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FORMER PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Theodore Roosevelt, twenty-sixth President of the United States and for nearly eight years incumbent of that high office, advocate and exponent of 100 per cent Americanism, scholar, author, statesman and patriot, passed from quiet slumber into the sleep of death in his home at Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, Long Island, at 4:15 o'clock Monday morning, January 6, in the sixty-first year of his age.

The immediate cause of his death, according to the physicians, was pulmonary embolism,—formation of a blood clot in one of the lungs and its passage thence into the brain. So unexpected was his death that there was no one in the room with him at the time except James Amos, the faithful negro attendant who had served him since his White House days.

Colonel Roosevelt had retired at 11 o'clock. His wife sat with him till he fell asleep, and then went to her own room. The graduate nurse, who had been in attendance ever since the Colonel left the Roosevelt hospital on Christmas Day, also had retired but was within easy call. There had been no development whatever to cause alarm or suggest the need for unusual watchfulness. The patient was not regarded as being critically ill. He fell asleep; and during his peaceful sleep, he ceased to breathe.

America's foremost statesman, the man who had more friends in every walk of life than any other man of his day and generation, the man who worked hard and played hard and who made "the strenuous life" a household phrase and who had exemplified that phrase from his busy youth until he died at sixty-one, passed into the great beyond as peacefully and gently as a tired child goes to sleep in his mother's arms.

The funeral services, held Wednesday at the Episcopal church, at Oyster Bay, were impressive in their simplicity. There was no sermon, no eulogy, no music,—nothing but the solemn service of prayer and scripture reading prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer.

Prominent Men Present

In the pews were men who are among the foremost of the country's citizens. Vice-President Thomas R. Marshall represented President Wilson. General Peyton C. March, chief of staff of army, and Admiral G. McR. Winslow represented the military and naval services, and Secretary Lane the cabinet. William Howard Taft, who upon Colonel Roosevelt's death became the only living ex-president; Charles Evans Hughes, Elihu Root, United States Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts; Major General Leonard Wood, Vice-Admiral Gleaves, Henry L. Stimson, who was formerly secretary of war; Governor Alfred E. Smith, of New York; Speaker Champ Clark and former Speaker J. G. Cannon, of the house of representatives, were present to pay their last tribute on behalf of the nation, Congress, the state and the metropolis. The diplomatic corps at Washington also was represented.

William Swann, who for 50 years has been organist of the Episcopal church at Oyster Bay and who is

now Master of Maincock Lodge, No. 806 A. F. and A. M., inquired Monday whether the family desired the Masonic burial service; but it was finally decided to have nothing but the church service.

An Active Career

Theodore Roosevelt, statesman, author, naturalist, philosopher and soldier, was born at No. 28 East Twentieth street, New York city, October 27, 1858. On his father's side his family was descended from pure Dutch stock. One of his ancestors, Klaes Martensen van Roosevelt, came to New Amsterdam as a settler in 1644. For the next seven generations all of the Roosevelts were born on Manhattan Island. On Theodore Roosevelt's mother's side there was a mixture of Welsh, English, Irish, German and Huguenot blood, with a trace of Scotch. Mr. Roosevelt once said in defining his Americanism, "It would take seven hyphens to describe me if I would stand for the use of any, but I am an American and nothing else."

He was proud of his ancestors, however, and for all his democracy

was a thorough aristocrat at heart. No man in American public life ever had more close friends in every walk of life, choosing at times for his intimates cowboys, hunters and trappers, prizefighters and rough men of all sorts, but being on equally cordial terms with statesmen, scientists, men of letters, prelates, men of the world, leaders in very line of endeavor.

As a boy he was delicate and sickly, and his eyesight was very bad. For a few months he attended Prof. McMullen's school, but most of his education was received at home under private teachers until he went to Harvard at the age of 18. He graduated in 1880 and studied law.

He soon took an active interest in politics, and served for three years in the General Assembly of New York, where he became minority floor leader. He was recognized as an aggressive reformer. In 1884 he refused a re-nomination and also refused two nominations for Congress. He determined to "get out of politics" go West and become a ranchman.

In the spring of 1895, Mayor Strong appointed Mr. Roosevelt Police Commissioner in New York, and the whole country sat up and took notice of the vigorous manner in which the new official enforced the law.

Practices Preparedness

Two years later President William McKinley appointed Mr. Roosevelt assistant secretary of the navy. The appointment was made at the earnest solicitation of Henry Cabot Lodge, United States Senator from Massachusetts, the same man whom Mr. Roosevelt tried to have nominated at the Republican national convention in Chicago in 1916.

Shortly after Mr. Roosevelt became assistant secretary of the navy he became convinced that war between the United States and Spain was inevitable, and he set to work in earnest to prepare for it so far as he was able. When the Maine was blown up in Havana Harbor became a certainty. It would have been impossible to prevent it. But Mr. Roosevelt had not waited until the Maine was blown up before making preparations for the inevitable war. On February 25, 1898, Mr. Roosevelt was acting secretary of the navy, and he seized the opportunity to send the following telegram:—

His Order to Admiral Dewey

"Washington, Feb. 25, 1898. "Dewey, Hong Kong:—"Order the squadron, except the Monocacy, to Hong Kong. Keep full of coal. In the event of declaration of war with Spain your duty will be to see that the Spanish squadron does not leave the Asiatic coast and then offensive operations in the Philippine Islands. Keep Olympia until further orders."

"Roosevelt's Rough Riders"

When the war with Spain broke out Mr. Roosevelt resigned his position at Washington in order to go to the front. Congress had authorized the raising of three national volunteer regiments wholly apart from the State contingents; and Theodore Roosevelt was appointed lieutenant colonel of the 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry, his friend, Leonard Wood, an army surgeon, being appointed colonel. The regiment soon became known as "Roosevelt's Rough Riders," although Colonel Wood was actually commander.

When the regiment reached Cuba it was brigaded with the First and Tenth regular cavalry, under Brigadier General S. B. M. Young. Very soon after landing the Rough Riders got into a skirmish and some of their number were killed or wounded. A week later the army made an advance on Santiago, and Mr. Roosevelt led his men on a charge up Kettle Hill, the regulars charging up San Juan Hill and capturing the block house on its summit. A little later Mr. Roosevelt led his men against some Spanish intrenchments and captured them after some close fighting.

Threatened With Court Martial

After the capture of Santiago Colonel Wood was made a brigadier general and put in command of the city and Colonel Roosevelt became a brigade commander. Colonel Roosevelt wrote an open letter telling of the wretched sanitary condition of the troops, complaining of the way they were fed and cared for. That letter made a great stir at the time, and there was talk of court-martialing Colonel Roosevelt, but such action was ever taken and his complaint did much good. It opened the eyes of the people to many abuses and they were rectified.

Governor of New York

At the close of the war, Colonel Roosevelt was nominated by the Re-

PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT

The following proclamation was cabled from Paris Tuesday by President Wilson and issued Tuesday night by the Department of State:

"Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America.

"A proclamation. To the people of the United States:

"It becomes my sad duty to announce officially the death of Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States from September 14, 1901 to March 4, 1909, which occurred at his home at Sagamore hill, Oyster Bay, New York, at 4:15 o'clock in the morning of January 6, 1919. In his death the United States has lost one of its most distinguished and patriotic citizens, who had endeared himself to the people by his strenuous devotion to their interests and to the public interests of his country.

"As president of the police board of his native city, as a member of the legislature and governor of his state, as civil service commissioner, as assistant secretary of the navy, as Vice President and President of the United States, he displayed administrative powers of a signal order and conducted the affairs of these various offices with a concentration of effort and a watchful care which permitted no divergence from the line of duty he had definitely set for himself.

"In the war with Spain, he displayed singular initiative and energy and distinguished himself among the commanders of the army in the field. As President he awoke the nation to the danger of private control which lurked in our financial and industrial systems. It was by thus arresting the attention and stimulating the purpose of the country that he opened the way for subsequent necessary and beneficent reforms.

"His private life was characterized by a simplicity, a virtue and an affection worthy of all admiration and emulation by the people of America.

"In testimony of the respect in which his memory is held by the government and the people of the United States. I do hereby direct that the flags of the White House and the several departmental buildings be displayed at half staff for a period of 30 days, and that suitable military and naval honors under orders of the secretaries of war and of the navy be rendered on the day of the funeral.

"Done this seventh day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-third.

"Woodrow Wilson.
"By the President,
"Frank L. Polk,
"Acting Secretary of State."

publicans for governor of New York, because he appeared to be the only Republican who stood any chance of election that year. After a hard campaign he was elected and made one of the greatest and best governors that Commonwealth had ever known. In his successful fights for the enactment of reforms he antagonized some of the politicians of his party who sought to prevent his re-election as governor by getting him nominated for Vice-President in 1900. He made a whirlwind campaign and helped to pile up a big majority for the Republican ticket.

Brilliant Record as President

McKinley's second term as president began March 4, 1901. Predictions were made that Roosevelt, as Vice-President, would pass out of the public mind. But in six months an assassin's bullet caused McKinley's death, and Theodore Roosevelt became the 26th president of the United States. His administration was brilliantly successful, and in 1904 he was re-elected by the largest popular majority in the history of the nation. His plurality over Alton B. Parker was greater than the aggregate of the three greatest pluralities ever recorded.

The seven and a half year period covered by Roosevelt's two administrations was characterized by a series of domestic reforms, a vigorous foreign policy and the beginning of the actual construction of the Panama Canal.

Several delicate international situations arose. First, there was the controversy with Great Britain over the boundary of Alaska. Mr. Roosevelt proposed a joint commission

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BOARD OF TRADE

At the annual meeting and dinner of the Hendersonville Board of Trade at the Kentucky Home Friday night, C. F. Bland, for the past two years president of this organization, was succeeded by Clarence Latham, who was vice president during the past year.

Dr. L. B. Morse was elected vice president to succeed Mr. Latham.

A. S. Truex was elected secretary-treasurer to succeed himself after two years of service. He has been devoting much time to the work without pay and he was voted a "slight token of appreciation" in the form of \$100 for his services during the past year.

The Board of Trade is in the best shape in its history. It has \$1088.08 in the treasury with an indebtedness of only about \$500. Mr. Truex reported that 19 concerns had furnished two-thirds of the membership money. He paid a high tribute to the services of President Bland, who preferred retirement. The organization is in good shape and many compliments were bestowed upon Mr. Bland and Mr. Truex for their splendid work.

The board of governors, in addition to the officers, consists of C. F. Bland, C. E. Brooks, E. W. Ewbank, K. G. Morris, Dr. W. H. Vander Linden.

Fifty-three members and two guests were present. The dinner, which was in keeping with the well known traditions of the Kentucky Home, was greatly enjoyed.

Immediately after the dinner came the election of officers, with the results stated above. Then S. T. Hodges made a report on the prospects for securing the Georgia Military Academy.

A site with a 50-acre lake is one of the requirements. It is believed that Osceola would be suitable and options have been secured on most of this property. Plans call for a government revenue cutter and the making of this something of a naval school in summer months with military features during other months of the school year. No definite information has been secured as to what Hendersonville is required to do in order to secure the school. It is not to be a branch of the Georgia school, which has grown to be a great money making institution. Men of great financial worth, the Candler of Atlanta being among them, are interested in the proposed institution.

Hendersonville is known to be preferred to any other location in Western Carolina. Once the requirements are learned it is believed that they will be met. Dr. A. C. Tebeau and E. W. Ewbank visited the Georgia institution recently as a committee from the Board of Trade and a committee from that school visited Hendersonville and looked over the proposed sites.

An institution such as that proposed would be of inestimable value to Hendersonville and every reasonable effort will be made to have it established here. The following committee has been named to solicit funds and take the other necessary steps toward further interesting the school authorities. C. F. Bland, J. M. Rhodes, C. E. Brooks, Dr. A. C. Tebeau and Sam T. Hodges.

Dr. L. B. Morse then submitted a report in behalf of the Good Roads committee. This precipitated a lengthy discussion which at a late hour was ended by appointment of a committee to consider the matter and submit to a later meeting a draft for revision of the road law.

LEGISLATURE

The State Legislature is now in session. The Senate and House both organized and commenced work Wednesday. All Senators were present except Senator Haymore of Surrey county, who was at home sick with influenza. There were only three Representatives absent.

Dennis G. Brummitt of Gainsville county was chosen speaker of the House and H. S. Williams, was chosen by the Republicans to act as their leader during the present session of the State's law makers.

A resolution was offered in both houses to ratify the prohibition amendment to the federal constitution. This provoked sharp discussion and the resolution was referred to the committee on liquor traffic.

Both Senate and House adjoining until noon Thursday out of respect for the death of Colonel Roosevelt.

Thomas W. Keith, who was a member of the S. A. T. C. of A. & E. college, West Raleigh, has returned to the city and is in the employ of the Hendersonville Wholesale Grocery Co.

MAD DOGS

Information has reached The Times office to the effect that a dog, supposed to be affected with rabies, has been running loose in the Naples section and has bitten dogs and other animals. One of the dogs bitten was B. B. Souther's, and it in turn bit three of Mr. Souther's children.

Mr. Souther's dog was killed and the head sent to Raleigh for examination; but the latest news we received was that no report had up to that time been received from Raleigh.

It is also stated that among the animals bitten by the original rabid dog were some hogs which shortly afterwards developed the disease.

There will be a meeting of the county health board Monday; and The Times suggests that the board investigate this matter and take appropriate action. Innocent children are entitled to all possible protection against the danger of incurring a horrible, and frequently fatal, disease.

There is, as we understand, a county-wide ordinance prohibiting the running loose of dogs, the penalty prescribed being death for the dog and a \$50 fine for the owner. This ordinance appears to be a dead letter. From personal observation we can testify that certain parts of this city are overrun with dogs.

If the county health board has the power to enact such an ordinance as the one above mentioned, we presume the board has also the power to put in motion some machinery to enforce it. At any rate, we suggest that the board, at its meeting Monday, take the whole matter under consideration.

KEDRON LODGE

The regular Communication of Kedron Lodge, No. 387 A. F. and A. M., will be held Friday night, January 10, at 8 o'clock.

Visiting Brothers cordially welcomed.

P. S. RAMSEY, Master.

ANOTHER EFFORT TO BE MADE TO CLEAR FRENCH BROAD OF OBSTRUCTIONS

Owing to the great damage done to crops in the upper French Broad valley as a result of heavy and prolonged rains which have fallen each season for the past several years, it is the purpose of the people of the section affected to make another strenuous effort to have the obstructions which were placed in the river a number of years ago by the government, removed, in order that the waters of the unruly stream can be kept within its banks. The heavy rains of recent years have caused the river to desert its channel in many places. And the recent heavy and prolonged rain caused the river to rise above its banks, and overflow the bottom lands of the valley through which it flows, thereby destroying hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of ungathered crops. In some instances farmers lost practically their entire crops. The valley of the French Broad embraces many thousands of acres of the most fertile lands to be found anywhere, and if the obstructions could be removed from the river and a shoal or two blown out somewhat, which could be done at a moderate cost, the benefits to this section would be immeasurable.

A Bit of History

The following bit of history, as contained in the Raleigh correspondence of the Greensboro Daily News, is of interest in this connection:

In 1876 General R. B. Vance, brother of the immortal Zeb, fathered a project which was designed to make the upper French Broad navigable from Buck Shoals, near Asheville, to Brevard. "The Mountain Lily," a bright new boat, piled those waters, making a few trips after inception of the scheme. The project was abandoned, the Mountain Lily's brief career came to grief.

Meanwhile the government work had resulted in the placing of some obstructions in the stream. Then, too, the lumber business was thriving, great forests were cut down, and piled up and the course of the stream became uncertain. It is reported that efforts are taking shape which may bring about the expenditure of state and federal funds for the purpose of clearing the river of obstruction, so that the channel may be definitely fixed, thus precluding the likelihood of frequent floods with their attendant destruction of property.