Theo. Roosevelt, 26th American President

His Life Has Been Full of Snap and Excitement

AUTHOR AS WELL AS STATESMAN

Mr. Roosevelt has been known to the public principally as a writer and a rough rider. It was therefore singularly appropriate in at least one respect that it was in the musty atmosphere of old books that he took the oath to "faithfully execute the office of president of the United States," and to the best of his ability to "preserve,

SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN HAY.

protect and defend the constitution of the United States." On Saturday afternoon, September 14, 1901, in the library of the home of his friend, Ansley Wilcox, and in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., the simple ceremony was performed. The president is dead; the president lives; long live our president!

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Theodore Roosevelt is the twenty-sixth president of the United States, and the fifth vice president to succeed to the executive chair. John Tyler was the first, succeeding William Henry Harrison. Millard Fillmore was the second; he succeeded Zachary Taylor. The assassination of Abraham Lincoln brought Andrew Johnson into the white house. James A. Garfield was succeeded by his vice president, Chester A. Arthur. Roosevelt has one advantage over all these four men in that he comes into his great office better known to the public than any of them. Almost from boyhood he has been more or less in the eyes of the public.

This statesman, legislator, author, student, huntsman, rough rider and warrior is a descendant through nine generations from early Dutch settlers of New York. Along this ancestral line there have been infusions of Scotch, Irish and French-Huguenot blood. The

SECRETARY OF TREASURY LYMAN J. GAGE.

present Theodore Roosevelt is not the first of his family to hold public office. In successive generations its members have been called to official duties in city, state or nation. The father of the president at various times held public office in New York, and invariably refused money compensation for his services.

Of Delicate Health When a Lad.

Roosevelt was a pale and delicate boy, the very opposite in health of what he has since become. Plenty of outdoor air and physical exercise soon began to give him a good degree of bodily vigor, and in his college years he became skilled in boxing and wrestling.

In Harvard university he held good rank as a scholar, giving especial attention to natural history and general historical subjects. After his graduation from Harvard in 1880 he continued his studies at Dresden and then traveled in Europe and the east.

Roosevelt Enters Politics.

In 1881 Roosevelt, 23 years of age, began his active life in New York. And with him activity was activity. His father had instilled into his mind a contempt for the man who drifts through an inactive life of comfortable self-indulgence, achieving nothing.

He tried a plunge into New York politics. In his city district was a republican machine combination that showed no disposition to recognize his desire to become a member of the legislature. He fought the machine and defeated it.

In 1884 he appeared before the nation. His health troubled him and he sought a new life at Chimney Butte, Dak., where he grazed cattle and led the life of a cowboy. He became known from Medora to Dickinson as the boldest and bravest cattleman in the region. He did what the cowmen did. He lived as they lived. He commanded the respect even of the desperadoes. His lungs expanded, his body developed and he gained a reserve of health

POSTMASTER GENERAL CHARLES E. SMITH.

that seems to have grown every year since.

Turns to Literature.

He lost money on his cattle venture, but he returned to New York a strong man physically, and he made the race for mayor of that city. He was defeated, but he laughed. He understood that the corrupt elements of the city would not tolerate him, but he waited. Meanwhile he wrote books—books on hunting, books on western life, books on eastern cities. His style in literature was vigorous and pleasing. His books sold well and the magazines made great demand for his writings. The public liked his breeziness, his evident sincerity, his courage, and partially appreciated him even before he became a national civil service commissioner in 1889.

Once at Washington, he commenced an enforcement of the law of the most vigorous kind. He made himself disliked among the spoilsmen of both parties, but he held to the line of his duty. He took the law as he found it, lived true to his oath of office and made the measure respected in many quarters where it had been sneered at before.

Shakes Up the Police.

From Washington he passed to a police commissionership in New York city. His peculiar ability to work, and work on right lines, gave the corrupt police force such a shaking up as it had never had before. He was police commissioner in every sense of the word, unbribable, unapproachable, fair to the fair-minded, severe on the criminal. His books continued to sell in increasing number, and the public through the press, began to have a broader view of him.

When the Spanish-American war came he was assistant secretary of the navy by the authority of President McKinley. He had much to do with the organization of the navy for the conflict, and it has always been believed that his influence largely contributed to the sending of Admiral Dewey to Hong-Kong, and thence to Manila bay.

When war became a certainty Mr. Roosevelt resigned his position in the navy department, and with Gen. Leonard Wood organized the First volunteer cavalry, better known as the rough riders. Gen. Wood was colonel of this regiment and Mr. Roosevelt

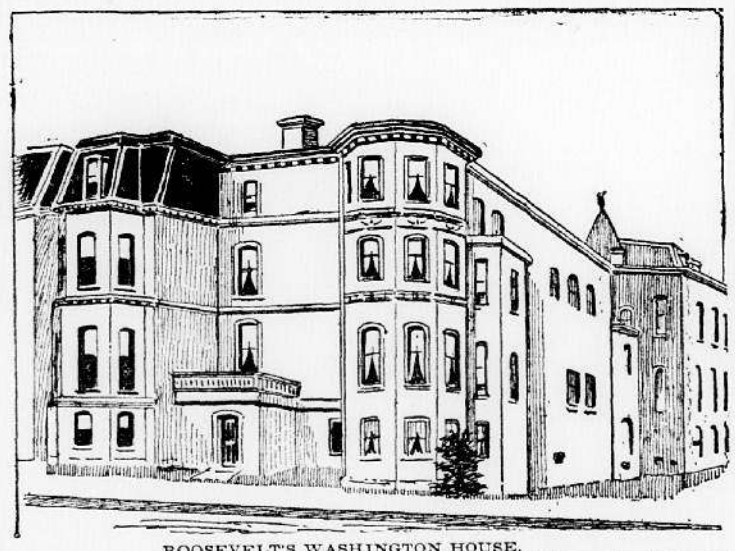
THE ROOSEVELT FAMILY.
(View of the Interesting Group Which Will Make the White House Their Home.)

lieutenant colonel. The members of the regiment came from the first families in the east, from ranches in the west, came from wherever good horsemen, daring men and good shots could be secured.

Forms Unique Regiment.

The regiment was the most unique of its kind ever organized, and was much scoffed at in the beginning. Before it had been two days in Cuba the wisdom of its organization was plainly seen. The men were fitted for any kind of campaigning. Their colonel and lieutenant colonel took what they took. The regiment practically foraged itself, and was first in the field and first to be baptized with fire. At Las Guasimas, Kettle hill and San Juan it gave up its bravest and best and went on to victory.

Mr. Roosevelt was its colonel before the end of the war, and pronounced by the foreign military attaches who observed his conduct in the field as one of the first military officers of the day. He was in Santiago at the surrender, brought his regiment back to the United States and disbanded it at Montauk point in the fall of 1898. It contributed among the volunteer troops more to the success of the American arms in Cuba than any other regiment formed.



ROOSEVELT'S WASHINGTON HOUSE.
(The above is a representation of the house the president and his family have been occupying. It was built by Secretary Olney when a member of the Cleveland cabinet, and will virtually be the executive mansion for some time to come.)

Is Chosen Governor.

The colonel became governor of New York immediately after his return to

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE J. WILSON.

this country. As governor he stood for radical taxation legislation and state control of the trusts. His term was marked by a pronounced fight on his part against the New York republican machine. He did not seek the vice presidential nomination last year, but had it forced upon him, and he accepted at the last moment. During the campaign he made a trip of over 21,000 miles, speaking for the ticket, and was received everywhere with popular acclaim. Since his inauguration he has

E. A. HITCHCOCK.
SECRETARY OF INTERIOR

presided over one extra session of the senate, and made several trips throughout the country, attending public functions.

As to the real Theodore Roosevelt, authentic things that he has said give ample revelation as to what manner of a character he will bring to the presidency. On "Americanism," in an interview in 1893, he said:

"I naturally disapprove of the half-conscious spread-eagle Americanism, which is ever exerting itself at the wrong moments. I dislike it, of course, when it is put forward as a plea to excuse moral shortcomings of a kind usually connected with public affairs. Nevertheless, in spite of this abuse, I am sure that no man can well play his part in our life who is not honestly American in heart, belief and instinct.

Admirer of Parkman.

"If one wishes to find a typical American, one may consider Francis Parkman. He always appealed to my admiration, because he made his life work largely of the description of that frontier warfare between our backwoodsmen and their foes which has been of such incalculable importance in our land's history."

In one of his published works he says: "In speaking to my own countrymen there is one point upon which I wish to lay especial stress; that is, the necessity for a feeling of broad, radical and intense Americanism, if good work is to be done in any direction. Above all, the one essential for success in every political movement which is to do lasting good is that our citizens should act as Americans, not as Americans with a prefix and qualification—not as Irish-Americans, German-Americans, native Americans—but as Americans pure and simple.

Opinion on Caste.

"It is an outrage for a man to drag foreign politics into our contests and vote as an Irishman or German or other foreigner, as the case may be, and there is no worse citizen than the professional Irish dynamiter or German anarchist, because of his attitude toward our social and political life, not to mention his efforts to embroil us with foreign powers. But it is no less an outrage to discriminate against one who has become an American in good faith, merely because of his creed or birthplace."

Of caste he has written: "As for the upper social world, the fashionable world, it is much as it was when portrayed in 'Potiphar Papers,' save that modern society has shifted the shrine at which it pays comical but sincere homage from Paris to London. Perhaps it is rather better, for it is less provincial and a trifle more American. But a would-be upper class based mainly on wealth, on which it is the exception and not the rule for a man to be of any real account in the national life, whether as a politician, a literary man, or otherwise, is of necessity radically defective and of little moment."

He is an intimate of Jacob Riis, the tenement slums reformer of New York city; of Frederick Holls, secretary of The Hague conference, and Henry Cabot Lodge. His habits are simple, his life most strenuous. He does not know the meaning of the word "idle," or of "misapplication." He has often been called a "typical American." The phrase fits him.

ROOSEVELT AS AN AUTHOR.

During a Busy Life He Has Found Time for Much Writing.

It is now nearly 20 years since Theodore Roosevelt took a place in the public eye as a man of affairs. Granting him the prophet's three score years and ten, only a little more than a third of his period of maturity has passed. And yet 14 volumes stand to his credit. And if we add the books in which his name appears as editor and contributor, like "The History of the Royal Navy," and the book of which he and Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge are joint authors, the total number of his books is 21.

This would be remarkable in an author whose sole occupation was writing. It appears still more so in a man to whom authorship is but an incident, when we recall that he has served three terms in the New York legislature; that he was for five years a member of the civil service commission, and for three arduous years president of the board of police commissioners in New York city; that he has been assistant secretary of the navy, commander of a regiment in the war

MRS. THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

with Spain, governor of New York and vice president of the United States.

Furthermore, to appreciate fully the size of Mr. Roosevelt's product as an author we must bear in mind two more things—the character of his work and the diversity of his subjects. Most of his books are not such as could be written off-hand. His "History of the Navy in the War of 1812" and his "Winning of the West" involved a great deal of searching among archives and old manuscripts in state and national government offices, in libraries and in private collections. His subjects include naval history, military history, frontier history, municipal history, sport, biography, biology, politic,s ethics and book reviews.

Mr. Roosevelt's style is that of a plain man telling a straightforward story. After reading his books you are certain that he never paid any attention to his style, and the evidence is, not that the style is not good, but that there is absolutely no straining after effect. He is essentially a practical man, but he is well endowed with imagination, and this gives to his work an occasional poetic touch that appeals to the reader's sympathies. He has, too, a power of coining striking phrases and of putting things in a way that catches the attention. "The strenuous life" is a phrase with a

SECRETARY OF NAVY JOHN D. LONG.

meaning that could not be put again in so few words. In a recent speech he spoke of our war with Spain as "merely a bit of the police work of the world." Once before he spoke of it as "a bit of rough surgery."

Some of His Works.

These utterances reveal the man. He has written much. The titles of some of his best works are: "Life of Thomas Benton," "Life of Governeur Morris," "Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail," "The Winning of the West," "History of New York City," "Essays on Practical Politics," "The Wilderness Hunter," "Hero Tales from American History," "Naval War of 1812."

THE PRESIDENT'S FAMILY.

Mr. Roosevelt's Domestic Life Is an Ideal One.

Mr. Roosevelt has been married twice. His first wife was Miss Alice Lee, of Boston; the second Miss

ATTORNEY GENERAL P. C. KNOX.

Edith Carow, of New York. He is the father of six children, ranging from 16 to 3 years of age.

His domestic life is ideal. Whether ensconced in winter quarters at Albany or New York, or at the famous Roosevelt summer home at Oyster Bay, on Long Island, he is an indulgent father and romps with his children with as much zest as the youngest of them. The youngsters are known as the Roosevelt half-dozen, and all reflect in some manner the paternal characteristic.

The oldest girl is Alice, dark and serious looking. She rides her father's Cuban campaign horse with fearlessness and grace. The next olive branch is Theodore, Jr., or "young

SECRETARY OF WAR ELIHU ROOT.

Teddy," the idol of his father's heart, and a genuine chip of the old block. Young "Teddy" owns a trusty shotgun and dreams of some day shooting bigger game than his father ever did. He also rides a pony of his own.

Alice, the oldest girl, is nearly 17. She is the only child by the first Mrs. Roosevelt. "Young Teddy," the present Mrs. Roosevelt's oldest child, is 13. Then there are Kernit, 11; Ethel, 9; Archibald, 6, and Quentin, 3.

ROOSEVELT'S CABINET.

McKinley's Councilors Will Stand by the New President.

It is almost certain that the cabinet of President McKinley will be the cabinet of President Roosevelt. He not only requested them to remain, but stated to them that they were his choice for the positions which they were occupying. All of the members including Secretary Hay complied unconditionally. In the event of Secretary Hay's retirement (sooner or later) it is altogether probable that Secretary of War Root will succeed to the state portfolio. This will make an opening for at least one new man to take charge of the war office. No other changes under present circumstances are even remotely likely.