# PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

#### NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Story of His Career as Student Reformer, Legislator, Author, Soldier, Historian, Cowboy, Statesman—He Believes In the Strenuous Life.

The man whom a seemingly harsh destiny has called to become the executive head of the nation is probably more thoroughly distinctive in char acter than any other man high in pub-lic life today. His is a strong personality, uniquely composed of many admirable traits. As an author, politician, soldier, reformer, ranchman and historian he has at middle age achieved results which are truly remarkable

The record of Theodore Roosevelt's many activities makes a most interest-



MR. ROOSEVELT AS A ROUGH RIDER.

ing story, one in which there are no dull periods. He has lived earnestly or, to use his own phrase, strenuously.

Theodore Roosevelt was born Oct. 20, 1858, at 28 East Twentieth street, New York city. His father, also Theodore Roosevelt, was a member of an old New York Dutch family, and the new president is of the eighth generation of the stock in the United States. Mingled with the Dutch in Theodore Roose velt's veins are strains of English, Celtic and French. His mother was Miss Martha Bulloch and came of a distinguished Georgia family which had given to that state a governor, Archibald | time.of Tweed and other bosses. Bulloch, in Revolutionary times. In a later generation a member of the famlly built the Confederate privateer Ala-

The father of the president was a merchant and importer of glassware. During the civil war he was a noted figure in New York. He had great strength of character and a liking for practical benevolence which made him foremost in many such charities. Newsboys' lodging houses, the allotment system, which permitted soldiers during HE APPEARS AS A REFORMER. the war to have portions of their pay sent to their families, and other forms of direct help to the poorer classes found in him a champion. His ancestors had been aldermen, judges of the supreme court of the city and representatives in the national congress In Revolutionary times New York se a Roosevelt to act with Alexander Hamilton in the United States constitutional convention. Roosevelt street, New York, was once a cow path on the Roosevelt farm, and the Roosevelt hospital is the gift of a wealthy member of a recent generation of the

As a child the Roosevelt who was to rise to such a high place in the nation was puny and backward. He could not keep up with bis fellows either h study or play and on this account was taught by a private tutor at home. The country residence of the Roosevelts was at Oyster Bay, N. Y., and here the children were brought up. They were compelled by their father to take plenty of outdoor exercise, and young Theodore, soon realizing that he must have strength of body if he was to do anything in life, entered into the scheme for the improvement of his physical condition with the same enthusiasm and determination which have characterized every act of his life.

### AS STUDENT AND WRITER.

He grew up an athlete, strong and active, and when he entered Harvard in 1875 he soon became prominent in field sports. He became noted as a boxer and wrestler and was for a time captain of the college polo team. He did not neglect his studies, and when he was graduated in 1880 he took high honors, During his stay in the university he had been editor of The Advocate, a college paper, and gave particular attention to the study of history and natural history. He became a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Greek letter fraternity.

At the conclusion of his college course he went abroad for a year, spending part of the time in study in Dresden. His love for athletics led him to successfully attempt the ascent of the Jung Frau and the Matterborn and won for him a membership in the Alpine club of London. He returned to New York in 1881 and in the so ne year married Miss Alice Lee 3f Boston. Two years later he had the misfortune

to rose his wife and his mother withit · week.

Theodore Roosevelt has been an ar dent student of history from his col lege days and before he was twenty three years old had entered the field himself as a writer. He is an enthu siastic admirer of Washington, Lincoln and Grant. On his return from Europe and while engaged on his historical work he entered the law office of his uncle, Robert B. Roesevelt, with the design of fitting himself for the bar He was of too realless a disposition to find content in such a sober calling and the whole bent of his mind, as shown by his reading, his writing and the effort to do something extraordi nary, something that would mark hin above his fellows, which had made hin a bidder for college championships and prompted him to tempt the dangers of the Swiss mountain peaks, sent hin hurrying into politics before he had settled down to anything like deep study of the law.

HOW HE ENTERED POLITICS.

He attended his first primary in 1881 in the Twenty-first assembly district New York. It was a gathering of the class attendant on such occasions with little to charm the ordinary young man of aristocratic lineage and wealth, but Theodore Roosevelt had studied history with a purpose. He knew that through the primary led the way to political preferment, and he at once entered into the battle of politics, in which he was to prove a gladiator of astonishing prowess, routing and terrifying his enemies, but often startling his allies by the originality and recklessness of his methods.

The natural enthusiasm of young Roosevelt, his undeniable personal charm and the swirl of interest with which he descended into the arena of local polities made him friends on every side in a community where leaders are at a high premium, and within a few months the young college man was elected to the assembly of the state from his home district.

His ability and his methods were in strong evidence at the following session of the legislature. He proved a rallying power for the Republican minority and actually succeeded in passng legislation which the majority sub-nitted to only through fear and which als own party in the state would never have fathered had it been in power. Mr. Roosevelt was the undisputed leader of the Republicans in the assembly within two months after his election, and he immediately turned his attention to the purification of New York city. This would have appalled a man less determined or more experienced, but the young aspirant for a place in history reckoned neither with condition; nor precedents. His success, considering the strength of the combination against which he was arrayed, was extraordinary. He succeeded in securing the passage of the bill which deprived the city council of New York of the power to veto the appointments of the mayor, a prerogative which had nullified every previous attempt at re-form and had made the spoliation of the city's coffers an easy matter in the

Mr. Roosevelt's methods, it was cheerfully predicted by his political opponents, would certainly result in his retirement from participation in the state councils of New York, but this proved far from the case. As has happened in every case since, wherever Theodore Roosevelt has been thrown any class of people, wherever they have come to know him personally, he has attracted to himself enthusiastic friendship and confidence

He became so popular that not only 19, 1897. was he returned to three sessions of the assembly, but his party in the state soon realized that he was one of the strongest men, and he was sent to the Republican national convention of 1884 as chairman of the New York delega-

After the convention, to which he went uninstructed, but in favor of the nomination of Mr. Edmunds against James G. Blaine, his health falled. The deaths of his wife and mother had been a severe shock, for Mr. Roosevelt is a



MR. ROOSEVELT AT EASE.

man of the strongest personal attachments. He turned aside from public life for a time and went west.

He had been a lover of hunting from boyhood, and when he decided to spend some time in the wilds of Montana he took up the life as he found it there. On the banks of the Little Missouri he built a log bouse, working on it himself, and there turned ranchman, cowboy and hunter. He engaged in one of the last of the big buffalo hunts and saturated himself with the life of the west. His trips in this and later years were not alone commed to this section of the west, and his courage, intelligence and companionable nature made him a name winch in later years drew to his standard thousands of cowboys, among whom his name had come to mean all that they admire and all that appeals to their natures.

In these years and between 1886 and 1886 Mr. Reosavelt was also busy on much of his literary work. The most important of his works, "The Winning of the West," a history in four volnmes of the acquisition of the territory west of the Alleghenies, required at enormous amount of research. On its publication it leaped at once into popularity and soon acquired a reputation nost reliable textbook

His hunting trips and his months of life among the men and the game of the west have supplied the material for a number of Mr. Roosevelt's books among them The Wilderness Hunter. "Hunting Trips of a Ranchman" and "Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail."

This period of writing and hunting was broken by two important events. He was defeated as candidate for mayor of New York, and he married again. The second wife of the vice president elect was Miss Edith Kermit Carow, daughter of an old New York family. They have five children, three sons and two daughters. The marriage took place in 1886,

For years after this Mr. Roosevelt was not prominent in politics. He spent his time in writing and in hunting trips to the west. Never an idle man, he accomplished an immense amount of research in the preparation of his historical works.

#### HIS CIVIL SERVICE CAREER.

President Harrison appointed Theodore Roosevelt a member of the United States civil service commission May 13, 1889,

He served for six years, two of them under President Harrison's successor, Mr. Cleveland. In that time the number of persons who were made subject to the civil service law was increased from 12,000 to nearly 40,000, and the still further great increase made by the orders of President Cleveland in the late years of his first administration was largely due to Mr. Roosevelt's

In the wave of reform which swept over New York in 1894-5 the men, including Mayor Strong, who were borne into power were something of the same stamp as the civil service commissioner. They were of the class which fought political rings, and they turned to Mr. Roosevelt to take a hand n purifying the police force of New York city, which was alleged to be a sink of political rottenness and studied inefficiency. Mr. Roosevelt resigned as civil service commissioner May 5, 1895, and was appointed a police commissioner of New York cay May 24 fol-

The uproar that followed the introduction of Roosevelt methods in the conduct of the New York police force has never been equaled as a police sen-



MR. ROOSEVELT'S LONG ISLAND HOME.

sation in that city. He had the necessary power and the personal courage and tenacity of purpose to carry out his plans. He fought blackmail until he had practically stopped it, and he promoted and removed men without regard to color, creed or politics. He resigned in April, 1897, to become assistant secretary of the navy.

Theodore Roosevelt was appointed assistant secretary of the navy April

#### HOW HE SHOOK UP THE NAVY. He brought to the duties of the office

a great interest in the work as well as the tremendous energy and talent for closely studying and mastering his work which had characterized him it other fields. He also brought to the position some of his startling methods and again proved himself "a storm center," a name he had already been given and to which he has earned better title in each succeeding year.

In the fall of 1897 he was detailed to inspect the fleet gathered at Hampton Roads, and he kept the commanders and their jackles in a ferment for a week. Whenever he thought of a drill he would like to see he ordered it. The crews were called to night quarters, and all sorts of emergency orders were given at all sorts of hours. When the assistant secretary came back to Washington to report, he had mastered some of the important details of the situation at least.

During his rather brief connection with the department Mr. Roosevelt was a strong advocate of the naval person nel bill. He was also in charge of the purchase of auxiliary vessels after war was actually declared. When guns had been fired in actual warfare and the invasion of Cuba had been determined upon, Mr. Roosevelt resigned to take part with the land forces in that cam-

He had brought about the purchase of many guns, much ammunition and large stores of provisions for the navy He had secured a great increase in the amount of gunnery practice. He had hurried the work on the new ships and had the old ones repaired. He had caused every vessel to be supplied with coal to her full capacity and had the crew of every ship recruited to its full strength. His services were fully recognized by Secretary Long, who thanked him in a letter full of appreciation when he left his place in the navy department. Mr. Roosevelt was urged to remain in his place by many of the most prominent newspapers of the country, who believed that his services there would be of great value in

the approaching struggle. Mr. Roosevelt's resignation as assistant secretary of the navy bears date of May 6, 1898. His appointment as lieu place as presiding officer of the Unit

cenant colonel of First regiment, United ed states senate will never be known States volunteer cavalry, is dated May for the period during which he held 5, 1898,

#### ORGANIZING ROUGH RIDERS.

The body of men of which Colonel Roosevelt took command was one of the most remarkable even enlisted in any country. It was chosen from some 3,500 applicants and numbered about 200. The plains gave it its largest membership, and the name under which it soon came to be known was the rough riders.

Dr. Leonard Wood, U. S. A., a close personal friend of Mr. Roosevelt and



MISS ALICE, PRESIDENT'S ELDEST DAUGH

his companion on many hunting trips, was, like himself, an ardent admirer of the fearless and sterling characters so often found among the cowboys of the American cattle ranges. When war was an assured fact, these two men conceived the idea of recruiting a regiment from among the ranks of these plainsmen. Both were known throughout many western states to the most famous of the frontiersmen, and the project met with instant and enthusiastic favor in a thousand ranches.

Cowboys, dead shots, perfect horsemen, who did not know what fear or fatigue meant, flocked to the standard raised by Wood and Roosevelt, and there eventually gathered at Tampa a body of men than whom it would be hard to find any more perfectly fitted for such war as the conflict with Spain in the jungles of Cuba assured. Old Indian fighters were there by the score and there were even six full blooded Indians among the enlisted men.

The first fight of the rough riders took place in the advance from Daiquiri toward Santiago. They were sent out on a hill trail to attack the position of the Spaniards who blocked the road to the town. The Spanish occupied ridges opposite to those along which the trail used by the rough riders led, and a fierce fight took place in the jungle. The Spanish had smokeless powder, and it was almost impossible to locate them in the underbrush. The rough riders behaved with great gallantry and took the position occupied by the enemy, but not without considerable loss.

For distinguished gallantry in this action Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt was promoted to be colonel July 11, 1898. The place of this engagement is called Las Guasimas, "the thorns," from the large number of trees of that species found there. The rough riders in this action acted in concert with other attacking forces composing the vanguard of the army. Several days after this General Young was taken with fever, and Colonel Wood taking command of the brigade, Colonel Roosevelt became commanding officer of the regiment.

In this capacity he commanded the rough riders in the battle of San Juan, where they withstood a heavy fire for a long time, and finally, when ordered to advance, made a gullant charge, cap turing two of the hills occupied by the

The rough riders, with their colonel, returned to Camp Wikoff, at the northern extremity of Long Island, in late August and on Sept. 15, 1898, were mustered out of the service with Colonel Roosevelt.

FROM SOLDIER TO GOVERNOR. He had hardly time to doff his khaki uniform when he found himself plunged into a spirited state campaign. There was a loud call for the hero of San Juan Hill to become the Republican candidate for governor of the Empire State. He accepted the nomination and began such a campaign as New York has seldom seen. He traveled thousands of miles and made hundreds of speeches within the space of three weeks and was elected by a big ma-

Governor Roosevelt had hardly warmed the gubernatorial chair in Albany and had just planned the policy of his administration when he was called upon to accept the nomination of vice president with the late William Mc-Kinley. The story of that convention,



THE WHITE HOUSE.

of Mr. Roosevelt's unwillingness to change his plans, is still remembered. But he did accept and again plunged into the campaign in the same way that he made the charge with his rough riders in Cuba.

Whether or not he would have exerted any important influence from his

the gavel in that august body was too brief. Now, however, there is no doubt in the mind of any American but that the personality of Theodore Roosevelt will be felt in every pulsing artery of the nation's executive and legislative bodies.

In his home circle or in camp there is no more delightful man to meet. He has a genuinely fine mind. It is quick receptive, responsive, thoroughly well ordered, disciplined and clear. Reading has made him full. He has seen much and experienced much. He has learned a great deal from books and more from men. He talks well and listens better. He has a strong appreciation of humor. He likes a good story, but not a good bad story. His manners are unaffected, direct and cordial. He is wholly American, believing that America is the best country in the world, Americans are the best people in the world, and American soldiers are the best soldiers in the

#### PERSONAL SIDE OF ROOSEVELT. Of his own quality of Americanism he has given this glimpse in one of his

"I have no wish to excuse or hide

our faults, for I hold that it is often the best American who strives hardest correct American shortcomings Nevertheless I am just as little disposed to give way to undue pessimism as to undue and arrogant optimism. In speaking of my own countrymen there is one point upon which I wish to lay special stress. That is the necessity for a feeling of broad, radical, intense Americanism if good work is to be done in any direction. Above all, the Beef cattle wanted. one essential for success in every po litical movement which is to do lasting good is that our citizens should act as Americans, not as Americans with a prefix and qualifications-not as Irish-Americans, German-Americans, native Americans-but as Americans pure and simple. \* \* \* In short, the most important lesson taught by the history of New York city is the lesson of Americanism, the lesson that he among us who wishes to win honor in our life and to play his part honestly and manfully must be indeed an American in spirit and purpose, in heart and thought Transients and Boarders and deed.'

President Roosevelt has strong views, but he does not force them upon others. He is devoted to his wife and children, and his home is an exceptionally happy one.

This home is a large country mansion of three stories and thirty rooms. In old Dutch style, it has towering gables New Market Opened. and enormous chimneys. It rests like a crown on Sagamore hill, which on every side slopes away to Oyster bay, on the Long Island coast. The Roose velt property occupies a peninsula, and the occupants of the house have a sweeping view of the waters of the sound on three sides of it and the green country at its rear. It is an ideal place for a statesman, a thinker or a man who wishes merely to rest.

In his sanctum at the top of his house Colonel Roosevelt has immense



QUENTIN BOOSEVELT.

piles of books on hunting the big game in Africa and the East Indies, but the things of which he is proudest are his guns. His private library numbers 5,000 volumes. He has the finest collection of books on big game to be found in this country. Roosevelt becomes fluent when among his books and eloquent when among his guns.

This is the kind of man President Roosevelt is. And he will be the same man in the White House as he was in Oyster Bay or in Albany, a student, a American.

#### The Kangaroo Meuse.

In exploring the Black canyon of the Gunnison a party of hardy adventurers found several strange and scarcely known animals living in the perpetual gloom of that frightful gorge.

One of the most curious of the little animals discovered is the kangaroo mouse. This fellow is a highly disreputable member of the rodent family. The kangaroo mouse can stand on his hind feet and make "passes" at the intruder, much in the manner of the pugllist. He is a cunning little rogue and has a voracious appetite, Another member of the rodent family

is the pack rat, akin to the common house rat. He is a born thief. He carries away spoons, knives, forks and other articles from the camps of travelers. That is how he got his name.

in the Black canyon. This freak is package. The jumping mouse also was found said to be a long distance jumper that would put the jumping frog of Calaveras county, even without his dinner of shot, in the shade. The jumping is the one to gin your cotton. that his fall is much like that of a feather, and he can leap from high crags without injury to his anatomy .-

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