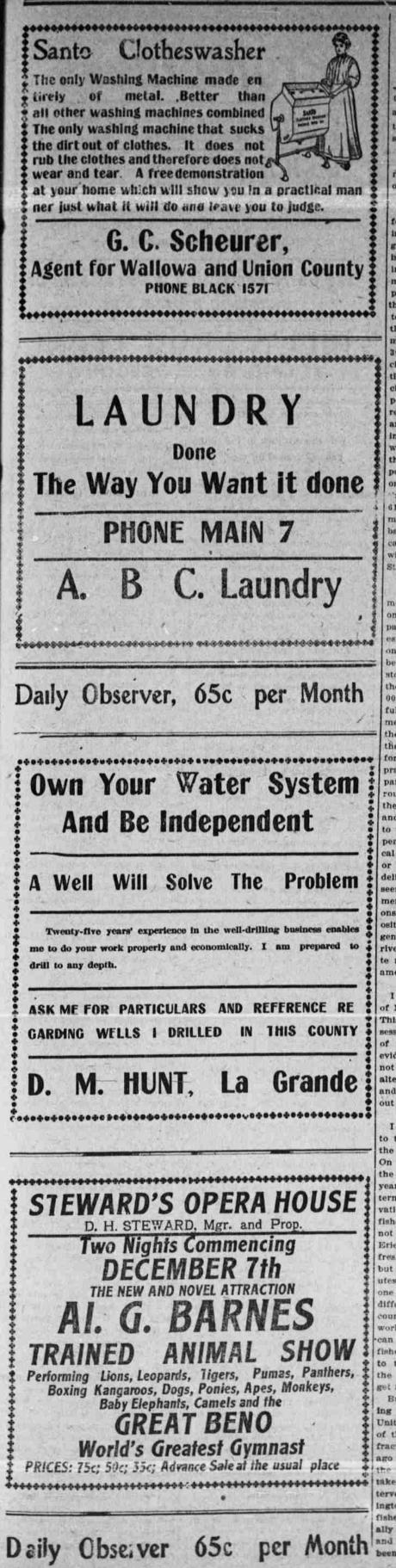
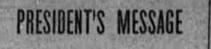
EIGHT PAGES.





(Continued from page 6.)

tured alcohol, as intended, is making a fair degree of progress and is entitled to further encouragement and support from the congress. Pure Food.

The pure food legislation has already worked a benefit difficult to overestimate.

Postal Savings Bank.

I again renew my recommendation the river. The fisheries of the Missisfor postal savings banks, for depositing savings with the security of the government behind them. The object is to encourage thrift and economy in the wage-earner and person of moderate means. In 14 states the deposits in savings banks as reported to the comptroller of the currency amount to \$3,590,245,402, or 98.4 per cent of the entire deposits, while in the remaining 32 states there are only \$70,-308,543, or 1.6 per cent, showing conclusively that there are many localities in the United States where sufficlent opportunity is not given to the peope to deposit their savings. The result is that money is kept in hiding and unemployed. It is believed that in the aggregate vast sums of money woud be brought into circulation

through the instrumentality of the postal savings banks. While there are only 1453 savings banks' reporting to te comptroller there are more than \$1,000 postoffices, 40,000 of which are money order offices. Postal savings banks are now in operation in practically all the great civilized countries with the exception of the Uniced. States.

Parcel Post.

In my last annual message I com mended the postmaster general's rec ommendation for an extension of the parcel post on the rural routes. The stablishment of a local parcel pos on rural routes would be to the mutual benefit of the farmer and the country storekeeper, and it is desirable that the routes, serving more than 15,000.-000 people, should be utilized to the fullest practical extent. An amendment was proposed in the senate at the last session, at the suggestion of the postmaster general, providing that, for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability of establishing a special parcel post system on the rural routes throughout the United States. the postmaster general be authorized and directed to experiment and report to the congress the result of such experiment by establishing a special local parcel post system on a rural route or at the distributing postoffice for delivery by rural carriers. It would seem only proper that such an experiment should be tried in order to dem onstrate the practicability of the proposition, especially as the postmaster general estimates that the revenue de-

any kind adequate in degree for the second protection of the fisheries. At the moment the fishing on the Oregon side is practically closed, while there is no limit on the Washington side of any kind, and no one can tell what the courts will decide as to the very statutes-under which this action and non-action result. Meanwhile very few salmon reach the spawning grounds, and probably four years hence the fisheries will amount to nothing; and this comes from a struggle between the associated, or gillnet, fishermen on the one hand, and the owners of the lishing wheels up sippl, the Ohio, and the Potomac are also in a bad way. For this there is no remedy except for the United States to control and legislate for the inter state fisheries as part of the busines of interstate commerce. In this case

the machinery for scientific investigation and for control already exists in the United States bureau of fisheries. In this as in similar problems the obvious and simple rule should be followed of having those matters which no particular state can manage taken in hand by the United States; problems, which in the seesaw of conflicting state legislatures are absolutely unsolvable, are easy enough for the the past and cure that first neglected trusts no one. congress to control.

Panama Canal.

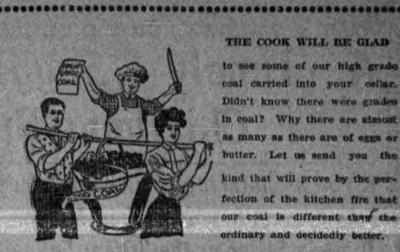
The work on the Panama canal la being done with a speed, efficiency and entire devotion to duty, which make it a model for all work of the kind. No task of such magnitude has ever before been undertaken by any nation; and no task of the kind ha ever been better performed. Th men on the isthmus, from Colone Goethals and his fellow commissioners through the entire list of employwho are faithfully doing their duty.

ing respect and gratitude of the American people. The Navy.

have won their right to the ungrudg-

I approve the recommendations of the general board for the increase of the navy, calling especial attention to the need of additional destroyers and colliers, and above all, of the four batteships. It is desirable to complete as soon as possible a squadron of eight battleships of the best existing typo. The North Dakota, Delaware, Florida and Utah will form the first division of this squadron. The four vessels proposed will form the second division. It will be an improvement on the first the ships being of the heavy, single caliber, all big gun type. All the vessels should have the same tactical qualities, that is, speed and turning circle, and as near as possible these tactical qualities should be the same as is in the four vessels before named now being built.

I most earnestly recommend that the general board be by law turned into a general staff. There is literally no excuse whatever for continuing the nt bureau organization of th navy. The navy should be treated as a purely military organization, and everything should be subordinated to the one object of securing military efficiency. Such military efficiency can only be guaranteed in time of war if there is the most thorough previous preparation in time of peace-a preparation, I may add, whch will in all probability prevent any need of war. The secretary must be supreme, and he should have as his official advisers a body of line officers who should themselves have the power to pass upon and co-ordinate all the work and all the proposals of the several bureaus. A system of promotion by merit, either by selection or by exclusion, or by both processes, should be introduced. It is out of the question if the present principle of pro motion by mere seniority is kept to expect to get the best results from the higher officers. Our men come too old, and stay for too short a time in the high command positions. Two hospital ships should be provided. The actual experience of the hospital ship with the fleet in the Pacific has shown the invaluable work which such ships do, and has also proved that it is well to have it kept under the command of a medical officer. As was to be expected, all of the anticipations of trouble from such a command have proved completely baseless. It is as absurd to put a hospital ship under a line officer as it would be to put a hospital on shore under such a command. This ought to have been realized before, and there is no excuse for fallure to realize it now. Nothing better every standpoint has ever occurred than the cruise of the battle. fleet around the world. The improvement of the ships in every way has been exfishermen of each state have natur- traordinary, and they have gained far more experience in battle tactics than



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rived from the operation of such a sys te mon all the rural routes would amount to many million dollars. Statchood.

I advocate the immediate admission of New Mexico and Arizona as states. This should be done at the present session of the congress. The people of the two territories have made it evident by their votes that they will not come in as one state. The only alternative is to admit them as two. and I trust that this will be done without delay.

Interstate Fisheries

I call the attention of the congress to the importance of the problem of the fisheries in the interstate waters On the Great Lakes we are now, under the wise treaty of April 11 of this year, endeavoring to come to an international agreement for the preser vation and satisfactory use of the fisheries of these waters which can not otherwise be achieved. Lake Erie, for example, has the richest fresh water fisherles in the world; but it is now controlled by the statutes of two nations, four states and one province, and in this province by different ordinances in differen counties. All these political divisions work at cross purposes, and in no case can they achieve protection to the fisheries, on the one hand, and justice to the localities and individuals on the other. The case is similar in Puget Sound.

But the problem is quite as pressing in the interstate waters of the United States. The salmon fisheries of the Columbia river are now but a fraction of what they were 25 years ago and what they woud be now if taken compete charge of them by intervening between Oregon and Washington. During these 25 years the ally tried to take all they could get. and the two legislature have never been able to agree on joint action of

(Continued on page 8.)



E. FCLACK, Prop

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