PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

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plus for the ferial year being \$54.297.697. The indications are that the surplus for the present fiscal year will be very small, it indeed there be any surplus. From July to November the receipts from customs were, approximately, nine million dollars less than the receipts from the same source for a corresponding portion of last year. Should this decrease continue at the same ratio throughout the lacal year, the surplus would be reduced by approximately, thirty million dollars. Should the revenue from customs suffer much further decrease during the fiscal year, the surplus would vanish. A large garplus is certainly undesirable. Two years ago the war taxes were taken off with the express infortion of equalizing the governmental receipts and expenditures, and though the first year thereafter still showed a surplus, it now seems likely that a substantial equality of revenue and expenditure will be attained. Such being the case, it is of great moment both to exercise care and economy in appropriations, and to sean sharply any change in our fiscal revenue system which may reduce our income. The need of strict economy in our expenditures is emphasized by the fact that we cannot afford to be parsimonious in providing for what is essential to our national well-being. Careful economy wherever possible will alone prevent our income from falling below the point required in order to meet our genuine needs.

The integrity of our currency is beyond question, and under present conditions it would be unwise and unnecessary to attempt a reconstruction of our entire monetary system. The same liberty should be granted the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit customs receipts as is granted him in the deposit of receipts from other sources. In my message of Dec. 2, 1902, I called attention to certain needs of the financial situation, and I again ask the consideration of the Congress for these questions.

Merchaut Marine.

A majority of our people desire that steps be taken in the interests of American shipping, so that we may once more resume our former position in the ocean earrying trade. But hitherto the differences of opinion as to the proper method of reaching this end have been so wide that it has proved impossible to secure the adoption of any particular scheme. Having in view these facts, I recommend that the Congress direct the Secretary of the Navy, the Postmaster General and the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, associated with such a representation from the Senate and House of Representatives as the Congress in its wiscom may designate, to serve as a commission for the purpose of investigating of reporting to the Congress at its next what legislation is desirable or conserve and lucidentally of a national conserve, and lucidentally of a national conserve, and lucidentally of a national conserve and lucidentally of a national conserve and lucidentally of a national conserve and service of adequate and the service of adequate and the service of adequate the service of adequate and the service of adequate the service of adequate and the service of adequate the service of ad

no piace on earth where a corrupt man feeling from this country can rest in peace. There is no reason why bribery should not be included in all treatles as extraditable.

Alaskan Boundary.

For several years past the rapid development of Alaska and the establishment of growing American interests in regions theretofore unsurveyed and imperfectly known brought into promisence the urgent necessity of a practical demarcation of the boundaries between the jurisdictions of the United States and Great Britain. Although the treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia, the provisions of which were copied in the treaty of 1855, whereby Russia conveyed Alaska to the United States, was per-tire as to the control, first by Russia and later by the United States, of a strip of territory along the continental main and from the western shore of Portinod Canal to Mosant St. Ellas, fallowing and surrounding the ladentations of the constand lacieding the kands to the westward, its description of the landward margin of the strip was indefinite, resting on the supposed existence of a continuous ridge or range of mountains skirting the casas, as figured in the charts of the early navigators. It had at no time been possible for either party in interest to lay down, under the authority of the treaty, a line so obviously exact according to its previsions as to command the assent of the other. For nearly three-fourths of a century the absence of tangible local interests demanding the exercise of positive jurisdiction on either side of the border left the question demand. A permanent disposition of the matter finally became imperative.

After maxelling attempts to reach an understanding through a Joint High Commission, followed by prolonged negotiations, conducted in an amicanie spirit, a convention between the United States and Great Britain was signed, January 24, 1903, providing for an examination of the subject by the terms of the coarcinion. By this award the right of the linited States to the control of a continuous strip or bor

water inlets and simuosities of the coast, is confirmed.

The result is satisfactory to every way, it is of great material advantage to our people in the For Northwest. It has removed from the field of discussion and possible danger a question liable to become more acutely accentanced with each passing year. Finally, it has furnished a signal proof of the fairness and good will with which two friendly nations can approach and determine issues involving national covereisty.

Rural Free Delivery.

The rural free-delivery service has been steadily extended. The attention of the congress is asked to the question of the congress is asked to the question of the compensation of the letter carriers and clerks engaged in the postal service, especially on the new rural free-delivery routes. More routes have been installed since the first of July hast than in any like period in the Department's history. While a due regard to economy must be kept in mind in the establishment of new routes, jet the extension of the rural free-delivery system must be continued, for reasons of acound public policy. No governmental movement of recent years has resulted in greater immediate benefit to the people of the country districts. Itural free delivery, taken in connection with the telephone, the bleycle, and the troitey, accomplishes much toward be a ning the isolation of farm life and marked from the solution of farm life and marked from the solution of the country districts. It is not only a good thing in itself, but is good because it is one of the causes which check this unwholesome tendency toward the urban concentration of our population at the expense of the country districts. It is for the same reason that we sympathize with and approve of the policy of building good roads.

whether or not we shall have an Isthmian canal.

When the Congress directed that we shend take the l'amama route under treaty with Colombia, the essence of the condition, of course, referred not to the Government which controlled that route, but to the route itself; to the territory across which the route lay, not to the name which for the moment the territory hore on the map. The purpose of the law was to authorize the l'resident to make a treaty with the power in actual control of the Isthmus of Panama. This purpose has been fulfilled.

In the year 1846 this Government entered into a treaty with New Granada, the predecessor upon the lathmus of the Republic of Colombia and of the present Republic of Colombia and of the present Republic of Colombia and of the present Republic of Panama, by which treaty it was provided that the Government and citizens of the United States should always have free and open right of way or transit across the Isthmus of Panama by any modes of communication that might be constructed, while in return our Government guaranteed the perfect neutrality of the above-meationed Isthmus with the view that the free transit from the one to the other sea might not be interrupted or embarrassed. The treaty vested in the United States a substantial property right carved out of the rights of sovereignty and property which New Granada has passed away and its certifory has been divided. Its successor, the Government of Colombia, has ceased to own any preperty in the isthmus. A new Republic, that of Panama, which was at one time a more department of the successive confederations known as New Granada and Colombia, has now succeeded to the rights which first one and then the other formerly exercise of that inestimable privilege. The true interpretation of the biligation upon which the United States gatered in this treaty of 1846 has been given repeatedly in the utterances of Presidents and Secretaries of State. Secretary Cass in 1858 of Beilly stated the position of the successive of Ecally stated the p

ncially stated the position of this Government as follows:

"The progress of events has rendered the interoceanic route across the narrow portion of Central America vastly important to the commercial world, and especially to the United States, whose possessions extend along the Admitic and Pacific coasts, and demand the specificat and easiest modes of communication. While the rights of sovercharty of the States occupying this region should always be respected, we shall expect that these rights be exercised in a spirit befitting the occasion and the wants and frecumstances that have arisen. Boverlying the states as well as its rights, and none of these local governments, even if administered with more regard to the just demands of other nations than they have been, would be permitted, in a spirit of Eastern isolation, to close the gates of intercourse on the great highways of the world, and justify the acting the preventions that these avenues of trade and travel belong to them and that they choose to shut them, or, what is almost equivalent, to enumber them with such unjust relations as would prevent their general me."

Forem years later, in 1985, Mr. Reward in different communications took the following position:

Every effort has been made by the Government of the United States to persuade Colombia to follow a course which was a casentially not only to our interests and to the world, but to the interests of Colombia lisself. These efforts have failled; and Colombia, by her persistence in repulsing the advances that have been made, has forced me, for the sake of our own honor, and of the listence that have been made, has forced me, for the sake of our own merely of our own people, but of the people of the istimus of l'anama and the people of the civilized countries of the world, to take decisive steps to brigg to an end a condition of affairs which had become intolerable.

The new Republic of Panama immediately offered to negotiate a treaty with an This treaty I herewith submit. By It our interests are better safeguarded than in the treaty with Colombia which was ratified by the Senate at its last session. It is better in its terms than the treaties offered to me by the Republics of Nicaragem and Costa Rica. At last the right to breat this great undertaking is made available. Panama has done her part. All that remains is for the American Congress to do its part and forthwith this Republic will enter upon the execution of a project colossal in its size and of well-nigh incalculable possibilities for the good of this country and the nations of mankind.

By the provisions of the treaty the United States guarantees and will maintain the independence of the Republic of Panama. There is granted to the United States in perpetuity the use, occumulation, and control of a strip ten miles wide and extending three nautical miles into the sea at either terminal, with all lands lying outside of the canai or for its acalilary works, and with the islands in the Bay of Panama. The cities of Panama and Colom; the works, property, and personnel of the excitation of the canai pass to the United States enjoys within the granted limits all the rights, power, and authority which it would possess were it the sourceign of the canai and property

woman's weight in?" asked the fair

"Sure," replied the scanty-ha-bachelor at the foot of the table. wait is until some fool man pros

A Lest Opportunity. Cohen—I often wish I had me