

The Nation's Greatest Man Takes Oath As President.

PROGRAM.

10:45 a. m. President leaves White house for the Capitol.

11:55 a. m. President enters senate chamber.

12 Noon. President pro tem. of senate administers oath of office to Vice President-elect Fairbanks, who delivers his inaugural address.

12:30 p. m. Entire assemblage proceeds to stand at case front of the Capitol, where President Roosevelt takes oath of office and delivers his inaugural address.

2 p. m. President returns to White House. Grand parade follows.

7:30 p. m. Illumination of city and display of fireworks.

9 p. m. Inaugural Ball, opened by President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Washington, D. C., March 4.— Theodore Roosevelt was today transformed from president by chance into president by choice; from president through an assassin's bullet into president through the ballots of the people.

Under the shadow of the gray-domed capitol, gazing into the placid marble features of Greenough's statue of the first president, the 26th president of the United States swore faithfully to execute the laws and to preserve, protect and defend the constitution.

Once before he had taken this solemn obligation; then, at the death-bed of his martyred predecessor, surrounded by a small company of tear-dimmed friends and counsellors; today, in the presence of a cheering host of fifty thousand people. Then he had ridden many lonely miles over storm-swept mountain roads to reach the tragic scene of his elevation; today he was escorted along the nation's grandest avenue from the White House to the home of congress between two densely packed lines of his countrymen gathered from every quarter to cheer him and wish him Godspeed in the coming four years. Then he had said with choking voice "It shall be my aim to continue absolutely unbroken the policies of President McKinley for the peace, prosperity, and honor of our beloved country." Today he left it for his fellow citizens, who had honored him with a greater majority than ever before given, to judge whether or not he had redeemed that pledge.

When he entered the White House the youngest president in his country's history, besides the vast responsibilities of his office, he received as a heritage McKinley's dearest ambition to become more and more with the years the president of all the people. Today there were represented in the throngs that had journeyed hither to greet President Roosevelt men from the north, south, east, and west, and from distant islands of the seas; from the Philippines, from Porto Rico, from Hawaii—from every land where floats the emblem of the republic. In the great parade there rode governors of states, both north and south, Filipinos, who had fought under the flag of Aguinaldo today carried the arms of Uncle Sam and stepped proudly beneath the Stars and Stripes. Blanketed Indians from the virile plains vied with silk-hatted gentry from the effete East in sounding the praise of this cowboy-author-soldier-statesman. The president's old rancher friends, with lariats and chaparajos and wily bronchos, made strange contrast to the stiff-backed, pouter-chested young men from the national military schools. Rough Riders from San Juan Hill, volunteers from Santiago, jackies from Manila bay shared the plaudits of the multitude with modest every-day soldiers, for whom the title Regular is distinction quite enough. Political clubs, from East and West, militiamen from North and South, blue-clad veterans of the sixties, heroes of the Spanish-American war, miners from Pennsylvania, the entire legislature of the state of Tennessee, the president's neighbors from Oyster Bay—all contributed to the national character of the splendid pageant. Who shall say that for today at least Theodore Roosevelt

was not president of all the people? Throughout the whole route the president, with hat in hand, kept bowing in acknowledgment of the greetings. On his arrival at the Capitol he was conducted to the president's room in the rear of the senate chamber, where he began at once the signing of belated bills. At noon he entered the abode of the senate to witness the installation of Senator Fairbanks as vice president. This ceremony concluded, he proceeded to the stand on the east front of the capitol to receive the oath from Chief Justice Fuller and to deliver his inaugural address. Immediately upon its conclusion the president was escorted back to the White house, where, after luncheon with the officials of the inaugural committee, he took his position on the stand in front to review the formal inaugural parade.

The quadrennial national fete day will be concluded with a general illumination of the city and fireworks on the Washington Monument grounds, followed by the great inaugural ball in the pension building, at which President and Mrs. Roosevelt will be the guests of honor.

The day broke cloudy with very slight rain. The sun soon emerged however and the clouds almost disappeared. The weather conditions are considered fairly propitious. The air is clear and balmy.

The inauguration cost about \$65,000, which it is believed has been fully repaid in the sale of grandstand seats and ball tickets.

The broad plaza whose level surface stretches east from the national capitol can accommodate an army. For hours this morning Washington poured its own population and a vast increment of visitors into the front yard of the seat of government. From the porticos and windows of the capitol building a good idea of the scope of the multitude could be gathered. Eight acres of humanity spread fan shaped from the focus made by a little covered shelter, open at the sides, where the president was to stand. Over toward the imposing facade of the Congressional library it extended, literally a "sea of faces."

There may have been only 50,000; probably there were nearer 100,000 in sight of the president when he took the oath.

The imposing form of Associate Justice John Marshall Harlan, who is almost heroic in stature, was the first to catch the eye of the vast crowd. Flanked by the marshal of the supreme court and the marshal of the District of Columbia, Justice Harlan led his colleagues, garbed in flowing robes of black, topped with satin skull caps, to their seats at the left of the tribune. After a brief pause, Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador and dean of the Diplomatic Corps, marshaled forth the ambassadors and ministers of foreign countries. When the daylight caught the gleam of their accoutrements, it was evident the diplomats had been undeterred by the calamity of four years ago, when the rain ruined some \$30,000 worth of gold lace and regalia. These foreign gentlemen for the most part have honorary rank in their armies at home, and the full dress of crack European regiments is gaudy and gorgeous. The garb of a plain civilian diplomat is of itself well worth looking at. If the justices carried with them solemnity, the foreigners brought splendor, and when they were finally seated to the right of the president's rostrum their location marked an oasis of color amid a desert of black.

Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Fairbanks were next escorted to seats just outside the tribune. The president's children were with Mrs. Roosevelt, and Mr. Fairbanks' two sons, students at Yale, and his daughter, Mrs. Adelaide Timmons, were with Mrs. Fairbanks. Mrs. Roosevelt was gowned in a severely plain tailored suit of electric blue; the round skirt was trimmed in bands of lighter shade panne velvet, and the short, modish jacket had a vest of the panne braided in silver. Mrs. Fairbanks wore a beautiful dress of brown velvet, trimmed with chiffon and white ermine. Her hat and gloves were also white. Vice President Fairbanks, accompanied by the secretary of the senate and followed by the senators and ex-senators, was next in order. Then came Speaker Cannon and the house of representatives. The instant the tall form of the vice president appeared a swelling cheer burst from the crowd. Mr. Fairbanks bowed repeatedly before taking his chair. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, advancing down the carpet in a business-like

manner, was quickly recognized and evoked salvos of applause.

Secretary Hay and the other members of the cabinet were ushered to their chairs, and at their heels came Admiral Dewey and Lieutenant-General Chaffee. Dewey is still popular with the American people. Billows of cheers greeted him, and the hero of Manila bay showed that he was pleased.

The governors of states and territories and the other invited guests followed in indiscriminate fashion, and in a short time all was in readiness for the coming of the chief executive.

President Roosevelt advanced from the door of the capitol, arm in arm with Chief Justice Fuller. Instantly, from all parts of the eight acres of humanity, arose a prolonged, tumultuous shout. At a distance it might have been mistaken for a chorus of colossal fog-horns; close by it filled and deafened the ears. Behind the president and his white-haired companion came James H. McKeeney, clerk of the supreme court, bearing a ponderous Bible. When the demonstration ceased, Chief Justice Fuller his snowy locks falling to his shoulders, in feeble tones pronounced the oath. President Roosevelt's voice was easily audible at some distance when he repeated the formal declaration prescribed in article II of the constitution: "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States."

A second later he bowed and pressed his lips upon the open pages of Holy Writ. Again erect, he faced the people, and for an instant perfect silence held. A signal had been flashed from the dome of the capitol to the navy yard, whence came the boom of a ten-inch gun, first of 21, fired in honor of the newly inaugurated chief executive. The tension was broken, and a roar of cheers resounded far and wide across the plaza. In fruitless competition there was heard by a few the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner" from Professor Foster's big chorus. On the outskirts of the crowd bands were playing; cannon in the Virginia forts across the river and batteries in the city were joining the big guns of the monitor "Puritan" in the salute to the president. For many minutes the jangle of sounds continued before the president could find a chance to begin his inaugural address.

President Roosevelt said: My Fellow Citizens: No people on earth have more cause to be thankful than ours, and this is said reverently, in no spirit of boastfulness in our own strength, but with gratitude to the Giver of Good who has blessed us with the conditions which have enabled us to achieve so large a measure of well-being and of happiness. To us as a people is has been granted to lay the foundations of our national life in a new continent. We are the heirs of the ages, and yet we have had to pay few of the penalties which in old countries are exacted by the dead hand of a bygone civilization. We have not been obliged to fight for our existence against any alien race; and yet our life has called for the vigor and effort without which the manlier and harder virtues wither away. Under such conditions it would be our own fault if we failed; and the success which we have had in the past, the success which we confidently believe the future will bring should cause in us no feeling of vainglory, but rather a deep and abiding realization of all which life has offered us; a full acknowledgment of the responsibility which is ours; and a fixed determination to show that under a free government a mighty people can thrive best, alike as regards the things of the body and the things of the soul.

Much has been given to us, and much will rightfully be expected from us. We have duties to others and duties to ourselves; and we can shrink neither. We have become a great nation, forced by the fact of its greatness into relations with the other nations of the earth; and we must behave as becomese a people with such responsibilities. Toward all other nations, large and small, our attitude must be one of cordial and sincere friendship. We must show not only in our words but in our deeds that we are earnestly desirous of securing their good will by acting toward them in a spirit of just and generous recognition of all their rights. But justice and generosity in a nation, as in an individual, count most when shown not by the weak but by the strong. While ever careful to refrain from wronging others, we must be no less insistent that we are not wronged ourselves. We wish peace; but we wish the peace of justice, the peace of righteousness. We wish it because we think it is right and not because we are afraid. No weak nation that acts manfully and justly should ever have cause to fear us, and no

strong power should ever be able to single us out as a subject for insolent aggression.

Our relations with the other powers of the world are important; but still more important are our relations among ourselves. Such growth in wealth, in population, and in power as this nation has seen during the century and a quarter of its national life is inevitably accompanied by a like growth in the problems which are ever before every nation that rises to greatness. Power invariably means both responsibility and danger. Our forefathers faced certain perils which we have outgrown. We now face other perils the very existence of which it was impossible that they should foresee. Modern life is both complex and intense, and the tremendous changes wrought by the extraordinary industrial development of the last half century are felt in every fiber of our social and political being. Never before have men tried so vast and formidable an experiment as that of administering the affairs of a continent under the forms of a democratic republic. The conditions which have told for our marvelous material well-being, which have developed to a very high degree our energy, self-reliance, and individual initiative, have also brought the care and anxiety inseparable from the accumulation of great wealth in industrial centers. Upon the success of our experiment much depends; not only as regards our own welfare, but as regards the welfare of mankind. If we fail, the cause of free self-government throughout the world will rock to its foundations; and therefore our responsibility is heavy, to ourselves, to the world as it is today, and to the generations yet unborn. There is no good reason why we should fear the future, but there is every reason why we should face it seriously, neither hiding from ourselves the gravity of the problems before us nor fearing to approach these problems with the unbending, unflinching purpose to solve them aright.

Yet, after all, though the problems are new, though the task set before us differ from the tasks set before our fathers who founded and preserved this republic, the spirit in which these tasks must be undertaken and these problems faced, if our duty is to be well done, remains essentially unchanged. We know that self-government is difficult. We know that no people needs such high traits of character as that people which seeks to govern its affairs aright through the freely expressed will of the freemen who compose it. But we have faith that we shall not prove false to the memories of the men of the mighty past. They did their work, they left us the splendid heritage we now enjoy. We in our turn have an assured confidence that we shall be able to leave this heritage unwasted and enlarged to our children and our children's children. To do so we must show, not merely in great crises, but in the everyday affairs of life, the qualities of practical intelligence, of courage, of hardihood and endurance, and above all the power of devotion to a lofty ideal, which made great the men who founded this republic in the days of Washington, which made great the men who preserved this republic in the days of Abraham Lincoln.

The conclusion of the address was the signal for another ovation, during which Mr. Roosevelt shook hands with most of the notables who pressed about the tribune. Then he was escorted back to the rotunda of the capitol and thence to the executive chamber, where he held a brief reception before leaving for the White House.

Today's closing business was of insufficient importance to seriously engage the attention of the spectators, the heavy business of this congress already having been concluded for letter or worse.

At noon Senator Frye, president pro tem., hammered the marble desk, and announced in set formula that the senate of the Fifty-eighth congress was adjourned sine die; then he immediately called the extraordinary session of the senate of the Fifty-ninth congress to order.

Mr. Fairbanks was forthwith ushered into the chamber, the senate members of the inaugural committee acting as his escort. He proceeded to the rostrum, where Senator Frye administered the usual oath. The new vice president's first official act was to call upon the senate chaplain, the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, to pray.

Mr. Fairbanks then delivered his inaugural address, and, at its conclusion, he instructed the secretary to read the president's proclamation convening the extraordinary session of the senate. Next the new senators were called to the secretary's desk and took the oath. This somewhat tedious business finished, the vice president announced:

"The sergeant-at-arms will execute the order for the inauguration ceremonies."

President Roosevelt was then escorted back to the executive chamber, adjoining the marble room, preparatory to going to the east portico, himself to take the oath of office. The other distinguished visitors filed out of the chamber in the order of official precedence, and went to the seats assigned them for the presidential ceremony.

Parade. With standards waving, guidons whipping in the breeze, and regimental colors, flaunting, infantry, cavalry and artillery tramped, pranced, and rumbled this afternoon through historic Pennsylvania avenue.

There are 200,000 visitors in Washington today. With the resident population, the parade was seen by nearly half a million people.

Experienced observers say that the procession beats all its predecessors, even that of McKinley's second inauguration. Not since the review of the Federal army after the Civil war has the avenue seen so many and such variety of soldiers.

BETTER COUNTY ROADS.

The condition of the roads in McCracken county at present has again called attention to the importance of good roads. Not only do the almost impassable roads keep many farmers at home who desire to come to town, and who should come to town to transact business, but bad roads also prevent the county from getting rural routes that would prove bonus to any section, and place even the most isolated localities in close touch with the city and civilization. Bad roads may be the cause of McCracken county losing a rural route inspected last week. The Owensboro Inquirer says of good roads:

"There is a persistent cry for government aid in the building of good roads, and an effort in that direction has been made in the introduction of the Brownlow bill and similar measures in congress. There is no question but that the government has the same right to build roads as to improve interior water ways, a matter which was threshed out eighty years ago in the discussion of 'internal improvements,' but the right is not the question. The government now has calls for all the money that can be raised under present systems of taxation and the bonded debt is about as heavy as can well be borne. Good roads must be built, but they should be built by the communities direct to be benefited. It is true that the good of good roads would reflect itself on people who never use a road and in fact never see a road, but the benefit would be so remote and so indirect that it would not be fair to charge them with the improvement. Again, governmental aid means that the money would have to be distributed among the states, and in this distribution it would most likely occur that the states getting the most of it would have the least use for it, and vice versa. It is true that the Brownlow bill, which is the best measure that has been worked out, provides the money shall be distributed to the states only in proportion to the amount they raise and distribute themselves. This is the Rockefeller plan of giving money to the schools he helps. He fixes a large sum which they must raise, when he will contribute a like sum. The school strains its gizzard out to raise the money, and Rockefeller comes down with his share and gets all the credit."

"Let us have good roads. Let Kentucky save some of the money which she wastes and let the counties save some of the money they waste and let the people of Davless county especially vote bonds for building roads, \$500,000 worth of them, and build the roads they want. The gods help those who help themselves."

The merchants of Owensboro put up with apparently discriminating and unjust freight rates for a good many years until they decided to hold an investigation. Finally they put the matter in the hands of the state railroad commission, and the railroad commission has been holding sessions at Owensboro hearing both sides. The merchants and others testified to the rates, and the difference in rates, and the railroad was well represented by men to explain why there was a difference. Very often the shippers do not begin to understand why rates are what they are, and if these investigations satisfy them as to the fairness and justice of the railroad rates, it will have done a great good, even if there is accomplished nothing in the way of a change in the rates. Something of the kind should be taken up by the Commercial club of Paducah. The freight rates here are not altogether satisfactory, and although there may be a good reason that rates are as they are, this reason is not understood by shippers and merchants who receive goods, and until it is understood, there will be more or less complaint. Paducah should do as Owensboro has done and at least find out the whys and wherefores of an apparently unjust difference in rates to and from Paducah, and other places.

A FAIR PROPOSITION. Fiscal court is to be asked to contribute \$1,200 a year towards the maintenance of the Commercial club, and there is every reason the magistrates should give the request careful consideration. This \$1,200 if secured, is to be put to good use. It will not be wasted, but will be spent solely to further the interests of Paducah and McCracken county. Moreover, most of it will come from the residents of Paducah proper. About eight million dollars worth of the property assessed by the county for taxes is in the city of Paducah, and the taxes paid on it are paid by the

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citizens of Paducah. This would leave for the residents of the county to pay, only a small proportion of the \$1,200.

Another thing is that the county makes no exemptions as an inducement to a manufactory to locate in it, while a city does. When a new factory locates the city gets no taxes on it for five years, but the county gets its full quota.

The Commercial club has just added a new feature. It has appointed a committee on agriculture, whose duty it will be to get as many farmers as possible to come here and locate in the county.

The location of more farmers will not only mean a larger population, and greater prosperity, but will likewise mean more taxes collected, and a consequent reduction of the tax rate, making it lighter on all.

This \$1,200 that fiscal court will be asked to donate, however, will nearly all come from the residents of the city, and the request of the Commercial club is certainly a fair, reasonable one, and is entitled to courteous consideration.

Smithland is becoming wider awake every day. She wants a commercial club, a railroad, a railway line and many other things. It is to be hoped the good people will get them, as they seem to be thoroughly in earnest. The Smithland Democrat says: "Why can't the enterprising citizens of Smithland organize a commercial club to boom the town and try to secure some, at least, of the many things that we need, among which could be mentioned a flour mill, a canning factory, a steam laundry, an ice plant, water works, electric lights, and last but not least an electric car line from Paducah to Marion, via, Smithland. The town will never grow and amount to anything unless we do something to make it grow. There should be something here to give people employment, and to induce people to locate here. Dry goods, groceries and drugs are necessities and should be sold in all towns, but they do not help to make a town grow. We want something for people to do. So, let's have a commercial club and boom the town."

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