

mous and rapidly increasing gold supply. Back of the temporary influences affecting values and underlying all the operations of commerce this basic fact of gold supply, concealed among the multitude of business transactions; had passed unnoticed. It has required the accumulated evidence of three years to convince the business public that they have entered a period of expansion and inflation similar to that which followed the original gold discoveries in California. In 1902 the world's gold production was \$296,000,000. In another year it had risen to \$325,000,000. The output of 1904 has been estimated at \$350,000,000, and some responsible investigators expect that the production of 1905 will reach, if it does not pass, the \$400,000,000 mark. When it is remembered that twenty years ago the world's gold production was less than one-third its present amount, the importance of the resulting addition to the money can hardly be overestimated.

"The consequences of the increased production of gold can easily be foreseen. First and most important is a continuation of the advance in prices. The output of the gold mines is increasing more rapidly than the production of iron, coal, and wheat, and the value of gold in terms of these commodities, must decline, i. e., gold prices must continue in advance. Accompanying and stimulated by the rise of prices, the volume of business in every department of trade and production must increase, as it has been growing for the past seven years. The stock market follows the market for commodities, and reflects the state of trade. Higher prices for securities and a higher level of dividends are, therefore, justified by the outlook for earnings.

"Most significant of all these factors contributing to prosperity is the reduction of fixed charges by the advance of prices. The maintenance of the price level for iron and steel products for five years longer, for example, will transform the United States Steel corporation from a highly speculative enterprise into a corporation whose dividends are well assured by earnings. As for the railroads which share in the prosperity of every industry, if they are permitted to advance their rates sufficiently to compensate for the increase in their operating expenses, there is no reason to doubt that they will be confirmed in the position of the safest and most continuously profitable of business enterprises.

"Predictions of continuous prosperity are dangerous unless based upon ascertained facts. The connection between the gold supply and the general improvement in business conditions is, however, so plain and intimate, and the prospect for a continued increase in gold production is so certain, that optimistic views of the business conditions for the next decade find ample warrant and abundant justification."

/// **"WHY NOT KEEP BRISTOW?"**

The Kansas City Star says: "The retirement of Joseph L. Bristow to private life ends an official career as brilliant as it has been honorable. The fourth assistant postmaster general might have been content to remain a mere dispenser of patronage and manager of routine work. Had he been so disposed he could have served out his time in peace and without distinction. Bristow is not that sort of a man. His honesty is of that aggressive type which is so sorely needed in politics. So President McKinley, with that keen judgment of men which so often characterized his important appointments, selected him to investigate the postal frauds in Cuba. His success in this important work led to his assignment by President Roosevelt to uncover dishonesty in the post-office department at Washington. His successful efforts in this work, which he carried on in utter fearlessness of political influence, are familiar to all newspaper readers. Then followed his recent investigation of transportation conditions at Panama, which resulted in ending the Pacific mail monopoly—another triumph of efficiency and justice over 'pull.' As has been said, Mr. Bristow might have remained comfortably quiescent in his department. His refusal to do so has made his eight years' service of remarkable value to the nation and a source of pride to the state of his adoption."

Why should such a man be permitted to retire from the public service? Many of Mr. Roosevelt's friends claim that he has found it difficult to obtain for the public service men upon whose ability and fidelity he could depend. Is it not strange, then, that the president permits so capable and faithful a man as Joseph L. Bristow to retire?

PEACE

For his efforts in bringing about the peace agreement at Portsmouth, President Roosevelt has received many congratulations. The following are samples:

From the King of England: Marienbad, Aug. 29. The President:—Let me be one of the first to congratulate you on the successful issue of the peace conference, to which you have so greatly contributed. EDWARD, R. I.

From the German Emperor: Neues Palais, Aug. 29. President Theodore Roosevelt:—Just received cable from America announcing agreement of peace conference on preliminaries of peace. I'm overjoyed; express most sincere congratulations at the great success due to your untiring efforts. The whole of mankind must unite and will do so in thanking you for the great boon you have given it. WILLIAM, I. R.

From the President of France: La Begude, Presidance, Aug. 30.—President Roosevelt:—Your excellency has just rendered to humanity an eminent service, for which I felicitate you heartily. The French republic rejoices in the role that her sister America has played in this historic event. EMILE LOUBET.

From the British ambassador: Lenox, Mass., Aug. 29. Secretary to the President:—Please submit to the president my most cordial congratulations upon the success of his efforts to bring about peace. DURAND.

From the French ambassador: London, Aug. 30. President Roosevelt:—Heartiest, warmest congratulations. JESSURAND.

From the Chinese minister: Amherst, Mass., Aug. 29. The President:—I beg to offer my hearty congratulations for the successful conclusion of peace, for which the whole world, especially the Orient, is ever indebted to you. CHENTUNG LIANG CHENG.

From the Italian ambassador: Washington, Aug. 29. President Roosevelt:—I beg to offer you, Mr. President, on behalf of the Italian government and of myself, as representative of my august sovereign, heartfelt congratulations for your great success in re-establishing peace. Italy, who since her constitution has endeavored to be an element and factor of harmony among nations, will greatly admire and praise the work you brought on so advantageously for the benefit of humanity. MAYOR DES PLANCHES.

From General Booth of the Salvation Army:—Beg your excellency to accept my heartfelt congratulations on the successful issue of your able and persistent efforts in behalf of peace. The whole world, civilized and uncivilized, is indebted to you."

The International Congress of Reformed Religions in session at Geneva, sent the following:—"Assembled in solemn congress at Geneva, we congratulate you on the great part you have taken in the conclusion of peace. We all implore God's blessing for you and the United States."

The pope when informed of the conclusion of peace said "This is the happiest news of my life. Thank God for President Roosevelt's courage."

From all over America and from all sections of the world, came telegrams of congratulations, among them the following: Skibo Castle, Clashmore, Scotland, Aug. 30.—President: Skibo guests thankfully congratulate you and the three continents upon the conclusion of honorable and, we hope, lasting peace between two great empires. May this war be the last between civilized peoples.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.
JOHN MORLEY.
NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER.
CHARLES DABNEY.
RICHARD HARLAN.
GENERAL GRANT WILSON.
ANDREW CARNEGIE, and others.

Note the contrast between the rejoicings over peace and the part Mr. Roosevelt played in the Portsmouth conference, and the silence which followed the barbarous doctrine set forth in his message to congress.

WAR

"If the great civilized nations of the present day should completely disarm, the result would mean an immediate recrudescence of barbarism in one form or another."—From President Roosevelt's message to Congress, December, 1904.

NO CONGRATULATIONS

EXPLOITATION.

A plan has been devised for exploiting the public. A man will buy a controlling interest in a bank and then use the deposits for his own schemes. As the deposits are usually several times the capital, the plan is a profitable one—until the bank breaks and then the depositors bear the burden. Some stringent banking legislation is needed for the protection of depositors.

DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE

President Roosevelt endorses the democratic doctrine of railroad rate legislation; Governor LaFollette endorses rate legislation and also the democratic doctrine of primary elections; Governor Cummins endorses the democratic doctrine of tariff revision; Editor Rosewater endorses the democratic doctrine of election of senators by popular vote—next?