ROOSEVELT THE MAN

A PEN PORTRAIT BY HAMLIN GARLAND

Occasionally—not often—I am asked, "Why are you for Roosevelt and Johnson?" and the only political speech I am capable of making is in answer to that question. I shall be very personal because I believe that all our affairs at the last analysis come down to the personal equation. How does it affect one? What is my relationship to this or that reform or reformer?

I am for the Progressive party because it is a party organized for reform, its leaders are proved reformers of the practical sort; they have written their deeds in the public records of state and nation.

Having been a reformer for 30 years (a land-reformer and an opponent of all special privilege), I have supported the man who at the moment represented some vital principle of progression. I campaigned for Cleveland in the days when we believed he was about to advance the cause of the people. I supported Bryan when he stood for the rights of the many against the demands of the few, and I advocated the re-election of Theodore Roosevelt.

Now, when a party organized to ignore sectional lines, knowing no south and no north, no east and no west, is formed, a party with a definite contract with the people, I would be false to my 30 years of reform speaking and writing if I did not instantly throw all my influence for its leaders.

With the platform as a whole, I am single-heartedly in accord. Its humanitarian spirit, its demand for the popular rule, its defense for righteous business and its defense of selfish and cruel finance, its reassertion of the conservation policy—all those great principles are put forth in language that cannot be mistaken. They are stated in terms which will enable the humblest man to bring an indictment against his leaders, if these promises are not carried out.

The wording of this platform is not that of political schemers—it is too plain, too direct, too unequivocal of phrase and paragraph. It is an utterance of men on fire with desire of a noblefr state, a purer republic.

I am for the Progressive party because of its leaders; because men like Johnson and Pinchot and Beveridge and Straus are in it and leading it and giving their best to it. It is a party of young and progressive men. A party of idealists led by men of experience and moral conviction.

I am for the party because it recognizes the rights of women and expresses the need of legislation for the protection of women and children. No other party ever dared to make such assertion for the prevention of injustice to the helpless.

When I have said this much my friends say, "Yes, but there is Roosevelt, you are for Roosevelt."

"I am."

"Why?"

Then I accept the challenge in the questioner's tone. I am glad to be asked that question. I am for Roosevelt because he is a reformer who reforms. He is an idealist who knows how to get results. He is the greatest all-round political leader in America. His culture, his ancestry, his sense of history, his perception of humor, his prodigious memory, his experience as a public official, his rugged honesty and his marvelous vitality make him the chief figure in this crusade.

No president since Washington has ever put through so many far-reaching measures—and why? Because he was a young president. Most of our presidents have been old and inert before they took their chairs. Roosevelt was in his youthful, expanding, brave period when he was called by the hand of death to the White House. Handicapped by the policies of his predecessor, he carried himself with such discretion as well as vigor that he was called to an administration of his own. In those four years when he was president in his own right he made a record which has no equal in the history of our executives.

It is easy to start a reform, but it is exceedingly difficult to get a reformation idea enacted into law. No man ever went to Roosevelt with a measure of general public importance without getting an instant and steady reply, "That is a good thing, I will advance it." His action in the coal strike, his part in the Russo-Japanese war, his work with Pinchot and Garfield, his building up our policy of conservation, his resistance upon the pure food bill, his booking of railway regulation—all these are achievements which are recorded, but there is another less tangible and more far-reaching effect of his personality and that is found in the livening and rejuvenation of our public service. To use a strong phrase, he "jacked up" the public servants all along the line. He was a "live wire," and out of his abounding vitality a thrill of energy, of courage, of resolution radiated till it was felt by the ranger in his lonely forest, the meat inspector in the Chicago jungle and the diplomat at the court of kings.

He would not tolerate incapacity in a general of the army or any other officer. Tireless himself, he was impatient of those who stopped on the field of battle to take an after dinner nap. He was an executive, not a ruminating old judge. He loved youth, vigor and clear perception and admired honest, enthusiastic purpose. So far as he could, he cast his vote for the young candidate. He called the young man of independent fortune into politics. He raised public service to a higher rate of speed, and today he is the leader of a party of young men—men who are young in the power to assimilate novel ideas. He is the leader of those who believe in honest social service and the enforcement of social justice.

"But,' my friend insists, "admit all that—and much of it I do admit—is he not a profound egotist? Did he not come between other leaders and the nomination?"

He did—but he did it at the almost universal demand of the Progressives. Let no one deceive himself. There was only one first choice and that was Theodore Roosevelt. No one who attended the conventions in Chicago could have any reasonable doubt of whom the people commanded to serve. There were several substitutes, but only one Roosevelt, there never had been, the others were named simply on the basis of a substitute in case the chief tackle would not play. The presidency should not be a reward, it is an honor, but it is also a service. The president should be fitted for his job the same as any other hired man of the people, and should be subject to a recall the same as any other office. Roosevelt has had but one term in his own right, but if he had, his experience, his vigor, his wide acquaintance with men and affairs fit him to be a better president than ever before. The talk of a third term is nonsense—the term should be subject to popular will as it is in England, and if the people find their servant useful, there is no reason why they should not retain him.

Finally I am for Roosevelt because I know the man; for nearly 20 years I have had the honor and the pleasure of his friendship. Our acquaintance began outside of politics and continues outside of politics. When we met first he was police commissioner and a "regular" Republican. I was a young novelist and a Henry George disciple. We met on the common ground of a lover of the best, and a belief in American literature and art. We seldom talked politics. I never asked him for anything for myself or any friend. My visits to him were those of one man of literary tastes to another. I think he found my company inoffensive and perhaps a relief because I did not ask for anything. Once as I was dining with him when he was assistant secretary of the navy, he suddenly leaned back and said: "Think of having a man at my table who knows the difference between a par fleche and apperago!"

He permitted me to share his deepest aspirations as a public servant and once wrote in A volume of his essays: "I am trying to make my administration square with the principles expressed in this volume." At another time he said, with profound earnestness: "I am president of the whole people, no matter what their color, creed or condition, and in all questions brought to me for answer, I try to get at the equities in the case."

I believe he meant this. I am sure that he has tried in all ways to live up to his expressed idea. It has not been easy, and he has not always found the sources of his information pure. As his judgments and his action had to be based upon the highest authority at hand he has, at times, failed of the ideal course, but I believe that he has continued at all times to act as an honest and high-purposed official should do.

Detractors have been busy, crooked men and crooked business, those who had special privileges to sell and those who wished to steal social values, have leagued against him. His conservation policies were opposed by those who wanted something for nothing and just as the gamblers in Wall street flew into fury when his action upset certain illegal combinations of capital. Wyoming, Colorado and Montana have their barons of spoilation just the same as the great railway centers with their legions of stock manipulations and public corruptionists. Whenever the men of special privilege are banded together then you will find enemies or Roosevelt. They poison the public press, they fill the air with clouds of calumny. They have created a monster, a bug-a-boo, a weird devil which they call "Roosevelt."

Over against that I am content to place my knowledge of the real Roosevelt. The considerate gentleman, the man of wide reading, artistic perception and marvellous memory, who loves good books and reads them; who can meet John Morley, or Ambassador Bryce on his own ground; who appreciates good music and enjoys good drama; who has made his home the most distinguished meeting place of men of letters, art and social success in America. This is the man I am permitted to know, and it is my duty to say that I not only admire—I have an affection for him.

If you would know what Theodore Roosevelt truly is, you must ask John Burroughs, Hamilton Wright Mabie, Albert Shaw, William Allen White or Gifford Pinchot. You will not secure characterization of the real Roosevelt from a Wyoming sheep man who thinks the government should furnish him free pasturage for his sheep. Nor from a group of promoters who are grafting water-power from the public domain, nor from the stock-dabbler, nor from those who believe in special privileges for the few, because Roosevelt is opposed to all these men. His face is set against their aggrandizements and they hate him.

Neither must you go to his political opponents, the men who are jealous of his popularity, and bitterly envious of his success. When such men cry "fakir," "four-flusher," you should remember that the man they are denouncing has been for 30 years in public life and that he is in the estimation of Europe the most powerful and most distinguished citizen of our republic. Broadened by his wonderful experience, enriched by his acquaintanceship with the truly great men of the world, he is a candidate who will honor the presidential chair more than the chair could honor him, for we have seen that not even the White House can make a small man great or a weak man strong.

Theodore Roosevelt is now in the prime of his manhood, absolutely temperate, with keen sense of humor, hard as nails physically, deep imbued with a feeling that he has a fight to win, a duty to perform, and no amount of vituperation will avail to prevent him. He will not down because he is a representative man. He is the common American writ large. Not supremely gifted in any one direction but a marvelous balance of faculties. Sevenfold in his endowments he meets the practical politician with the idealist, the statesman with the executive, the peacemaker with the soldier, the diplomat with the priest.

I do not say that he is the greatest soldier, the greatest diplomat, the greatest executor of our day—I am merely repeating the estimates of distinguished Europeans when I say that he is a very extraordinary balance of endowments. What I do contend for is the essential manliness and charm of Theodore Roosevelt. I have been privileged to know him at his own fireside, in his family circle, and among his books. Without violating the properties, I may say also that he has the support, the inspiration, I may say almost the captaincy of a serious-minded, charming and very gifted wife, a helpmeet indeed, to whom his instant courtesy and deference is a tribute and a due.

He is a fateful man. Every jest against him turns to advantage. He makes a playful remark about feeling "fine as a bull moose." His enemies take it up in ridicule—his friends make it in the body of a conquering army. He mentions the old saying, "Walk softly but carry a big stick." His opponents seize upon this and for a few days menace the world with the minstrel's "Captain of the Bludgeon," then the friendly cartoonists begin to make use of it and the people learn that the big stick is the terror of malefaction and exploiters of the poor.

He is a simple man. Single-hearted, without subtlety, a fourth-right, plain-spoken orator, and yet his super-subtle enemies writhe and convolute in the belief that he is somehow playing a complex and Napoleonic game.

Observe the absolute simplicity and democracy of the man. After seven years in the White House, after the most extraordinary known executive in America, he returns to Oyster Bay, to his plain home and rides into New York in a street car like any other man. Was this done like another Caesar? He takes an office as an editor on a semi-religious paper and his room becomes the center of political storm. Why? Because his personality is greater than the White House. Because men everywhere recognize that he is young, vigorous, scornful of a life of ease, of leisure; that he is a living force in national affairs and that the people everywhere believe in him. To him they wrote when the fight against the reactionary element of the party was hottest. He was the strong man and he strongly answered. He took up the big stick, this time against the false leaders of his own party and every believer in the fundamental principles of democracy rejoiced with exceeding great joy when Theodore Roosevelt addressed himself directly to the enemies of the poor. It was Sir Hubert to the rescue.

It was no easy or pleasant thing—this relinquishment of his peaceful office, his lovely home, his kindly neighbors, but he did it. He re-entered the storm. He descended into the vortex, with what result! A chorus of denunciation. A howling of furious detractors. He is now called an "arch-enemy of liberty," a "demagogue," a "destroyer of the Constitution," the "Ego maniac insatiate of honor"—nothing more bitter has fallen upon a public man in our time. But his enemies have overshot the mark. This cry has only distinguished his enemies and make the people the more certain of their enemies and more delighted with their leader. He is stronger today than at any time since he left the White House. With the fullness of his power, he is willing to serve and serve he will, no matter what the outcome of this election may be.

EASY AND SURE WAY TO CURE COLDS

Don't Neglect a Cold, Ely's Cream Balm Will Stop It in the Sneezing Stage.

A cold generally attacks the weakest part, affecting the eyes and ears in some and producing nasal catarrh and throat troubles in others. A cold is due to an inflammation of the membrane lining the air passages, and may be promptly cured with a little Ely's Cream Balm, which immediately relieves the inflammation and all the distressing symptoms, such as sneezing, coughing, running at the nose and eyes, hoarseness, sore throat, fever and headache. One reason why this pure, antiseptic Balm acts so quickly is because it is applied directly to the tender, sore surfaces.

Even in severe, chronic cases of catarrh, Ely's Cream Balm never fails to quickly and effectually check the poisonous discharge which clogs the head and throat, causing the disgusting hawking, spitting and blowing of the nose. This remedy not only drives out the disease, but heals and strengthens the weakened membranes, thus ending catarrh.

Catarrh is a filthy, disgusting disease. Don't put up with it another day. Get a 50 cent bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist and see how quickly you will be relieved. It is perfectly harmless.—Adv.

START YOUR BABY WITH SOUND HEALTH

Regular Bowel Movement From Childhood on Forestalls Future Serious Diseases.

We cannot all start life with the advantages of money, but every child born is entitled to the heritage of good health. Through unfortunate ignorance or carelessness in the feeding of a baby its tiny stomach may become deranged. The disorder spreads to the bowels and before the mother realizes it the two chief organs on which the infant's comfort and health depend are causing it great suffering. If the condition is allowed to continue grave ailments often result.

There is , however, no occasion for alarm, and the sensible thing to do—but it should be done instantly—is to give the baby a small dose of a mild laxative-tonic. In the opinion of a great many people, among them such well known persons as the mother of Floyd Robertson, 136 S. 11th street, Lincoln, Neb., and Mrs. C. L. Williams, Bridgeport, Wash., the proper remedy is Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. It is a pleasant-tasting laxative, which every person likes. It is mild, non-griping, and contains that most excellent of all digestants, pepsin.

This remedy is especially intended for infants, children, women, old people and all others to whom harsh cathartics, salt waters, pills, etc., are distressing. In fact, in the common disorders of life, such as constipation, liver trouble, indigestion, biliousness, headaches, and the various other disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels nothing is more suitable than this mild laxative-tonic, Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin.

Two generations of people are using it today, and thousands of families keep it constantly in the house, for every member of the family can use it. It can be obtained of any druggist at fifty cents or one dollar a bottle, the latter being the size bought by families who already know its value.

FLOYD ROBERTSON.

If no member of your family has ever used Syrup Pepsin and you would like to make a personal trial of it before buying it in the regular way of a druggist, send your address—a postal will do—to Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 415 Washington St., Monticello, Ill., and a free sample bottle will be mailed you. Results are always guaranteed or money will be refunded.—Adv.

Stomach Trouble and Constipation Cured.

"I was sick for three years with stomach trouble and constipation, doctored continually with different physicians, with only temporary relief," says Mrs. Hester Waite, of Antwerp, Ohio. "A friend advised me to try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, which I did, and continued to use them for one year, and they completely cured me, not only of the stomach trouble but also of the constipation." For sale by all dealers. Adv T Th S N1

Baggage Transfer. Call us if in a hurry. Peasley Transfer & Storage Co., Phone No. 72. Adv.

Judge J. D. Fienner will give his unimitable Riley Recital at Meridian for the benefit of the public schools on Thursday evening, Oct. 24th. Adv. O-22

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HABEAS CORPUS FOR CAMERON GIRL ASKED

Chicago, Oct. 22.—Robert E. Cantwell, an attorney, has applied to United States District Judge Carpenter for a writ of habeas corpus for Lucile Cameron, the Minneapolis girl whose name is connected with Jack Johnson and who is being held at the Rockford jail in default of $25,000 bond as a witness before the federal grand jury. Judge Carpenter announced that he would be unable to hear the petition immediately.

Little Technique.

"That man is not a very good logician, but he is a most impressive talker."

"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum; "he is what the musicians refer to as a performer with more temperament than technique."—Washington Star.

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.....1912.

The Booklovers' Contest Editor,
The Capital News, Boise, Idaho.
Please send me Booklovers' Contest pictures and coupons as follows:

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The Capital News.

No. 10—OCT. 22, 1912—No. 10

Wait until you have all the answers to the pictures before sending them in, for no partial lists will be considered.

Answers to Queries

C. N. A., Nampa—No, we cannot send you 750 pictures now, as the titles are not all selected or cuts made for same. Would suggest that you get the extra pictures at the end of each week. That will give you plenty of time to work them out. No pictures are to be sent in until close of contest.

C. R., Ontario, Ore.—Yes, the words in the picture have some bearing on the title, and are placed there to make the pictures easier to solve.

A. L. W., Twin Falls, Idaho—Hold them until the 75 are printed. You can secure extra copies by filling in the back copy coupon and mailing it to The Capital News.

G. A. W., Pocatello—No, you are not too late to enter. Use the back copy coupon and we will mail you all back pictures at the regular price of the paper.

Mrs. R. E. M., Richfield, Idaho—See answer to G. A. W., Pocatello.

R. E. S., Idaho Falls, Idaho—See answer to A. L. W., Twin Falls.

Miss A. M., Vale, Ore.—Use the back copy coupon to send for extra coupons. We will print it every day.

T. A. S., Boise—The name of the author of one book was omitted through an error in printing catalogue. If you should use it in your answer it will be accepted with or without the name of the author. The author's name is Robt. Barr.

L. A. J., Hailey, Idaho—See answer to T. A. S., Boise.

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