# Wants Currency Changes.

No nation has greater resources than ours, and I think it can be truthfully said that the citizens of no nation possess greater enthe citizens of no nation possess greater en-ergy and industrial ability. In no nation are the fundamental business conditions sounder than in ours at this very moment; and it is foolish, when such is the case, for people to hoard money instead of keeping that is the immediate occasion of money stringency Moreover, as a rule, the business of our people is conducted with honesty and probity, and this applies alike to farms and factories, to railroads and banks, to all our legitimate commercial enterprises.

In the effort to punish the guilty it is both wise and proper to endeavor so far as possible to minimize the distress of those who have been misled by the guilty. Yet it is not possible to refrain because of such distress from striving to put an end to the distress from striving to put an end to the misdeeds that are the ultimate causes of the suffering, and, as a means to this end, where ag, and, as a means to this end, where a to punish those responsible for There may be honest differences of possible them opinion as to many be honest differences of opinion as to many Governmental policies; but surely there can be no such differences as to the need of unflinching perseverance in the war against successful dishonesty.

# INTERSTATE COMMERCE.

No small part of the trouble that have comes from carrying to an extrem-the National virtue of self-reliance, of inde pendence in initiative and action. It i wise to conserve this virtue and to provid for its fullest exercise, compatible with see ing that liberty does not become a liberty to wrong others. Unfortunately, this is the kind of liberty that the lack of all effective of the Constitution provided that the Na-tional Government should have complete and sole control of interstate commerce. There was then practically no interstate business save such as was conducted by water, and this the National Government at once proceeded to regulate in thoroughgoing and effective fashion. Conditions have now so wholly changed that the interstate comunerce by water is insignificant compared with the amount that goes by land, and al-most all big business concerns are now engaged in interstate commerce. As a result it can be but partially and imperfectly controlled or regulated by the action of any one of the several states; such action in-evitably tending to be either too drastic or else too lax, and in either case ineffective for purposes of justice. Only the National Government can in thoroughgoing fashion exercise the needed control. This does not mean that there should be any extension of Federal authority, for such authority al-ready exists under the Constitution in amplest and most far-reaching form; but It does mean that there should be an exten-tion of Federal activity. This is not al., yocating centralization. It is merely look-ing facts in the face, and realizing that ing facts in the face, and realizing that centralization in business has already come and cannot be avoided or undone, and that the public at large can only protect itself from certain evil effects of this business centralization by providing better methods for the exercise of control through the authority already centralized in the National Comment is the Constitution inset. Government by the Constitution itself.

# PURE FOOD LAW.

Incidentally, in the passage of the pure-food law the action of the various state food and dairy commissioners showed in striking fashion how much good for the whole people results from the hearty co-

that no man stands above the law, that no corporation is so wealthy that it cannot be held to account. The Department of Justice has been as prompt to proceed against the wealthiest malefactor whose crime was one of greed and cunning as to proceed against the agitator who incites to brutal violence. Everything that can be done under the existing law, and with the existing state of public opinion, which so profoundly influences bots, the courts and juries, has been done. But the laws them-selves need strengthening in more than one Juries, has been done. But the laws them selves need strengthening in more than one important point; they should be made more definite, s; that no honest man can be ied unwittingly to break them, and so that the real wrongdoer can be readily punished.

# INJUNCTIONS.

Instances of abuse in the granting of in-junctions in labor disputes continue to oc-cur, and the resentment in the minds of those who feel that their rights are being invaded and their liberty of action and of invaded and their liberty of action and of speech unwarrantably restrained continues likewise to grow. Much of the attack on the use of the process of injunction is wholly without warrant; but I am constrained to express the belief that for some of it there is warrant. This question is becoming more and more one of prime importance. more and more one of prime importance, and unless the courts will themselves deal with it in effective manner, it is certain ultimately to demand some form of legis-lative action. It would be most unfortun-ate for our social welfare if we should permit many honest and law-abiding citi-zens to feel that they had just cause for regarding our courts with hostility. I earnestly commend to the attention of the Congress this matter, so that some way

Congress this matter, so that some way may be devised which will limit the abuse of injunctions and protect those rights which from time to time it unwarrantably invades. Moreover, discontent is often expressed with the use of the process of injunction by the courts, not only in labor disputes, but where state laws are concerned. I refrain from discussion of this question as I am informed that it will soon receive the consideration of the Supreme Court.

# QUESTIONS AFFECTING LABOR.

QUESTIONS AFFECTING LABOR. The National Government should be a model employer. It should demand the imployers and it should care for all of them properly in return. Congress should adopt legislation providing limited but den-nite compensation for accidents to all work-men within the scope of the Federal power, including employees of navy-yards and arsenals. In other words, a model em-ployers' liability act, far-reaching and theroughgoing, should be enacted which private, over which the National Govern-ment has jurisdiction. The number of acci-dents to wage-workers, including those that are to wage worker and his family to the factoring, and transportation operations of the day. It works grim hardship to the other days in the other hand, there the effect of such an accident fall solely upon him: and, on the other hand, there whole classes of attorneys who exist only by inciting men who may or may not have been whole domanded to undertake suits for any by inciting men who may or may not any by inciting men who may or may not are been whole classes of attorneys who exist only by inciting men who may or may not have been the should consider the extension of the eight-hour law. The constitutionality

of the eight-hour law. The constitutionality of the present law has recently been called into question, and the Supreme Court has decided that the existing legislation is undecided that the existing registration is un-questionably within the powers of the Con-gress. The principle of the eight-hour day should as rapidly and as far as practicable be extended to the entire work carried on by the Government; and the present law should be amended to embrace contracts on those public works which the present word-

the crowded heid of the so-called profes-elons, and takes to constructive industry in-stend, is reasonably sure of an ample re-ward in earnings, in health, in opportunity to marry early, and to establish a home with a fair amount of freedom/from worry. It should be one of our prime objects to put both the farmer and the mechanic on a

should be one of our prime objects to put both the farmer and the mechanic on a higher plane of efficiency and reward, so na to increase their effectiveness in the eco-nomic world, and therefore the dignity. the remuneration, and the power of their positions in the social world. The grain-producing industry of the country one of the most important in the

country, one of the most important in the United States, deserves special consider-ation at the liands of the Congress. Our grain is sold almost exclusively by grades. To secure satisfactory results in our home markets and to facilitate our trade abroad.

markets and to inclutine our trade abroad, these grades should approximate the high-est degree of uniformity and certainty. The present diverse methods of inspection and grading throughout the country under dif-ferent laws and boards, result in confu-sion and lack of uniformity, destripying that confidence which is necessary for health-ful trade. Complaints against the present methods have continued for years and they methods have continued for years and are growing in volume and intensity, n only in this country but abroad. I then fore suggest to the Congress the advis ability of a National system of inspection and grading of grain entering into interstate and foreign commerce as a remedy for the present evils. RECLAMATION WORK.

Irrigation should be far more extensively developed than at present, not only in the states of the great plains and the Rocky Mountains, but in many others, as, for in-stance, in large portions of the South At-lantic and Gulf States, where it should go hand in hand with the reclamation of swamp land. The Federal Government should seriously devote itself to this task, realizing that utilization of waterways and waterpower, forestry, irrigation and the re-clamation of lands threatened with overflow, are all interdependent parts of the same problem. The work of the Reclamation Service in developing the larger opportuni-ties of the western half of our country for irrigation is more important than almost any other movement. The constant purpose of the Government in connection with the Mountains, but in many others, as, for any other movement. The constant purpose of the Government in connection with the Reclamation Service has been to use the water resources of the public lands for the ultimate greatest good of the greatest num-ber; in other words, to put upon the land permanent home-makers, to use and de-velop it for themselves and for their chil-dren and children's children. There has been, of course, opposition to this work; opposition from some interested men who desire to exhaust the land for their own immediate profit without regard to the welimmediate profit without regard to the wel-fare of the next generation, and opposition from honest and well-meaning men who did from honest and well-meaning men who did not fully understand the subject or who did not look far enough abead. This opposition is, I think, dying away, and our people are understanding that it would be utterly wrong to allow a few individuals to ex-haust for their own temporary personal profit the resources which ought to be de-veloped through use so as to be conserved for the permanent common advantage of the people as a whole. people as a whole

## PUBLIC LANDS.

**PUBLIC LANDS.** The effort of the Government to deal with the public land has been based upon the same principle as that of the Reclamation Service. The land law system which was designed to meet the needs of the fertile and well-watered regions of the Middle West has largely broken down when ap-plied to the dryer regions of the great plains, the mountains and much of the Pacific Slope, where a farm of 160 acres is Pacific Slope, where a farm of 160 acres is

cisely like that of an agitator protesting against the outlay of money by farmers ou manure and in taking care of their farms generally.

# MINERAL LANDS.

In the eastern United States the mineral fuels have already passed into the hands of fuels have aiready passed into the hands of large private owners, and those of the west are rapidly following. It is obvious that these fuels should be conserved and not wasted, and it would be well to protect the people against unjust and extortionate prices, so far as that can still be done. What has been accomplished in the great oil fields of the Indian Territory by the action of the Administration, offers a striking example of the good results of such a policy. In my judgment the Government should have the right to keep the fee of the coal, oil and gas fields in its own possession and to lease the rights to develop them under proper regula-tions; or else, if the Congress will not adopt this method, the coal deposits should be sold under limitations, to conserve them as public utilities, the right to mine coal being sold under limitations, to conserve them as public utilities, the right to mine coal being separated from the tile to the soil. The regulations should permit coal lands to be worked in sufficient quantity by the several corporations. The present limitations have been absurd, excessive and serve no useful purpose, and often render it necessary that there should be either fraud or else aban-donment of the work of getting out the coal. coal.

# THE PANAMA CANAL.

THE PANAMA CANAL. Work on the Panama Canal is proceeding in a highly satisfactory manner. In March last, John F. Stevens, chairman of the Commission, and chief engineer, resigned, and the Commission was reorganized and constituted as follows: Lieutenant-Colonel George W. Goethals. Corps of Engineers, United States Army, chairman and chief engineer; Major D. D. Gaillard, Corps of Engineers, United States Army; Major Wit-liam L. Stbert, Corps of Engineers, United States Army; Civil Engineers, United States Army, and Jackson Smith, Commissioners, This change of authority and direction went into effect on April 1, without causing a per-ceptible check in the progress of the work. <u>POSTAL AFFAIRS.</u>

This change of authority and offection weithing a per-inte effect on April 1, without causing a per-ceptible check in the progress of the work. **POSTAL AFFAIRS.** I commend to the favorable consideration of the Congress a postal savings bank sy-tem, as recommended by the Postmater-(General. The primary object is to encourage among our peeple economy and thrift, and op-mark the Army more attractive to emlisted men, it is absolutely essential to create a service corps, such as exists in nearly every modern army in the work (it is to do the skilled it is at hand for deporting their money in avines banks. Viewed, however, from the experience of the past few weeks, it is evi-dent that the advantages of such an insti-tition are still more far-reaching. Timin depositors have withdrawn their savings for the time being from National banks, trust companies and savings banks, to the more instead their earnings; all of which money has been withheld and kept in hiding or in the savines banks uch money would be re-stored to the channels of trade, to the mu-tual benefit of capital and labor. I further commend to the Congress the con-mendation for the extension of the posting nearly post, especially on the trust fourtes. There is report to the channels of cities in ob-taining their supplies. These recommendations post, especially on the trust routes, arrying nearly is condo policy for our Government to do vantages of the inhabitants of cities in ob-taining their supplies. These recommendations have been drawn up to benefit the farmer is bould not favor them, for I believe that is restored nearly shockeeper: otherwise, should not favor them, for I believe that is to contry merchant should not be crushed out. **NELAHOMA.** Oklahoma has become a state, standing of the country merchant should not be crushed out.

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billty; while an improper economy, or rather niggardliness, can be practiced at the expense of the Army with the certainty that those practicing it will not be called to account therefor, but that the price will be paid by the unfortunate persons who happen to be in office when a war does actually come. The Medical Corps should be much larger than the needs of our regular Army in war. Yet at present it is smaller than the needs of the service demand even in peace. The Spanish War occurred less than ten years ago. The chief loss we suffered in it was by disease among the regiments which never the country. At the moment the Nation seemed deeply impressed by this fact; yet seemingly it has already been forgotten, for not the slightest effort has been made to prepare a medical corps of sufficient size to prevent the repetition of the same disaster on a much larger scale if we should ever be engaged in a serious conflict. The beatment; it was with the representatives of the people as a whole who, for the preventing officials of the War Department; it was with the representatives and the responsibility will not lie with those then in charge of the War Department, but with those who now decline to make the nucles who now decline to make the nucles who has decline to make the nucles who has decline to make the nucles who now decline to make the nucles who now decline to make the nucles. The Medical Department is not the set the set of the Mar Department.

with those who now decime increasary provision. But the Medical Department is not the But the Medical Department is not the with those who now decline to make the necessary provision. But the Medical Department is not the only department for which increased pro-vision should be made. The rate of pay foy the officers should be greatly increased; there is no higher type of citizen than the American regular officer, and he should have a fair reward for his admirable work. There should be a relatively even greater increase in the pay for the enlisted men. An especial provision should be made for estab-lishing grades equivalent to those of war-rant officers in the Navy which should be open to the enlisted men who serve suf-ficiently long and who do their work well. Inducements should be offered sufficient to encourage really good men to make the Army a life occupation. The prime needs of our present Army is to secure and retain competent noncommissioned officers. This difficulty rests fundamentally on the ques-tion of pay. Perhaps the most important of all legis-lation needed for the benefit of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Revenue-Cutter service. Such a bill has been prepared, which it is hoped will meet with your favorable consideration. The next most essential measure is to authorize a number of extra officers as mentaioned above. To make the Army more attractive to emilisted men, it is absolutely essential to create a service corps, such as exists in hearly every modern army in the world, te' do the skilled and unskilled labor, inseparably connected with military administration, which is now exacted, without just compensation, of en-listed men who voluntarily entered the

It is evident, therefore that it is folly for this Nation to base any hope of securing peace on any international agreement as to the limitation of armaments. Such being the fact it would be most unwise for us to stop the upbuilding of our Navy. To build one battleship of the best and most advanced type a year would barely keep our fleet up to its present force. This is not enough. In my judgment, we should this year provide for four battleships. But it is idle to build battleships unless in addition to providing the men, and the means for thorough training, we provide the auxiliaries for them, unless we pro-vide docks, the coaling stations, the colliers and supply ships that they need. We are extremely deficient in coaling stations and docks on the Pacific, and this deficiency should not longer be permitted to exist. Plenty of torpedo boats and destroyers should be built. Both on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts fortifications of the best type should be provided for all our greatest har-bors. should be provided for all our greatest harbors. Until our battle fleet is much larger than Until our battle fleet is much larger than at present it should never be split into de-tachments so far apart that they could not in event of emergency be speedily united. Our coast line is on the Pa-cific just as much as on the Atlan-tic The interests of California, Oregon and Washington are as emphatically the in-terests of the whole Union as those of Maine and New York, of Louisiana and Texas. The battle fleet should now and then be moved to the Pacific, just as at other times it should be kept in the Atlantic. When the lathmian Canal is built the transit of the battle fleet from one ocean to the other will be comparatively easy. Until it is built, 1 be comparatively easy. Until it is built, I earnestly hope that the battle fleet will be thus shifted between the two oceans every year or two. The marksmanship on all our ships has improved phenomenally during the last five years. ships has improved phenomenally during the last five years. Until within the last two or three years it was not possible to train a battle fleet in squadron maneuvers under service conditions, and it is only during these last two or three years that the training under these conditions has really become effective Another and most necessary stride in advance is now being taken. The battle fleet is about starting by the Straits of Magelian to visit the Pacific Coast. Sixteen battleships are going under the command of Rear-Admiral Evans, while eight armored cruisers and two other battle-ships will meet him at San Francisco, whither certain torpedo destroyers are also going. No fleet of such size has ever made such a voyage, and it will be of very great educational use to all engaged in it. The only way by which to teach officers and men how to handle the fleet so as to meet every possible strain and emergency in time of war is to have them practice under similar con-ditions in time of peace. Moreover, the only way to find out our actual needs is to per-might be necessary in time of war. After war is declared it is too late to find out the needs; that means to invite disaster. This trip to the Pacific will show what some of our needs are and will enable us to provide for them. The proper place for an officer to learn his duty is at sea, and the only way is which a navy can ever be made efficient which a navy can ever be made efficient whe done, at least let a beginning be made. In my last three annual messages, and in If all that ought to be done cannot now be done, at least let a beginning be made. In my last three annual messages, and in a special message to the last Congress, the necessity for legislation that will cause of-ficers of the line of the Navy to reach the grades of captain and rear-admiral at less advanced ages and which will cause them to have more sea training and expressions. advanced ages and which will cause them to have more sea training and experience in the highly responsible duties of those grades, so that they may become thoroughly skillful in handling battleships, divisions, squadrons and fleets in action, has been fully explained and urgently recommended. Upon this subject the Secretary of the Navy has submitted detailed and definite recom-mendations which have received my ap-proval, and which, if enacted into law, will accomplish what is immediately neces-sary and will, as compared with existing law, make a saving of more than \$5,000,000 during the next seven years. during the next seven years.

whole people results from the hearty co-operation of the Federal and state officials in securing a given reform. It is primarily to the action of these state commissioners that we owe the enactment of this law; for they aroused the people, first to demand the enactment and enforcement of state laws on the subject, and then the enact-ment of the Federal law, without which the state laws were largely ineffective. There must be the closest co-operation be-tween the National and state governments in administering these laws.

# CURRENCY.

In my message to Congress a year ago I spoke as follows on the currency: I especially call your attention to the con-dition of our currency laws. The National bank act has ably served a great purpose in bank act has ably served a great purpose in alding the enormous business development of the country, and within ten years there has been an increase in circulation per cap-ita from \$21.41 to \$33.08. For several years evidence has been accumulating that addi-tional legislation is needed. The recurrence of each crop season emphasizes the defects of the presont laws. There must soon be a revision of them, because to leave them as they are means to incur flability of business disaster. Since your body adjourned there disaster. Since your body adjourned there has been a fluctuation in the interest on cal disaster. money from 2 per cent to 30 per cent, an the fluctuation was even greater during th preceding six months. The Secretary of th Treasury had to step in and by wise actio put a stop to the most violent period of os ciliation. Even worse than such fluctuatio is the advance in commercial rates and th ciliation. Even worse than such fluctuation is the advance in commercial rates and the uncertainty felt in the suffiency of credit even at high rates. All commercial interests suffer during each crop period. Excessive rates for call money in New York attract money from the interior banks into the spec-ulative field. This depletes the fund that would otherwise be available for commercial uses. and commercial borrowers are forced uses, and commercial borrowers are forced to pay abnormal rates, so that each Fall a tax, in the shape of increased interest charges, is placed on the whole commerce of the country.

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Need for Immediate Action. I again urge on the Congress the need of Immediate attention to this matter. We need a greater elasticity in our currency provided, of course, that we recognize the even greater need of a safe and secure currency. There must always be the most rigid examination by the National author-ities. Provision should be made for an emergency currency. The emergency issue should, of course, be made with an effective guaranty, and upon conditions carefully pre-scribed by the Government. Such emergency issue must be based on adequate securitie approved by the Government and must be issued under a heavy tax. This would per-mit currency being issued when the demand for it was urgent, while securing its retire-ment as the demand fell off. It is worth while investigating to determine whether officers and directors of National banks should ever be allowed to loan to themselves Trust companies should be subject to the same supervision as banks; legislation to this effect should be enacted for the Dis-trict of Columbia and the Territories.

## THE TARIFF.

This country is definitely committed . This country is dennitely committed to the protective system and any effort to uproot it could not but cause widespread in-dustrial disaster. In other words, the prin-ciple of the present tariff law could not with wisdom be changed. But in a country of such phenomenal growth as ours it is prob-ably well that every dozen years or so the tariff laws should be carefily scrutinized so as to see that no excessive or improper benefits are conferred thereby, that proper revenue is provided and that our foreign trade is encouraged. There must always be as a minimum a tariff which will not only allow for the collection of an ample revenue but which will at least make good the difbut which will at least make good the dif-ference in cost of production here and abroad; that is, the difference in the labor and cost here and abroad, for the well-being of the wage-worker must ever be a cardinal point of American policy. The question should be approached purely from a busi-

the goal toward ight-hour day should be which we should steadily tend, and the Government should set the example in this respect.

### Compulsory Investigation of Industrial Disputes.

Disputes, Strikes and lockouts, with their attendant loss and suffering continue to increase. For the five years ending December 31, 1905, the number of strikes was greater than those n any previous ten years and was double the number in the preceding five years. These figures indicate the increasing need of providing some machinery to deal with his class of disturbances in the interest alike of the employer, the employe and the general public. I renew my previous recom-mendation that the Congress favorably con-sider the matter of creating the machinery for compulsory investigation of such in-dustrial 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. **Capital and Labor**. It is certain that for some time to come there will be a constant increase absolutely, and perhaps relatively, of those among our citizenis who dwell in cities or towns of some size and who work for wages. This means alike of the employer, the employe and the

size and who work for wages. This means that there will be an ever increasing need to consider the problems inseparable from a great industrial civilization. Where an im nense and complex business, especially in hose branches relating to manufacture and transporation, is transacted by a large numthe of capitalists who employ a very much larger number of wage-earners, the former tend more and more to combine into eorporations and the lat-ter into unions. The relations of the capitalist and wage-worker to one an-

ter ter into capitalist capitalist and wage-worker to one an-other, and of each to the general public, are not always easy to adjust; and to put them and keep them on a satisfactory basis is one of the most important and one of the most delicate tasks before our whole civilization. Much of the work for the accomplishment of this end must be done by the individuals concerned themselves whather singly or in oncerned themselves, whether singly or in ombination; and the one fundamental fact hat must never be lost track of is that the character of the average man, whether he be a man of means or a man who works with his hands, is the most important factor in solving the problem aright. But it is almost equally important to remember that without good laws it is also impossible to reach the proper solution. It is idle to hold that without good laws evils such as child labor, as the over-working of women, as the failure to protect employes from loss of life or limb, can be effectively reached, any life or limb, can be effectively reached, any more than the evils of rebates and stock-watering can be reached without good laws. To fail to stop these practices by legislation means to force honest men into them, be-cause otherwise the dishonest who surely will take advantage of them will have every-thing their own way. If the states will cor-rect these evils, well and good; but the Nation must stand ready to aid them. Farmers and Wage-Workers. When the Department of Agriculture was

When When the Department of Agriculture was founded there was much sneering as to its usefulness. No department of the Government, however, has more emphatically vindi-cated its usefulness, and none save the Postoffice Department comes so continually and intimately into touch with the people. The two citizens whose welfare is in the aggregate most vital to the welfare of the Nation, and therefore to the welfare of all other citizens, are the wage-worker who does manual labor and the tiller of the soil. the farmer. There are, of course, kinds of labor where the work must be purely mental, and there are other kinds of labor where, under existing conditions, very little de-mand indeed is made upon the mind, though I am glad to say that the proportion of men engaged in this kind of work is diminishing. But in any community with the solid, healthy qualities which make up a really great nation the bulk of the people should do work which calls for the exercise of both body and mind. Frogress can not perma-

regions the system lent itself to fraud, and much land passed out of the hands of the Government without passing into the hands of the home-maker. The Department of the

of the home-maker. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice joined in prosecuting the offenders against the law; and they have accomplished much, while where the administration of the law has been defective it has been changed. But the laws themselves are defective. Three years ago a public lands commission was appointed to scrutinize the law, and de-fects, and recommend a remedy. Their ex-amination specifically showed the existence of yreat fraud upon the public domain and of great fraud upon the public domain, and their recommendations for changes in the law were made with the design of conserving the natural resources of every part of the public lands by putting it to its best Especial attention was called to the pre-

Especial attention was called to the pre-vention of settlement by the passage of great areas of public land into the hands of a few men, and to the enormous waste caused by unrestricted grazing upon 'b-open range. The recommendations of the Public Lands Commission are sound, for they are especially in the interest of the actual home-maker; and where the small home-maker cannot at present utilize the and they provide that the Government shall keep control of it so that it may not be monopolized by a few men. The Congress has not yet acted upon these recommenda-tions; but they are so just and proper, so essential to our National welfare, that I feel confident, if the Congress will take time to consider them, that they will ultimately be adopted.

mately be adopted. **FORESTS.** Optimism is a good characteristic, but if carried to an excess it becomes foolishness. We are prone to speak of the resources of this country as inexhaustible; this is not so. The mineral wealth of the country, the coal, iron, oil, gas, and the like, does not reproduce itself, and therefore is certain to be exhausted ultimately; and wasteful-ness in dealing with it today means that our descendants will feel the exhaustion a generation or two before they otherwise would. But there are certain other forms of waste which could be entirely stoped— the waste of soil soy washing, for instance, which is among the most dangerous of all wastes now in progress in the United States, is easily preventable, so that this present wastes now in progress in the United States, is easily preventable, so that this present enormous loss of fertility is entirely un-necessary. The preservation or replacement of the forests is one of the most important means of preventing this loss. We have made a beginning in forest preservation, but it is only a beginning. At present lumber-ing is the fourth greatest industry in the United States; and yet, so rapid has been the rate of exhaustion of timber in the United States in the past, and so rapidly is the remainder being exhausted, that the coun-try is unquestionably on the verge of a timber famine which will be felt in every household in the land. There has already teen a rise in the price of lumber, but there is certain to be a more rapid and heavier rise in the future. The present annual consumption of lum-ber is certainly three times as great as the annual growth; and if the consumption and growth continue unchanged, practically all our lumber will be exhausted to enorther

growth continue unchanged, practically al our lumber will be exhausted in another growth generation, while long before the limit to complete exhaustion is reached the growing scarcity will make itself felt in many blighting ways upon our National welfare. About 20 per cent of our forest iterritory is now re-served in National forests; but these do not include the most valuable timber lands, and in any event the proportion is too small to expect that the reserves can accomplish more than a mitigation of the trouble which is absed for the Nation. Far more densitie is ahead for the Nation. Far more drastic action is needed. Forests can be lumbered so as to give to the public the full use of their mercantile timber without the slight-est detriment to the forest, any more than it is a detriment to a farm to furnish a harvest; so that there is no parallel between forests and mines, which can only be com-pletely used by exhaustion. But forests, if used as all our forests have been used in the past and as most of them are still used.

# OKLAHOMA,

Oklahoma has become a state, standing on a full equality with her elder sisters, and her future is assured by her great natural re-sources. The duty of the National Govern-ment to guard the personal and property rights of the Indians within her borders remains of course unchanged.

of the indians within her borders remains of course unchanged. **ALASKA** I reiterate my recommendations of last year as regards Alaska. Some form of local self-government should be provided, as simple for the Congress to devote the necessary time to all the little details of necessary Alaskan legislation. Road building and railway build-ing should be encouraged. The Governor of Alaska should be given an ample appropriation wherewith to organize a force to preserve the public peace. Whisky selling to the natives should be made a felony. The coal land laws should be made a felony. The coal land laws should be changed so as to meet the peculiar needs of the territory. This should be ar-tended to at once; for the present laws permit individuals to locate large areas of the pub-lic domain for speculative purposes, and cause an immense amount of trouble, fraud and litigation. There should be astab-sible lighthouses and buoys should be estab-lished as aids to navigation, especially in and about Prince William Sound, and the survey of the coast completed. There is need of liberal appropriations for lighting and buoy-ing the southern coast and improving the alds to navigation in Southeastern Alaska, of the tract of Alaska, as of Puer Sound and the Columbia, is salmon fishing. Gradually, by reason of lack of profer laws, this industry is being ruined; it should now be taken in charge, and ef-forcement. The courage and enterprise of the citizens of

it should now be taken in charge, and ef-fectively protected, by the United States Government. The courage and enterprise of the citizens of the far Northwest in their projected Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, to be held in 1909, should receive liberal encouragement. This exposition is not sentimental in its concep-tion, but seeks to exploit the natural re-sources of Alaska and to promote the com-merce, trade and industry of the Pacific States with their neighboring states and with our insular possessions and the neighboring countries of the Pacific. The exposition asks no loan from the Congress, but seeks appro-priations for National exhibits and exhibits of the Western dependencies of the General Government. The State of Washington and the city of Seattle have shown the character-istic Western enterprise in large donations for the conduct of this exposition, in which other states are lending generous assistaice. A bureau of mines should be created under the control and direction of the Secretary of the Interior; the bureau to have power to collect statistics and make investigations in all matters pertaining to mining and par-ticularly to the accidents and dangers of the industry. If this cannot now be done, at least additional appropriations should be given the therior Department to be used for the study of mining conditions, for the prevention of fraudulent mining schemes, for carrying on the work of mapping the mining the ac-cidents and dangers in the industry; in short, to ald in all proper ways the development

oni the work of mapping the mining districts, for studying methods for minimizing the ac-cidents and dangers in the industry; in short, to aid in all proper ways the development of the mining industry. I call your especial attention to the un-satisfactory condition of our foreign mail service, which, because of the lack of Ameri-can steamship lines is now largely done through foreign lines, and which, particularly so far as South and Central America are concerned, is done in a manner which consti-tutes a serious barrier to the extension of our commerce.

Not only there is not now, but there never has been, any other nation in the world so wholly free from the evils of militarism as is ours. There never has been any other large nation, not even China, which for so long a period has had relatively to its num-bers so small a regular army as has ours. bers so small a regular army as has ours. Never at any time in our history has this Nation suffered from militarism or been in the remotest danger of suffering from militarism. Never at any time of our history has the regular Army been of a size which caused the slightest appreciable tax upon the taxpaying citizens of the Nation. Al-most always it has been too small in size and underpaid. Never in our entire history has the Nation suffered in the least particu-lar because too much care has been given to

THEODORE ROOSEVELT. The White House, December \* 1907.