is nearly exhausted. There is barely enough of it remaining to carry the mission to the end of the year. Unless the congress shall appropriate before that time all work must cease. To arrest prog-ress for any length of time now, when matters are advancing so satisfactorily, would be deplorable. There will be no money with which to meet pay-roll obligations and none with which to meet bills coming due for materials and supplies; and there will be demoralization of the forces, here and on the isthmus, now working so harmoniously and effectively, if there is delay in grant ng an emergency appropriation. The message closes with a recommenda

tion for more adequate provision for the work of the state department, and a read-

layed this ses game, and a greatest billiard players in the world are Americans. France is second to this country in bil-liards. England, liards. strange to say, is a bad fourth, even Spain having made greater strides in WILLIE HOPPE Great Britain. This

is because England still sticks to a combination of pool and billiards, of which John Roberts is the leading exponent. Schaefer, the world's champion, is about 55 years old, and probably has seen his best days. Willie Hoppe is universally regarded as the coming American player. He is only \$1. He challenged Slosson recently. Experts like De Oro, the world's pool champion, don't think that Hoppe can beat either Slosson or Schaefer, but they acknowledge that it will be only a short while before the boy is able to hold them all safe. Hoppe began handling a cue when ten years old in his father's billiard and pool room in Cornwall, N. Y. After becoming fairly proficient in pool he switched to billiards and is now good for runs of est of their own people an error has been made in refusing to grant sufficiently liberal terms to induce the investment of American capital in the Philippines and in Porto Rico. Elsewhere in this message I have spoken strongly against the jealousy of mere wealth, and especially of corporate wealth as such. But it is particular-50 at the 18.1 or 18.2 game whenever He recently challenged Vignaux to play at either game, and is now on his way to Paris to try and clinch a match with the Frenchman. All the experts admit that within five years Hoppe will be champion of them all. Schaefer first attracted attention in billiards in the eighties, and was the world's champion having defeated Maurice Vignaux and George Slosson for the title, until Frank Ives wrested the championship from him 12 years ago. Ives, known as "Young Napoleon," was one of the most versatile performers in the history of the sport. Starting out as a of the things most earnestly to be wished for in the interest of the islands themselves. We have been paying all possible heed to billiards eventually mastering the billiards, eventually mastering the game and becoming the world's champion. Ives' untimely death put Schaefer to the front again, and he has been the acknowledged champion for the last ten years, defending his title successfully the last time in a 3,000-point match at the 18.2 balk-line game with Louis Cure, a Frenchman, considered the speedlest of the young players. Cure is only 26 years old. He has only 12 points to go in his match with Schaefer when the American ran the game out with 64. Maurice Vignaux, a French player, who is now 59 years old, won a championship when he was 26. He now holds the 18.1 and 18.2 balk-line emblems. Conklin, of Chica-

> Football is developing in the wrong direction, declares Coach George Huff,

of all that has been developed in the dis-cussions of the question I recommend that they be immediately admitted as two less interest to views the game is spectators from radical changes in the rules are necessary. "Nowadays," he says, "it is simply a ques-

this country.

tion of piling up weight, and with-

out weight no football team is in the running. There should be changes in the rules to make the game more open and give the lighter men a chance." He also believes that the colleges of the country could increase the number of their sports profitably; games in which light-weight students excluded from participating in footbail could take part. In the matter of the variety of sports eastern colleges are better off that those of the west. There a number of the larger institutions possess cricket, lacrosse and hockey teams in addition to the standard sports of baseball, football and track athletics. Association football is being introduced at several universities and doubtless will spread in the west. Cricket hardly can hope to compete with baseball, but lacrosse and ice hockey, with their quick action, surely would take hold in the west if once started. The dyed-in-the-wool crank can see nothing but his own particular sport, but after all, the fascination of many an athlete for some particular branch of sport is the outcome of examples placed before him as a youngster. He rows, swims, shoots, bowls, plays football, lacrosse, baseball, hockey or golf from force of example. All true sport is good and the greater the variety the

Tom Jenkins, the champion wrestler of America, has been appointed boxing and wrestling instructor at the national military academy at West Point by President Roosevelt.

At the state bowling tournament at Canton, O., L. Frantz, of Cleveland, rolled 738. This is claimed by members of the Ohio association to be the highest individual score ever rolled at

a tournament. The Amateur Athletic union's record committee has authorized the following records of Arthur Duffey eliminated because of his recent confession that he was a professional at the time the records were made. Forty yard dash, :04 3-5; 50-yard dash, :05 2-5; 50-yard dash, :6 2-5; 100-yard dash, :09 3-5. The record of :09 4-5 for 100 yards now stands as the A. A. U. mark. being held jointly by several men.

Work for the President. After he has extracted the brutality from the football games, if the president could mitigate somewhat the raucity of the subsequent celebration he would be giving civilization still anjustment of the salary list of our diplomatic other forward shove.