

COLONEL THEODORE ROOSEVELT DIES AT HOME IN OYSTER BAY

HIS HEALTH FOR THE PAST YEAR HAD BEEN FAILING RAPIDLY

Ex-President Had Not Been Well for Many Months and Suffered Affliction New Year's Eve Which Was Pronounced as Being Sciatica, Later Diagnosed as Inflammatory Rheumatism Which Was the Immediate Cause of His Sudden Passing Away.



Oyster Bay, N. Y.—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt died in his sleep early Monday morning at his home on Sagamore Hill in this village. Death is believed to have been due to rheumatism which affected his heart.

The colonel suffered a severe attack of rheumatism and sciatica on New Year's day but none believed his illness would likely prove fatal. The former President sat up most of Sunday and retired at 11 p. m. About four a. m., Mrs. Roosevelt, who was the only other member of the family at Oyster Bay, went to her husband's room and found that he had died during the night.

Mrs. Roosevelt telephoned to Colonel Emlin Roosevelt, cousin of the former President, and he came to the Roosevelt home immediately. Telegrams were dispatched to the colonel's children, who were in other parts of the country. Two of the colonel's sons, Major Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and Captain Kermit Roosevelt, are in service abroad.

Captain Archie Roosevelt and his wife left New York Sunday night for Boston, where the captain's wife's father is ill. Mrs. Ethel Derby and her two children are in Aiken, S. C.

Telegrams of condolence and sympathy began to pour in from all parts of the country as soon as the news of Colonel Roosevelt's death became known.

The former President came to his home on Sagamore Hill from the Roosevelt hospital on Christmas day, but a week later was stricken with a severe attack of rheumatism and sciatica, from which he had been suffering for some time. The rheumatism affected his right hand and it became much swollen. He remained in his room and efforts were made to check the trouble. Saturday the colonel's secretary, Miss Josephine Stricker, called to see him but the colonel was asleep in his room. Miss Stricker said no one had any idea that death was so near at hand.

Flags were placed at half mast in Oyster Bay Monday.

Son's Death Broke Him Down.
One of the things that is believed to have contributed more than any other to the colonel's breakdown was the death last fall of his son, Lieutenant Quentin Roosevelt, the aviator, in action in France. Colonel Roosevelt bore the sorrow of his death with a fortitude that was in keeping with his spirit in public life. He suffered most poignant griefs in silence and tried to forget them by plunging harder than ever into his work.

News of the death of the former President was received here by Miss Josephine Stricker, the colonel's secretary, in a telephone message from Mrs. Roosevelt.

Miss Stricker said that the colonel had suffered an attack of inflammatory rheumatism on New Year's day and had since been more or less confined to his room.

The attack of rheumatism settled mainly in Colonel Roosevelt's right hand and Mrs. Roosevelt sent at once for a nurse in the village of Oyster Bay. His condition did not at first seem to be alarming and the turn for the worse is believed not to have come until Sunday night.

In announcing Colonel Roosevelt's death, Miss Stricker said:

"Mrs. Roosevelt called me on the telephone shortly before 7 o'clock, saying that the colonel had died early in the morning. She did not give me any particulars and I am leaving at once for Oyster Bay.

"The attack must have been very sudden. On New Year's day inflammatory rheumatism developed in Colonel Roosevelt's right hand which became very much swollen. Mrs. Roosevelt sent for a nurse in the village and the colonel was made as comfortable as possible. It did not occur to me at that time that he was seriously ill."

Miss Stricker went to Oyster Bay Saturday to pay the colonel a visit. She said:

"At that time the colonel was sleeping in his room and I did not see him and there was nothing in the circumstances of his illness at that time to indicate to me that death was near. Mrs. Roosevelt called me this morning and told me of the colonel's death. I could hardly believe it.

"Mrs. Roosevelt gave me no particulars of his death."

It is understood that only Mrs. Roosevelt and the nurse were with him at the time of his death. The other members of the family are in other parts of the country or abroad.

A telephone message received later from Oyster Bay said that Colonel Roosevelt had died at 4 a. m.

Been Unwell Past Year.
New York.—Colonel Roosevelt's last illness may be said to date from last February. On February 5 it was announced he had been removed from his home in Oyster Bay to the Roosevelt hospital in this city, following an operation on one of his ears. Soon after his arrival at the hospital he underwent two more operations for the removal of diseased tissues in his infected ear and it was admitted at the time he was seriously ill.

STORY OF COL. ROOSEVELT'S LIFE

WHO RECENTLY DIED AT HIS HOME IN OYSTER BAY, MASS.

WAS ONE OF GREAT WORKS

Has Left Vivid Impression on the People—The Nation Mourns.

Colonel Roosevelt's career has left such a vivid impression upon the people of his time that it is necessary to touch but briefly upon some of the more striking phases of his varied, interesting and "strenuous" life to recall to the public mind full details of his many exploits and experiences.

Called to the White House in 1901, after President McKinley had been assassinated, Colonel Roosevelt, 42 years of age, became the youngest President the United States has ever had. Three years later he was elected as President by the largest popular vote a President had received.

Thus Roosevelt, sometimes called a man of destiny, served for seven years as the nation's chief magistrate. In a subsequent decade the fortunes of politics did not favor him, for, again a candidate for President—this time leading the progressive party which he himself had organized when he differed radically with some of the policies of the Republican party in 1912—he went down to defeat, together with the Republican candidate, William Howard Taft. Woodrow Wilson, Democrat, was elected.

Colonel Roosevelt's enemies agreed with his friends that his life, his character and his writings represented a high type of Americanism.

Of Dutch ancestry, born in New York city on October 27, 1858, in a house in East Twentieth street, the baby Theodore was a weakling. He was one of four children who came to Theodore and Martha Bulloch Roosevelt. The mother was of southern stock and the father of northern, a situation which during the early years of Theodore, Jr.'s boyhood was not allowed to interfere with the family life of these children during the Civil war days.

So frail that he was not privileged to associate with the other boys in his neighborhood, Roosevelt was tutored privately, in New York and during travels on which his parents took the children abroad. A porch gymnasium at his home provided him with physical exercise with which he combated a troublesome asthma. His father, a glass importer and a man of means, was his constant companion; he kept a diary; he read so much history and fictional books of adventure that he was known as a bookworm; he took boxing lessons; he was an amateur naturalist; and at the age of 17 he entered Harvard University. There, he was not as prominent as some others in an athletic way, as it is not recorded that he "made" the baseball and football teams, but his puny body had undergone a metamorphosis and before graduation he became one of the champion boxers of the college. This remarkable physical development was emphasized by something which took place shortly after he left Harvard in 1880. He went to Europe, climbed the Matterhorn, and as a result was elected a member of the Alpine Club of London—an organization of men who had performed notable feats of adventure.

A few months after his graduation Roosevelt married Miss Alice Lee of Boston. She died in 1884, leaving one child, Alice, now the wife of Representative Nicholas Longworth of Ohio. In 1886 Roosevelt married Miss Edith Kermit Carow of New York, and to them five children were born—Edith, now the wife of Dr. Richard Derby, and four sons, Theodore, Jr., Kermit, Archibald and Quentin.

The public career of the man who was to become President began not long after he left college. His profession was law but the activities that were to come left him no time in which to practice it. In 1882, 1883 and 1884 he was elected to the New York State Assembly, where his efforts on behalf of good government and civil service reform attracted attention. When the Republican national convention of 1884 was held in Chicago, he was chairman of the New York State delegation.

After this experience he dropped out of politics for two years. Going west, he purchased ranches along the Little Missouri river, in North Dakota, and divided his time between outdoor sports, particularly hunting, and literary work. Here he laid the foundation for his series of books, "The Winning of the West," which was published from 1889 to 1896, and of other volumes of kindred character.

Returning to New York he became the Republican candidate for mayor, in 1886. He was defeated. President Harrison in 1889 appointed him a member of the United States Civil Service Commission and President Cleveland continued him in this office, which he resigned in 1895 to become New York city's police commissioner.

"A thing that attracted me to this office," Roosevelt said at the time he accepted this appointment, "was that

it was to be done in the hurry-burry, for I don't like cloister life." Honestly was the watchword of this administration, and the two years of his occupancy became memorable through the reforms he inaugurated, attracting the nation's attention while holding a position which was obscure in comparison with the events to come. Illicit liquor traffic, gambling, vice in general—of these evils he purged the city in the face of corrupt political opposition, and the reputation he established as a reformer won him the personal selection by President McKinley as assistant secretary of the navy, in 1897. A year later the Spanish American war broke out.

The Roosevelt temperament did not allow the man to retain a deputy cabinet position with war offering something more exciting. Leonard Wood, now a major-general in France, was then President McKinley's physician and one of Roosevelt's staunchest friends.

The famous Rough Riders were organized by Wood and Roosevelt—a band of fighting men the mention of whose name today suggests immediately the word "Roosevelt." They came out of the west—plainsmen, miners, rough and ready fighters who were natural marksmen and Wood became their colonel and "Teddy," as he had become familiarly called by the public, their lieutenant-colonel. In company with the regulars of the army they took transports to Cuba, landed at Santiago and were soon engaged in the thick of battle. Among the promotions which this hardy regiment's gallantry brought about were those of Wood to brigadier-general and Roosevelt to colonel—and this title Theodore Roosevelt cherished until the end. Some of the Rough Riders formed the military escort when he was elected President a few years later.

When Cuba had been liberated, Roosevelt returned to New York. A gubernatorial campaign was in swing, with the Republican party in need of a capable candidate. Roosevelt was nominated. Van Wyck, his Democratic opponent, was defeated. The reforms Roosevelt had favored as assemblyman he now had the opportunity to consummate, together with others of more importance, and it was during this administration that he is said to have earned the hostility of corporations. When the Republican national convention was held in Philadelphia in 1900 his party in New York State demanded and obtained his nomination for Vice President on the ticket with William McKinley. In November of that year this ticket was elected.

The policies of McKinley, Roosevelt endeavored to carry out after he succeeded the former upon the President's tragic death at the hands of an assassin. Roosevelt retained his predecessor's cabinet as his own and he kept in office the ambassadors and ministers whom McKinley had appointed. As much as two years before the presidential campaign of 1904 Republican organizations in various States began endorsing him as their next candidate.

It was thus that "the man of destiny" idea became associated with his life. Ostensibly, Roosevelt, leaving the governorship of New York to become Vice President, was moving forward from state politics into national politics, so his political opponents pressed publicly to believe; but it was their secret desire to "shelve" the man and eliminate him from prominence in their own community, it was said, that prompted these political eyes to obtain for him the vice presidential nomination, which he personally did not desire.

At the height of his public and political career, during the four years of the term for which he had been elected, Roosevelt accomplished achievements which historians will rank high in the international and industrial process of the country. They included his influential negotiations which, conducted at Portsmouth, N. H., effected peace between Russia and Japan; maintenance of the Monroe doctrine at a period when European powers were interested in the affairs of Venezuela; the recognition of Panama as a republic and his treaty with Panama by which the inter-ocean canal through that country was put under way; and the settlement, through his moral influence in the face of a situation in which there was no adequate federal legislation, of the Pennsylvania coal mine strike. For his part in terminating the Russo-Japanese conflict, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906. Four years later, once more a private citizen, he was special ambassador for the United States at the funeral of King Edward VII of England.

A rift in the friendship between Roosevelt and his successor as President, William Howard Taft, led to the former's announcement of his opposition to Mr. Taft's renomination. The ex-President's influence had been large in placing Mr. Taft in the White House. Now his influence was equally strong in preventing Mr. Taft from remaining there. Men who had clashed with the Taft policies quickly rallied to Roosevelt's support. Roosevelt assembled what he termed as constructive ideas as opposed to the conservative ones of the so-called Republican "Old Guard," characterized them with the description of "Progressive" and organized the Progressive party by withdrawing with his followers from the Chicago convention of 1912. He became the new party's candidate for President. This split in the Republican party resulted in Woodrow Wilson's election.

One of the most dramatic incidents

in Roosevelt's life occurred during this campaign. As he was leaving a hotel, in Milwaukee, to go to a meeting hall to make a political address, a man standing among the spectators in the street fired a shot which struck the colonel and smashed a rib. Roosevelt insisted he was not seriously hurt and his automobile conveyed him to the hall. There he spoke to an audience which had knowledge of what had happened—sobbing women and grave-faced men shaken with emotion by his appearance under such circumstances. Examination of the wound showed it was serious and the candidate was hurried by special train to Chicago for treatment. Though he speedily recovered the bullet was never removed. The assassin was sent to an asylum for the insane.

Roosevelt after leaving the White House devoted his life largely to literary work, hunting and exploration. He became contributing editor to The Outlook in 1909, continuing this for five years, and later held editorial positions with The Metropolitan and the Kansas City Star. From 1882 to 1917 he published about fifty volumes of works covering the wide range of natural history, hunting, biography, the Rough Riders, Americanism, Nationalism, conservation of womanhood and childhood, animals, exploration, the world war and America's participation in it, an his autobiography. His hunts for big game and his zest for exploration took him into the American west, the heart of Africa and the wilderness of Brazil.

Upon his return from his African journey—a return during which he made triumphant entries into European capitals and was received by nations' rulers, including the Emperor of Germany—he arrived in New York to experience what was generally conceded to be the greatest ovation an American private citizen was ever accorded by the people of his country. This was in 1910. At the head of an exploring party in South America in 1914 he discovered and followed for 600 miles a Madeira river tributary which the Brazilian government subsequently named in his honor, Rio Theodora. This was the famous "River of Doubt"—so-called because in many quarters considered authoritative it was questioned whether Roosevelt was the first man to explore the stream. During this journey the president contracted a jungle fever which was held indirectly responsible for the abscesses which developed malignantly and required several operations at the Roosevelt hospital in New York City in 1918.

Theodore Roosevelt, besides being a prolific writer, lectured and made public speeches extensively, not only in his own country, but in England, Spain, South America and other parts of the world. The facility with which he made political enemies and followers made him a marked man for both the friendly and bitter attention of cartoonists and paragraphers. Quaint and picturesque phrases were coined liberally by him and by others concerning him. "Speak softly and use the big stick," "weasel words," "pussy-foot," "mollycoddle" and "my hat is in the ring" were some of the Rooseveltian expressions which attained wide publicity.

The strenuous physical activities in which Roosevelt engaged at the White House included boxing. It was not until about eight years after he left the White House that it was disclosed that during one of these bouts, which he welcomed as a means of keeping him in fighting trim, a blow landed by a sparring opponent injured one of the colonel's eyes. Later blindness of this eye developed.

In the later years of his life two court suits, in which he figured in one as plaintiff and in the other as defendant, winning them both, kept Roosevelt before the public eye. During the presidential campaign of 1912 a Michigan editor charged him with intoxication. Roosevelt instituted a suit for libel and marshalled a notable host of witnesses to testify regarding his private life and habits. Their testimony was so overwhelming that the charge was withdrawn in open court and the jury brought in a nominal verdict of six cents in favor of the ex-president. William Barnes, Jr., of Albany, N. Y., accused Roosevelt in 1914 of uttering libel in a statement asserting that the "rotteness" of the New York State government was due directly to the domination of Tammany Hall in politics, aided by Mr. Barnes and his followers. At Syracuse, N. Y., in 1915 the jury's verdict acquitted Roosevelt.

When the European war began Roosevelt vigorously advocated a policy of national preparedness, urging universal military training for the nation's youth. In speeches throughout the country and in his magazine and newspaper writings he criticized, in this respect, the policies of Woodrow Wilson during Mr. Wilson's first term as president.

Mr. Roosevelt, it has been said, was keenly disappointed when he did not receive the Republican nomination for President in 1916. At the same time however, he refused to follow the advice of some of his staunchest followers that he again head the progressive party ticket. Instead he prevailed upon the progressive party to make Charles Evans Hughes, the Republican candidate, its own choice.

DESPERATE FIGHT WITH BOLSHEVIKS

AMERICAN TROOPS ENGAGE IN SEVERAL BATTLES WITH THE BOLSHEVIKI.

SNOW TWO TO FOUR FEET DEEP

Hot Artillery Fire Forces the Americans to Withdraw temporarily from Villages Occupied by Them.

With the American Army on the Dvina.—American troops fighting desperately near Kadish, have driven back bolshevik troops which made an advance there. The bolsheviks also launched attacks on the Omega sector and bombarded the allied front. The Americans came into battle along the Petrograd road and in the frozen swamps that border it. The battle was fought in snow from two to four feet in depth.

American forces captured Kadish after a display of gallantry that evoked the admiration of the allied commanders. Special care has been taken of the American wounded and the body of an American officer was taken back 100 miles by sledge and then shipped to Archangel for burial. There were some casualties, but they were small in comparison to those inflicted upon the enemy.

On Tuesday, the bolsheviks opened a terrific fire from three and six-inch guns and launched a counter-attack against the buildings held by the Americans in Kadish. So hot was the artillery fire that the Americans were withdrawn temporarily from the village. The line, however, was not taken back very far and the new positions were firmly held. The enemy did not occupy Kadish because the barrage fire from the American guns made the place untenable. Shells falling on the frozen ground spread their zones of destruction twice as far as they would under normal conditions. Later, under the protection of artillery fire, American detachments again swept forward and reoccupied the town. The men engaged in the advance were from infantry and trench mortar units.

REVISED STATISTICS SHOW INCREASE OF DEATHS

Washington.—The influenza epidemic which swept the country during the latter part of last year caused 111,688 deaths in the 46 largest cities and increased the combined death rate for those communities in 1918 to 19.6 per thousand according to statistics made public by the census bureau. Total figures for the country were not available.

Baltimore with 26.8 per thousand and Nashville with 26.4 had the highest rates of the registration cities, while St. Paul with 13.9 and Minneapolis and Grand Rapids with 14 each had the lowest.

PROTESTANTS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT IN CHURCH

Rome After his visit to the vatican President Wilson returned to the American embassy, whence he drove, with Mrs. Wilson, to the American Protestant Episcopal church. He was accompanied by Thomas Nelson Page, the American ambassador; Brigadier General Wm. W. Harts, U. S. A., and Count Bruschi-Falgarì, gentleman-in-waiting to King Victor Emmanuel, and Countess Bruschi-Falgarì, lady-in-waiting to Queen Helena.

In the vestry he received representatives of evangelical churches in Italy. They were introduced by Dr. Dexter G. Whittinghill, superintendent of the American Baptist mission; Rev. Walter Lowerie, rector of St. Paul's American church, and Francis B. Keene, the American consul general. Other bodies represented were the Waldensian church, the English Baptist missions, the Italian-American Methodist churches, the Wesleyan missions, the Presbyterian church and the British Bible Society.

ROOSEVELT WILL NOT BE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

Washington.—It is understood here that Col. Theodore Roosevelt is about to announce that he will not be a candidate for the presidency in 1920. His health is poor, and the rigors of a campaign might make it worse. If Mr. Roosevelt gets out of the way it is believed that Senators Lodge, Knox, Watson, Harding and Sherman will enter the race. That is one way of explaining the bitter attacks on the president in the senate.

MEXICAN REFUGEES SEND DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE

El Paso.—Six hundred refugees of all political factions formed an organization here and decided to send delegates to Paris during the peace congress there with a view to obtaining a permanent peace in Mexico and the repatriation of all political exiles in the United States and Europe. Delegates will also be sent to President Carranza, Francisco Villa, and other leaders in the interest of this movement.