

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
(Continued from Page 7)

The president recommends an income tax and an inheritance tax although he says he speaks "diffidently" about the income tax because one scheme for that tax was declared unconstitutional by the supreme court; also that it is a difficult tax to administer. He thinks, however, that "a graduated income tax of the proper type would be a desirable feature of federal taxation and it is to be hoped that one may be devised which the supreme court will declare constitutional." He says that the inheritance tax is "both a far better method of taxation and far more important for the purpose of having the fortunes of the country bear in proportion to their increasing

size a corresponding increase and burden of taxation."

He compliments the department of justice under his administration for its enforcement of law. He says that the law has been enforced equally and against all sorts of men. He says that it is extremely difficult to get at the real wrongdoer in corporate evils by imprisonment and he adds: "Yet it is from every standpoint far preferable to punish the prime offender by imprisonment rather than to fine the corporation with the attendant damage to stockholders."

The president expresses the opinion that while "much of the attack on the use of the process of injunction is wholly without warrant" "for some of it there is warrant." He

says that this question is becoming more and more important and he suggests that some plan be devised which will limit the abuse of injunction and protect those rights "which from time to time it unwarrantably invades."

He suggests a federal inspection of interstate railroads somewhat along the line of federal inspection of steamboats in the hope of minimizing the danger from accident. To this end he intimates that an office might be created, the business of whose occupant would be to investigate all railroad accidents.

Concerning employers' liability he recommends that congress adopt legislation providing limited but definite compensation for accidents to all workmen within the scope of the federal power, including employes of navy yards and arsenals. In other words he recommends "a model employer's liability act, far reaching and throughgoing." The same to apply to all positions, public and private, over which the federal government has jurisdiction.

He recommends the extension of the eight hour day to all work carried on by the government.

He recommends the "compulsory investigation of industrial disputes" saying that there should be "compulsory investigation of such industrial controversies as are of sufficient magnitude and of sufficient concern to the people of the country as a whole to warrant the federal government in taking action."

He devotes considerable space to the discussion of "capital and labor" and recommends measures relating to the employment of women and children in the District of Columbia and the territories.

Considerable space is devoted to a description of the usefulness of the department of agriculture as well as the department of commerce and labor.

He recommends the development of our great river system and says that the national government should undertake this work, beginning it at once.

He suggests further extension of the work of reclaiming the arid lands through the system of irrigation.

One chapter of the message relates to the public lands and emphasis is laid upon the government's policy to destroy the land monopoly in the grazing districts of the west. He emphasizes the importance of protecting the small ranchman.

Emphasis is laid upon the importance of protecting our forests. In connection with the chapter on forestry the president fulfills his promise made to the newspaper publishers concerning the removal of tariff from the product in which they are most interested. On this point he says: "There should be no tariff on any forest product grown in this country; and, in especial, there should be no tariff on wood pulp; due notice of the change being of course given to those engaged in the business so as to enable them to adjust themselves to the new conditions. The repeal of the duty on wood pulp should if possible be accompanied by an agreement with Canada that there shall be no export duty on Canadian pulp wood."

He renews the suggestion that the government should maintain control and ownership over the coal, oil and gas fields in its possession, the government to lease the rights to develop these lands under proper regulation.

He says that work on the Panama canal is progressing at a satisfactory rate.

Concerning postal savings banks the president said: "I commend to the favorable consideration of the congress a postal savings bank sys-

tem, as recommended by the postmaster general. The primary object is to encourage among our people economy and thrift and by the use of postal savings banks to give them an opportunity to husband their resources, particularly those who have not the facilities at hand for depositing their money in savings banks. Viewed, however, from the experience of the past few weeks, it is evident that the advantages of such an institution are still more far-reaching. Timid depositors have withdrawn their savings for the time being from national banks, trust companies, and savings banks; individuals have hoarded their cash and the workmen their earnings; all of which money has been withheld and kept in hiding or in the safe deposit box to the detriment of prosperity. Through the agency of the postal savings banks such money would be restored to the channels of trade, to the mutual benefit of capital and labor."

He recommends the extension of

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