The Oregon Statesman



 THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

President Coolidge sent his message to the two houses of Congress yesterday, instead of delivering it in pers

But the spirit of it may be very briefly summarized by
statement of the chief executive therein that the country does not appear to require a radical departure from the policies already adopted so much as it needs further 'extension
these policies and the improvement of details.
The writer believes that the majority of th
United States will agree with this statement.
Mr. Coolidge favors tax reduction as a matter of course
a billion having been cut off amually, he hopes for further
teady reductions-
Renews a
labor disputes in the coal industry-
Advises the curtailment of the powers of the shipping board, and the con

Favors further aids to cooperative marketing-
Urges the observance and enforcement of the prohibi
Hopes for federal and state cooperation in reclamatio
ects-
Wants Muscle Shoals sold to best responsible bidderSays the United States is willing to take the lead
er reduction of land and sea. anmments
Expresses gratitude over the Locarno security agree
And
World Court
t is a great state paper

## FOOLISH AND FUTILE GESTURE

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States some time ago went through the gesture of appointing a "national merchant marine conference" to
merchant marine and its needs-

And now this "conference" of about a hundred of the members of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, who are also members of or influenced by the American its report is in the following extract from it:
"Financial aid to shipping instead of being applied as general ship subsidy or navigation bounty applicable to the ocean tramp and the palatial passenger liner, neither of which
is particularly important at the present time, as a part of the American marine should, it is believed, take the form of pay ment for services rendered; including contracts for the main tenance of services to particular trade regions of the world and mail contracts to provide for maintaining the higher import trade and for the :transportation of mails.

So there you are.
It is a propositionifor a ship subsidy, but with the sub belonging to the members of the Americari Steamship Ow ers' Association.

So this "national merchant marine conference" will o course have a bill prepared and introduced in Congress, aimed at providing the means of building up an American merchant fewAnd of course the bill will not pass. It surely should not
pass. It is not likely that any shlip subsidy bill, bowever ramed, would pass-
And the the subject pass, the enaetment would not lasts. It ost to the federal treasury, and for many other reasons.

There is only one right and certain way to build up an dequate American merchant marine, and that is the way that prevalied for the 61 years up to 1850 , when we had a tariff discriminating in fayor of goods imported in America

During which period American ships carried 80 per cent of the imports and exports of this country, and in which

## ALE OREGON PARENTS

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