

# RECEPTION AT WHITE HOUSE

## Officialdom in Washington Pays Respects to President of the United States.

### USUAL BRILLIANT SCENE

### FORAKER SHAKES HANDS WITH ROOSEVELT.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Each year the White House doors swing open to all the nation on Jan. 1, and a heartier welcome was never extended to visitors than greeted the thousands who called today to pay their respects to the chief executive. New Year's cheer banished rank and class distinction. The president met ambassador and laborer with the same firm handshake. While the marine band played patriotic airs the great throng moved slowly through the executive mansion, and in the greeting of the president men and women of all ages and conditions found renewed devotion to the republic and democratic ideal.

The diplomatic corps, the judiciary, the army, the navy and civilian officials in the various departments were received in turn before the thousands of citizens, who had been standing in line for hours, could meet the president. The president and Mrs. Roosevelt, vice president and members of the cabinet and their wives exchanged New Year's greetings in the library. Here they assembled about a quarter of 11 o'clock, remaining until a few minutes to the hour when, escorted by Captain Frank R. McCoy, United States cavalry, one of the aides to the president, the entire party descended to the blue room, the president and Mrs. Roosevelt in the lead.

As the latter made their appearance at the head of the stairs a fanfare of trumpets by musicians of the marine band, stationed in the vestibule, announced their coming. The march to the blue room was made by way of the state dining room and the red room, through which all the guests except those of the diplomatic corps, were being presented. The latter assembling in the room immediately on their arrival by way of the southern entrance to the White House. By means of a velvet cord twisted with gold the blue room had been roped off so as to form a clear and uninterrupted passageway for the callers. President Roosevelt took a position near the door at the head of the receiving line. On his right was Mrs. Roosevelt; to her right Mrs. Fairbanks, and so on down the line, the ladies of the cabinet taking their positions in the order of precedence. Behind them stood the vice president and the members of the cabinet. To the opposite of the receiving line were the president's aides, with the exception of Colonel Charles S. Bromwell and Captain McCoy, who made the introductions. The former included Lieutenant Commander Albert L. Key, U. S. N.; Captain Arthur E. Harding, U. S. M. C.; Lieutenant Chauncey Shackford, U. S. N.; Captain Fitzhugh Lee, U. S. cavalry; Lieutenant D. H. MacArthur, corps of engineers; Lieutenant C. H. Train, U. S. N.; Lieutenant Philip H. Sheridan, U. S. cavalry; and Ensign Semmes Reed, U. S. N.

### Diplomatic Corps Came First.

With the exception of the members of the diplomatic corps, all the introductions to the president were made by Colonel Bromwell, and to Mrs. Roosevelt by Captain McCoy. As each caller passed the president he gave a cordial shake of the hand. Mrs. Roosevelt and the ladies of the cabinet each carried a handsome bouquet of roses. The diplomatic corps was presented to the president by Assistant Secretary of State Huntington Wilson, each head of the foreign missions in turn introducing to the president the members of his staff. Baron Mayer Des Planches, ambassador from Italy, the dean of the corps, headed the ambassadors. The ambassadors and members of their staffs were followed by the ministers and the members of their official households. Because of the death of the minister's mother, requiring him to go into mourning for a period of 100 days, Sir Chen Tung Liang Cheng, the Chinese minister, was not present. Most

of the members of his staff, however, were in attendance in their Oriental dress. Sir Mortimer Durand, who has just vacated the post of ambassador from Great Britain at Washington, was always a conspicuous figure at the presidential social functions. King Edward was represented today by Esme Howard, charge d'affaires.

### Supreme Court.

Following the diplomatic corps came the representatives of the judicial branch of the government at Washington, headed by the justices of the supreme court. Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller came first, each of the associate justices following. For the first time in his new capacity as an associate justice of the supreme court, William H. Moody was present at a social function at the White House. Following the supreme court were the judges of the court of appeals and of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, the judges of the court of claims, and former members of the cabinet, ambassadors and ministers of the United States.

### Army and Navy.

The officers of the army, navy and marine corps and of the district national guard, in special full dress, presented an imposing spectacle. Lieutenant General John C. Bates, retired, headed the army line, and Admiral George Dewey, with his secretary, Lieutenant Crawford, the navy. The general and staff of the District of Columbia national guard followed the regular army and the navy guests.

### The Common Public.

Last of all came the general public, thousands of whom had been in line several hours waiting their turn, and for the time being the doors of the White House were open to all. There were old and young, white and colored, men and women.

Music was furnished by the United States marine band, under command of Lieutenant W. H. Santelman. The plan of floral decorations was simple, the desire being to give as much room as possible for the free movement of the large number of guests.

In the great vestibule and corridor adjoining it the florists' work was shown to splendid advantage. Ornamental potted foliage was tastefully grouped in various places.

### Gorgeous Gowns.

Mrs. Roosevelt wore a gown of brown and white brocade satin, the panels in the skirt showing a full fall of brown chiffon trimmed with applique in blue. The bodice was of brocade, and the sleeves of brown chiffon. She wore diamond ornaments.

Mrs. Fairbanks wore white chiffon brocade in pink roses. The gown had insertions of lace.

Mrs. Root was gowned in very pale blue chiffon velvet with point lace, the panels of the velvet falling over a lace flounced skirt and pinnafore effect on the bodice.

Mrs. Shaw wore light blue chiffon velvet with point lace.

Mrs. Taft wore a delicate white lace robe over pale pink.

Mrs. Boupart wore a pale blue velvet dress very profusely trimmed with pearl and gold passementeries.

Mrs. Metcalf's dress was of white lace very modestly trimmed.

Mrs. Strauss, who made her first appearance at a New Year's presidential reception as a wife of a member of the cabinet, wore a gown of soft, shimmering yellow satin with an insert of Irish crochet lace, and a bodice trimmed with the same kind of lace. A deep collar of pearls with diamond bands also was worn.

Mrs. Longworth, the president's

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### Foraker Was There.

Among the first of the congressional party to reach President Roosevelt was Senator Foraker of Ohio. The greetings between the two were very cordial. Vice President and Mrs. Fairbanks left the receiving room early. Mrs. Fairbanks has been indisposed for some days, and it is supposed the reception fatigued her.

Edward Everett Hale, the venerable chaplain of the senate, was a noticeable figure at the reception. He had with him Herbert Dudley Hale of New York City, a relative, whom he introduced to the president. Dr. Hale said his first appearance at a White House New Year's reception was sixty-two years ago, when Tyler was president.

### JOY AND MOURNING.

### New Year's Receptions and Funerals at National Capital.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Happiness and sorrow were closely allied today in the national capital. On the one side were the New Year's receptions, beginning with that of the president, and descending through the cabinet offices to the residential set, while upon the other were numberless funeral corteges bearing to the "silent cities of the dead" the victims of the Terra Cotta wreck upon the Baltimore & Ohio railroad last Sunday.

Notwithstanding the evidences of joy throughout the city, the pall of death was universally felt, and for the first time in many years Washington tempered its pleasure over the birth of a new year with remembrance of the dead in its midst.

### ALLEE'S MAN BEATEN.

Dover, Del., Jan. 1.—The deadlock in the house of representatives' Republican caucus last night over the candidate for speaker was broken early today after an all-night contest. Richard Hogson, former United States Senator Higgins' candidate, was selected for speaker over the candidate favored by United States Senator Allee.

### NEW MEN AT THE HELM.

Providence, R. I., Jan. 1.—James H. Higgins was inaugurated governor today with the usual ceremonies.

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## Whiskey Not the Only Cause of Failure

Whiskey is a great leveler. It blots out distinctions and causes men of widely different character to appear very much alike. To the casual observer there is little difference between the intellectual giant and the mental weakling when both are dominated by whiskey. The greatest thinker loses the power of coherent thought and acts and speaks as senselessly as the weaker brother when both are in their cups. Whiskey makes them temporarily irresponsible; but it does not make them permanently equal.

There is a great deal of misapprehension on this phase of the whiskey question. Many things are charged to its account that ought to be laid to other causes. It is natural for the drunkard's friends to seek for excuses for his shortcomings, and it often happens that liquor gets all the blame when it is not wholly responsible.

Because a man drinks it does not necessarily follow that he would have been all that is honorable if he did not drink. Setting up an ideal and imagining that each inebriate would have typified that ideal but for his unfortunate habit is a common method of soothing vanity as well as sorrow—a sentimental hoistering of faltering ambition and perished hopes. But it does no good. The better way is to turn the searchlight onto the drunkard's character during his intervals of sobriety. What does he amount to at such times?—What did he accomplish before alcohol gained the mastery over him? Was he industrious, upright and reliable, or was he weak and vacillating? Did he lack decision? Were his associates low? Was he selfish and careless of his responsibilities? If these questions cannot be satisfactorily answered there is something beside whiskey to be considered. Many a woman is dragging out a life of misery as a drunkard's wife who would be just as wretched for some other reason if her husband did not drink. Many a drinking man lays all his ills to whiskey when a large part of them are due to other causes.

Whatever the conditions may be, whiskey unquestionably makes them worse; and every drinking man is justified in attributing much evil to that cause. The best of men cannot drink to excess for a great length of time without proving the destructive power of strong drink. But whiskey when a large part of them are due to other causes. But whiskey when a large part of them are due to other causes. But whiskey when a large part of them are due to other causes.

Whiskey is the greatest cause of poverty, degradation, misery and crime. But it is not the only cause. If strong drink could be wiped off the face of the earth today, there would still be plenty of work for reformers. Evil tendencies are not all due to whiskey. There are paupers who never drank. There are hardened criminals who never were drunkards. There are wrongs and cruelties that have not even the saving excuse of intoxication. There is wretchedness and misery untold in quarters where alcohol does not rule. The world would not be perfect and its inhabitants would not all be saints if there were no such thing as strong drink. But it would be better—indefinitely better; and there would be a chance of reaching a solution of other problems that are full of complexities.

There are two points that cannot be too strongly emphasized. First, the difference in the effect of alcohol; and next, the difference in the character of the men who drink it. Whether a man shall become an inebriate or a moderate drinker depends on his susceptibility to the poison of alcohol. But whether an inebriate shall become vicious and immoral is largely a matter of individuality.

If alcohol had only a physical effect it easily might be overcome with medicine. Or, if its effect was limited to the morals, it might be conquered by reformatory measures. But unfortunately the action of whiskey is not bounded by simple rules. Its power to destroy has no definite limit. Some of the world's ablest workers and wisest thinkers have been peculiarly susceptible to its poison; but because of this, it does not follow that all men who are easily affected by alcohol are either workers or thinkers.

There are drunkards who have reached the lowest pit of despair, the last rung of the social ladder, and the limit of their resources, who, but for drink, would have occupied positions of honor and trust. But there are likewise drunkards who would have been rogues and criminals whether they drank or not. Whiskey made them all worse. Often it made them seem very much alike,—for drunkenness in itself is a period of irresponsibility. But the similarity does not extend beyond the time of intoxication.

The difference in the character of inebriates is not sufficiently considered by those who are interested in various branches of rescue work. There is too much of a disposition to treat them all alike, regardless of education, environment and natural disposition. But such methods are clearly impractical, and are apt to defeat their own purpose.

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