

unable to secure justice from outsiders, or unwilling to do justice to those outsiders who treat it well, may make it necessary for the United States to take action to protect their rights, but he adds that such action will not be taken with a view to territorial aggrandizement and will be taken at all only with extreme reluctance and when it has become evident that every other recourse has been exhausted. He says that this country would not go to war to prevent a foreign government from collecting a just debt from a South American republic, but on the other hand it would not permit a foreign power to take possession, even temporarily, of the custom house of an American republic in order to enforce the payment of its obligations; for such temporary occupation might turn into a permanent occupation. The only escape from these alternatives, in the president's opinion, is that we must undertake to bring about such arrangements by which so much as possible of a just obligation shall be paid. He maintains that this position is in the interest of peace as well as in the interest of justice.

He refers to the trouble of Santo Domingo, saying that a treaty is now before the senate, but that in the meantime a temporary arrangement has been made which will last until the senate has had time to take action upon the proposed treaty. He says he has reason to believe that some of Santo Domingo's creditors who dare not expose their claims to honest scrutiny are endeavoring to stir up sedition in the island and opposition to the treaty.

Referring to the army, the president says "we now have a very small army—indeed, one well nigh infinitesimal when compared with the army of any other nation." He recommends brigade and division garrisons rather than regimental garrisons, and says that the number of army posts should be materially diminished and the posts that are left should be made correspondingly larger. He says that in both the army and navy there should be some principle of selection, that is, of promotion for merit, and there should be a resolute effort to eliminate the aged officers of reputable character who possess no special efficiency. He recommends material improvements in the medical provision for the army and navy.

Referring to the navy, the president says "it has now reached a fairly high standard of efficiency," and adds "this standard of efficiency must not only be maintained, but increased." He says that it is not necessary that the navy should—at least in the immediate future—be increased beyond the present number of units. He thinks perhaps best results would be obtained by adding a single battleship each year, the superceded or outworn vessels being laid up or broken up as they are thus replaced. He pays a tribute to the sea-going torpedo boat or destroyer.

Referring to naturalization laws, the president directs attention to the recommendations made by a commission appointed on this subject. These recommendations provide for a federal bureau of naturalization to be established in the department of commerce and labor. Uniformity of naturalization certificates; more exacting qualifications for citizenship; the preliminary declaration of intention to be abolished and no alien to be naturalized until at least ninety days after the filing of his petition; jurisdiction on naturalized aliens to be confined to federal courts and to such state courts as have jurisdiction in civil actions in which the amount in controversy is unlimited—in cities of over 100,000 inhabitants the federal courts are to have exclusive jurisdiction.

Referring to criminal laws, the president says that the criminal process of any federal court should run throughout the entire territorial extent of our country and to this end the criminal laws should be revised.

He recommends legislation to amend existing law with respect to the punishment of United States attorneys or other officers of the government who corruptly agree to wrongfully do or wrongfully refrain from doing any act when the consideration for such corrupt agreement is other than one possessing money value. He also suggests that a law be enacted providing punishment for breach of trust in the shape of prematurely divulging official secrets by an officer or employe of the United States.

The president recommends changes in the public land laws such as will fit these laws to actual present conditions. He says that the monopolization of the public lands must be prohibited.

He pays a tribute to the efficiency of the work of irrigation under the reclamation act, and says that the act should be extended to include the state of Texas.

He recommends that the government do more

for the protection of the great system of levees along the lower course of the Mississippi river.

Referring to the merchant marine, he says that it is important that this be built up; and he asks congress to give "earnest consideration to the report with which the merchant marine commission has followed its long and careful inquiry."

He suggests that congress make suitable appropriation for the aid of the Jamestown Tercentennial, to be held at Jamestown, Va.

Devoting a paragraph to the praise of the "excellent work of the pension bureau," the president says: "Seven years ago my lamented predecessor, President McKinley, stated that the time had come for the nation to care for the graves of the confederate dead. I recommend that congress take action toward this end. The first need is to take charge of the graves of the confederate dead who died in northern prisons."

He recommends changes in our immigration law, saying that perhaps it would be possible to limit the number of immigrants allowed to come in any one year to New York and other cities, while leaving unlimited the number allowed to come to the south, this being necessary, in his view, in order that the immigration should be properly distributed; but he says that under all circumstances a strict effort should be made to see that only immigrants of the right kind come to our country anywhere. He suggests that no immigrants be allowed to come in from Canada and Mexico save natives of the two countries themselves, and he advises that existing laws for the exclusion of undesirable immigrants should be strengthened so as to compel steamship companies engaged in passenger business to observe in good faith the law which forbids them to encourage or solicit immigration to the United States. He says that we can not afford to pay heed whether an immigrant is of one creed or another, or of one nation or another, but that "what we should desire to find out is the individual quality of the individual man." He makes an exception on Chinese immigration, saying that the questions in connection with that class "stand by themselves," explaining "the conditions in China are such that the entire Chinese coolie class, that is, the class of Chinese laborers skilled and unskilled, legitimately come under the head of undesirable immigrants to this country because of their numbers, the low wages for which they work, and their low standard of living." He says that the exclusion of these people is proper and that these laws have been, are being and will be thoroughly enforced. This, however, does not apply to merchants, students, business men and professional men of all kinds, but these should be encouraged to come here and should be treated on precisely the same footing that we treat students, business men, travelers and the like of other nations.

The president pays a tribute to the operations of the civil service law, and says that that law is being "energetically and impartially enforced."

He recommends revision of the copyright laws, because at present they are imperfect in definition, confused and inconsistent in expression; they leave out provision for many articles which are entitled to protection, and he intimates that the copyright office has prepared a bill which will be presented to congress.

He recommends the enactment of a law to regulate interstate commerce in misbranded and adulterated foods, drinks and drugs.

He advises that the anti-smoke law for the District of Columbia be made more stringent.

He recommends adequate provision for the proper care and supervision of all national parks, and suggests that some reservation, like the Wichita reserve and game refuge be provided for the bison, commonly known as the buffalo.

He suggests that pensions be given to the members of the life saving service.

Referring to the Indians, he recommends that congress make generous appropriations for Indian day schools.

Concerning the Philippines, the president says that affairs are progressing there at a satisfactory rate, and that tranquility has existed during the past year through the Archipelago except in four provinces, but that these have been brought under control. He says that in April, 1906, the first legislative assembly for the islands will be held and adds that "on the sanity and self-restraint of this body much will depend so far as the self government of the islands is concerned."

He recommends free trade between the Philippines and the United States saying "while the actual benefit has doubtless been exaggerated, it will be of great importance from a political and sentimental standpoint," and that "it will aid the Filipinos without endangering interests in America."

Referring to Hawaii, he suggests that im-

mediate steps be taken for the fortification of that island.

Touching Porto Rico, he recommends the adoption of legislation which will "explicitly confer American citizenship on all citizens of Porto Rico," adding, "there is, in my judgment, no excuse for failure to do this."

He asks that Alaska be given an elective delegate and suggests that the government aid in the construction of a railroad from the Gulf of Alaska to the Yukon river in American territory.

He recommends that Indian Territory and Oklahoma be admitted as one state, and that New Mexico and Arizona be admitted as one state. He thinks that this should be done immediately, as there is no justification for further delay.

Referring to the Panama canal, he says that work is progressing, and he hopes to lay before the congress at an early day the findings of the advisory board of engineers as to the type of the canal. He says that marked improvement has been made in sanitary conditions surrounding the workmen on the canal, and he expects that by the middle of the approaching year the work of excavation on a large scale will be resumed. He asks for prompt and liberal appropriations for the purpose of carrying on the canal work, according to the estimates provided in the report of the secretary of war.

He recommends more adequate provision than has been made heretofore for the work of the department of state. He thinks the consular service should be classified and appointments made to the several classes, with authority to the executive to assign the members of each class to duty at such posts as the interests of the service require. He suggests, also, an inspection service, so the department may be able to inform itself how the business of each consulate is being done, instead of depending upon casual private information or rumor. The fee system in consulates should be abolished, and an equivalent made in salary. He recommends more liberal appropriations for cable tolls and consular messenger service in order that our diplomatic officers may be more fully informed of what is being done every day in the progress of diplomatic affairs with other countries. He recommends, also, that the salary list in the diplomatic service be readjusted, because it does not now correspond either to the importance of the service to be rendered and the degrees of ability and experience required in the different positions, or to the conditions in the cost of living. He concludes, that in many cases the salaries are quite inadequate.

CORPORATIONS AND RAILROAD RATES

Referring in his message to the corporation and railroad questions, the president says:

"The fortunes amassed through corporate organizations are now so large, and vest such power in those that wield them, as to make it a matter of necessity to give to the sovereign—that is, to the government, which represents the people as a whole—some effective power of supervision over their corporate use. In order to insure a healthy social and industrial life, every big corporation should be held responsible by, and be accountable to, some sovereign strong enough to control its conduct. I am in no sense hostile to corporations. This is an age of combination, and any effort to prevent all combination will be not only useless, but in the end vicious, because of the contempt for law which the failure to enforce law inevitably produces. We should, moreover, recognize in cordial and ample fashion the immense good effected by corporate agencies in a country such as ours, and the wealth of intellect, energy, and fidelity devoted to their service, and therefore normally to the service of the public, by their officers and directors. The corporation has come to stay, just as the trade union has come to stay. Each can do and has done great good. Each should be favored so long as it does good. But each should be sharply checked where it acts against law and justice.

"So 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 deal begins to approach in importance the matter of endeavoring to secure proper industrial conditions under which the individuals—and especially the great corporations—doing an interstate business are to act. 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 today, in view of the enormous development of great business agencies, usually corporate in form. Experience has shown con-