

AN interesting review of the fate of many of the president's recommendations is given by the World's correspondent. From this review the following extracts are taken. "The annual message of the president, sent to congress on Dec. 6, 1904, contained many strong recommendations. His introductory paragraph was a caution against extravagance in appropriations. The total of authorized expenditures will increase instead of lower the treasury deficit. The president argued at great length for the passage of an employers' liability law. Such a bill, passed by the house, was before the senate committee on interstate commerce for more than a year, and never was taken up for consideration. The strengthening of the Safety Appliance act was recommended, and the subject was discussed by the senate interstate commerce committee without action of any kind. Railroad rate legislation was strongly indorsed. The house passed a bill, but the senate did not give the matter any actual consideration. The house bill was pigeonholed by the interstate commerce committee, action being deferred until the next session of congress."

MR. ROOSEVELT asked for legislation to better control insurance companies. Nothing was done. Senator Dryden introduced a bill providing for federal control of such corporations on the day before final adjournment. The president requested legislation creating a system of small parks for the city of Washington. The matter was ignored. He asked for a law to consolidate forest work in the department of agriculture. Nothing was done in that direction. He asked for two bills to quarantine diseased cattle and to prevent interstate commerce in such animals. This was derided by Senator Hale, and even Senator Platt, of Connecticut, took a fling at the president's special message making this suggestion. The president wanted authority to set apart certain lands for game preserves. This was denied. He requested a reorganization of the consular service and the substitution of salaries for fees. The matter was pigeon-holed. He wanted a national gallery of art created. It was not done. He urged a national quarantine law. The recommendation was passed over in silence. He asked for currency legislation. The subject was not even discussed. He especially recommended legislation for encouraging the merchant marine. The bill prepared by a special commission was not brought before either branch of congress. It was killed by the president's approval. He desired legislation to give the United States better facilities for reaching the Oriental markets. The matter was passed over in silence.

MR. ROOSEVELT recommended that congress amend the naturalization and immigration laws, but this recommendation was ignored. He suggested an act concerning citizenship, but no attention was given the suggestion. He recommended an enactment for the protection of elections. It was greeted with silent laughter. He called attention to the long delay in criminal prosecutions, using the cases of Greene and Gaynor and of George W. Beavers as illustrations, and asking for legislation to expedite such cases. Nothing was done. He urged many acts for the benefit of Alaska especially desiring that this territory be allowed a delegate in congress. The subject was not taken up. He particularly emphasized the necessity for general arbitration treaties and subsequently sent ten of these conventions to the senate. He declared they must be accepted without amendment. The senate amended them, thus destroying their usefulness, in the opinion of the president, who was at the same time accused of infringing on the constitutional prerogative of the senate. He asked for a law to protect Americans abroad, but the matter was not considered. He strongly pleaded for a material increase of the navy, and was grudgingly given two additional battleships. He asked that a system of floating mines be provided for harbor defense. The matter was not discussed. He suggested medals of honor for commissioned and warrant officers in the navy, but was refused. He recommended a whipping post for wife beaters in the District of Columbia. Such a measure was advocated by a bachelor member of the house, who had no wife to beat, and the proposition received no other encouragement.

THE president asked for a law to prevent the smoke nuisance in the city of Washington, the smoke of an electric light plant having ruined the White House washing; but the bill passed

was so unsatisfactory that he gave it a pocket veto by refusing to approve it before congress adjourned. He urged the ratification of the Hay-Bond treaty, establishing reciprocity between the United States and Newfoundland, believing it would serve as an entering wedge for reciprocity with Canada. Nothing was accomplished in this direction. He sent a treaty with Santo Domingo to the senate. It was not taken up by the Foreign Relations Committee. It was postponed for action at the special session of the senate and may not be accepted. He strongly urged the reduction of the Isthmian canal commission to five or three members and a form of government for the canal zone. No bill of any kind for that purpose was passed. A deadlock resulted between senate and house. He desired legislation to prevent the transmission of insect pests through the mails, but this failed at the last minute. About the only legislation especially desired by the president which he obtained was the passage of the Philippine tariff bill. This slipped through in the last hours of the session, when appropriation bills prevented any formidable opposition to the measure. No such array of snubs was ever before administered to a president within three months.

GOVERNOR LARABEE, according to the Fort Dodge, Iowa, Messenger, paid his compliments to the stand-patters of his party in a speech before the Iowa Manufacturers' association at Cedar Rapids by comparing them to the Fox Indians of Tama county. The boy, he said, who rides to the mill on horseback and with a bag of meal on his shoulder just as his father did, is a stand-patter. He said he was satisfied that many other articles as well as lumber and coal ought to be put on the free list, and stated that steel is selling in Europe at \$24 a ton and in America where it is produced at \$33. That places the American manufacturers who must use steel at an awful disadvantage.

THE confusion in the statements as to when the terms of members of congress expire—whether March 3 or March 4—seems to have been cleared up by a writer in the Louisville Courier Journal. This writer says: "The Congressional Directory, in its sketches of Senators, uniformly says their terms expire March 3 in a certain year. This arises from the fact that the congressional day begins at 12 o'clock noon, instead of midnight, and ends at 12 the following day. The term of a congressman ends at 12 o'clock noon on March 4, according to the calendar, but this is the close of the congressional day March 3. The statement therefore that the term of a senator expires on March 3 is purely technical, a legal fiction that is not supported by the almanac, which has been called a part of the common law."

SEVERAL days after Dr. William Osler made his now famous declaration concerning the uselessness of men who had reached the ages of forty and sixty years, several men committed suicide and on their persons were discovered newspaper clippings concerning the doctor's dictum. "The Independent," a Kansas City publication, says that even though Dr. Osler's theory be correct, "he would still have been guilty of an unnecessary brutality." The Independent makes interesting contribution to the discussion concerning the theory. It says that in England people speak of a rising young barrister of forty and that men of sixty years or thereabouts occupy nearly all the positions of trust. The Independent points out: "The idiosyncrasy of his statement grows upon us when we remember our country has never had a president under forty. Theodore Roosevelt, now 46, being the youngest of a long list. Grant was unknown and discouraged at 40, a hero and a president at 47. Lincoln went into the White House at 52, Taylor began to be a strenuous president at 65, Washington fathered his country while in the forties and fifties and became chief magistrate at 57. Benjamin Franklin did his best public service after he was 70. So examples could be multiplied indefinitely. In the United States senate today, out of the 90 members more than a score will reach 70 years in age before 1907."

THE INDEPENDENT contends that the world's lasting accomplishments are those, as a rule, of maturity and of age. It adds: "The exceptions lie chiefly in literature, although the annals of war show such names of early celebrity as those of Napoleon, Alexander and Charles XII. And

even in letters, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, producing his first novel when past 50, is one of many examples of ripened talent. George Elliott wrote "Romola" at 44. Swift was 59 when "Gulliver's Travels" testified to his lively imagination and wit. Hugo at 60 wrote "Les Miserables," and "Robinson Crusoe" was Defoe's work at 58. Moreover, who speaks to chloroform William Dean Howells at 68. Here are some of the really great books that were written after 40: Locke's "Essay on the Human Understanding" (58). Shakespeare's two greatest dramas "Lear" (41), "The Tempest" (47). Milton's "Paradise Lost" (50). Goethe's "Faust" (41 to 82). Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations" (53). Thomas Hobbes' "Leviathan" (63). Gibbon's "Decline and Fall" (51). Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason" (57). Swift's "Gulliver's Travels" (62). Dr. Samuel Johnson's Dictionary (45). Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" (43 to 44). Macaulay's "History of England" (48). Michael Angelo built the great dome of St. Peter's after he was 60. Newton was 45 before he discovered the law of the attraction of gravity. At 42 Robert Fulton sailed his steamboat up the Hudson."

WRITING in the Cosmopolitan, the earl of Ranfurly, former governor of New Zealand, says: "The government carries on life assurance doing nearly half the New Zealand business in this line (namely, forty thousand policies, assuring over nine and one-half million pounds sterling.) Accident assurance, employers' liability and fire are all dealt with by the government. People who look alone at the total debt of New Zealand, viz; about fifty-six million pounds sterling, and state that such a monstrous liability (considering the population it is but eight hundred and fifty thousand) must betoken future bankruptcy, little consider the assets named above, and that the government, besides being a government, is also a colossal trading company, with huge sums invested in the various departments; for instance, some twenty millions in railways, many millions in land, in post-offices and postal equipment, in telegraph and telephone exchanges, in loans to settlers, in light houses, in collieries and endless other commercial enterprises, from which a fair and certain return is derived, not to mention the opening up of the whole country in a marvelously short period of time."

THE Chicago correspondent for the New York World says: "The packers manifested the greatest pleasure in the Garfield report and for the first time in three years were in a mood to talk. Mr. Armour is quoted as saying that the report is 'very fair, and gives the reader a good idea of what profits are made in the beef industry.' The Herald quotes a man who has intimate knowledge of the beef trade as saying that those who conducted the 'investigation' under Mr. Garfield, were not familiar with the trade and were unable to make much headway, so in the end they took the figures given by the packers." The Herald's informant says that the gross business of the 'big six' amounts to \$825,000,000 a year. The Herald's informant adds: "A net profit of 2 per cent on this amounts to \$16,500,000. As the actual capital invested is far less than \$100,000,000 it will be seen that the profit above noted is at least 16 per cent. But, besides this, there is the profit from refrigerator cars. There are under control of the big concerns 54,000 cars which the Bureau of Corporations estimates as worth \$1,000 each, or a total of \$54,000,000. On this, from mileage alone, is realized 17 per cent or \$9,180,000. Besides this there are the large charges for icing, which will return at least as much as the mileage. Furthermore, the packers' books would not show, and the government agents could not find by any methods, the immense profits realized by the great beef men from rebates from railroads. A conservative estimate of this item would place it at \$10,000,000. It is probably more. This, then, would be the balance sheet:

Profits on gross business of \$825,000,000	\$16,500,000
Mileage on 54,000 cars	9,180,000
Rebates	10,000,000
Total	\$35,680,000

"Not a small percentage on a capital of about \$150,000,000. Now, here is where the trust scheme works. By doing business at 2 per cent on the gross all over the country they are able to force the small packer with a gross business of \$25,000 to \$200,000 to do business on a similar basis or sell out. Thus they stifle competition, while still making great profits on capital employed as well as through private cars and rebates."