

THE DAILY STRESS OF THE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—President Taft in his message to Congress says:

During the past year foreign relations of the United States have continued upon a basis of friendship and good understanding. The year has been notable as witnessing the peaceful settlement of two important international controversies before the permanent court of the Hague.

SHIP SUBSIDIES AGAIN RECOMMENDED

Reasons Commercial and Military Suggested by President. Another instrumentally indispensable to the unhampered success of our merchant marine.

ECONOMIES IN VIEW IN ESTIMATES

Further Reforms of Archeate Administrative Methods Advocated. Every effort has been made by each department to reduce the expenditures of its department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912.

CHINESE LOAN MADE ON EQUAL BASIS

American Capital to Be Made Instrumental for Empire's Welfare. The message says that the center of interest in the Far East is China, and it is gratifying to note that the negotiations for a loan to the construction of the trunk railway lines from Hankow southward to Canton and westward to the Pacific coast.

LATIN-AMERICAN RELATIONS GOOD

Mediation in Peru-Ecuador Dispute Shows Cordial Feeling. Relations with all Latin-American are satisfactory and cordial. The reception accorded to special emissaries sent to the continental republics.

TARIFF RECIPROITY IS GENERAL

Marked Advantage Gained in United States by Agreements. Universal application has been given by the tariff commission to the principle of reciprocity in the minimum tariff clause.

the treatment accorded by them to the products of the United States is not such as to give us any real advantage. The minimum tariff of the United States, 50 percent, is the highest in the world.

PUBLIC BUILDING METHODS WRONG

Commission of Experts Should Supervise Construction. In public buildings which have been so much criticized in connection with our various departments.

TRADE IN PHILIPPINES IS GROWING

Porto Rico Progressing Industrially and Politically. The Philippines are tranquil, the message says. Rapid trade increase is shown by the following table of exports and imports.

ESTIMATES FOR NAVY ARE REDUCED

Consolidation of Navy Yards Suggested—Peary's Expedition. The President concurs in the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy concerning the personnel bill.

ALASKA HOME RULE AGAIN OPPOSED

Government Not Ready to Extend Credit of Construction of Railroads. With reference to the government of Alaska I have nothing to add to the recommendations made in my last message.

TRAILS SHOULD BE CUT IN FORESTS

Communication Essential to Effective Combating of Fires. I have already referred to the forests of the United States and their extent, and have urged, as I do again, the removal of the limitation of the power over the forests to reserve tracts of land in six Western states in which withdrawal for this purpose is now forbidden.

SUMMARY OF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN PRESIDENT TAFT'S MESSAGE.

Foreign relations are peaceful; fisheries arbitration satisfactory to all concerned; moves for international prize court is making progress. Commercially with Latin-America accounted by successful mediation between Peru and Ecuador; Nicaragua is being restored to order; Argentina buying naval equipment in United States.

ADDITIONAL ARMY OFFICERS NEEDED

Drilling of Militia Essential Feature of War Preparation. The message favors the passage of the bill amending the Volunteer act, and provision for a commission to determine a comprehensive plan for the militia.

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POSTAL DEFICIT IS DISAPPEARING

Parcels Post Should Be Extended to Every Rural Delivery Point. The postal savings system will be extended gradually. The application of business principles has resulted in the return of \$11,000,000 of the \$17,000,000 appropriated to cover the estimated deficit.

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