

Theodore Roosevelt's Letters to His Children

Edited by Joseph Bucklin Bishop



There was a characteristic Rooseveltian sequel to the bear hunting trip described in the following letters. Leo Shields, a noted bear hunter, won the president's admiration. "Shields," said the president, "how would you like to be a postmaster?" Shields was overjoyed. So it came about that the office of Roosevelt, La., was created and the president sent a personal message to his former companion. "You are it." Such a favor, which meant nothing in a financial way to Shields, nevertheless won for Roosevelt more solid support than other presidents have obtained by dealing out fat political plums. Yet his friends knew that there was no "grandstand" play in such an action.—The Editor.

Peculiarities of Mississippi Steamboats

On Board U. S. S. Mississippi, Oct. 1, 1907.

Dear Archie:
I am now on what I believe will be my last trip of any consequence while I am president. Until I got to Keokuk, Iowa, it was about like any other trip, but it is now pleasant going down the Mississippi, though I admit what I would rather be at home. We are on a funny, stern-wheel steamer. Mr. John Mellhenny is with me, and Capt. Seth Bullock among others. We have seen wild geese and ducks and cormorants on the river, and the people everywhere come out in boats and throng or cluster on the banks to greet us.

October 4.—You would be greatly amused at these steamboats, and I think you will like your trip up the Mississippi next spring, if only everything goes right, and mother is able to make it. There is no hold to the

boat, just a flat bottom with a deck, and on this deck a foot or so above the water stands the engine room, completely open at the sides and all the machinery visible as you come up to the boat. Both ends are blunt and the gangways are drawn up to big cranes. Of course the boats could not stand any kind of a sea, but here they are very useful, for they are shallow and do not get hurt when they bump into the bank or one another. The river runs down in a broad, swirling, brown current, and nobody but an expert could tell the channel. One pilot or another is up in the Texas all day long and all night. Now the channel goes close under one bank, then we have to cross the river and go under the other bank; then there will come a deep spot when we can go anywhere. Then we wind in and out among shoals and sand bars. At night the steamers are all lighted up, for there are a dozen of them in company with us. It is nice to look back at them as they twist after us in a long winding line down the river.

The Lone Cat of the Camp

Stamboul, La., Oct. 31, 1907.

Darling Quentin:
When we shifted camp we came down here and found a funny little wooden shanty, put up by some people who now and then come out here and sleep in it when they fish or shoot. The only living thing around it was a pussy-cat. She was most friendly and pleasant, and we found that she had been living here for two years. When people were in the neighborhood, she would take what scraps she could get, but the rest of the time she would catch her own game for herself. She was pretty thin when we came, and has already fattened visibly. She was not in the

least disconcerted by the appearance of the hounds, and none of them paid the slightest attention to her when she wandered about among them. We are camped on the edge of a lake. This morning before breakfast I had a good swim in it, the water being warmer than the air, and this evening I rowed on it in the moonlight. Every night we hear the great owls hoot and laugh in uncanny fashion.

Camp on Tenness Bayou, Oct. 6, 1907.



Darling Ethel:
Here we are in camp. It is very picturesque, and as comfortable as possible. We have a big fly tent for the horses; the hounds sleep with them, or with the donkeys! There is a white hunter, Ben Lilly, who has just joined us, who is a really remarkable character. He literally lives in the woods. He joined us early this morning, with one dog. He had tramped twenty-four hours through the woods, without food or water, and had slept a couple of hours in a crooked tree, like a wild turkey. He has a mild, gentle face, blue eyes, and full beard; he is a religious fanatic, and is as hardy as a bear or elk, literally caring nothing for fatigue and exposure, which we couldn't stand at all. He doesn't seem to con-



sider the 24 hours' trip he has just made any more than I should a half hour's walk before breakfast. He quotes the preacher Talmage continually. This is a black belt. The people are almost all negroes, curious creatures, some of them with Indian blood, like those in "Voodoo Tales." Yesterday we met two little negroes riding one mule, bare-legged, with a rope bridle.

Tenness Bayou, Oct. 10, 1907.



Blessed Archie:
I just loved your letter. I was so glad to hear from you. I was afraid you would have trouble with your Latin. What a funny little fellow Opydyke must be; I am glad you like him. How do you get on at football? We have found no bear. I shot a deer; I sent a picture of it to Kermit. A small boy here caught several wildcats. When one was in the trap he would push a box towards it and it would itself get into it, to hide; and so he would capture it alive. But one, instead of getting into the box, combed the hair of the small boy!

We have a great many hounds in camp; at night they gaze solemnly into the fire. Dr. Lambert has caught a good many bass, which we have enjoyed at the camp table.



(To Be Continued)

PROPOSE AN ARMORY AS A HEADQUARTERS FOR MILITARY HERE

Definite steps looking toward the erection of a new armory in Phoenix were taken by the chamber of commerce directors yesterday in the appointment of Charles A. Stauffer as chairman of an armory committee. Various phases of the armory construction question will be investigated by the committee within the next few weeks, together with the tentative selection of a suitable site. When these matters have been threshed out and a workable solution of the different problems decided upon, the committee will meet with Adjutant General Walter Ingalls, representatives of the American Legion and city, county and state officials in an attempt to have some immediate action taken. The proposed armory, it was unofficially stated, will not only provide quarters and drill rooms for future operations of the state military, but will also be a headquarters for men who served in the world war. Efforts will be made, it was intimated, to make the armory a headquarters for the local post of the American Legion.

COMMIT AGED MEN TO INSANE HOSPITAL

More senile than insane, according to Deputy Sheriffs E. Rafferty and George Rockhill of Cochise county, two old men are Emery Twitchell, 79, and John Sotorio, 59, both of Douglas. Twitchell is a Scotchman, carpenter by trade, and Sotorio is a Pole who followed the mining game. They were committed by the Cochise county superior court on a showing that they were not fit to care for themselves. Another man, John Tonorio, a Mexican, 86 years of age, hailing from Bisbee, is said to have a mild hallucination. The old men arrived here yesterday in charge of the two deputies. The old men are Emery Twitchell, 79, and John Sotorio, 59, both of Douglas. Twitchell is a Scotchman, carpenter by trade, and Sotorio is a Pole who followed the mining game. They were committed by the Cochise county superior court on a showing that they were not fit to care for themselves. Another man, John Tonorio, a Mexican, 86 years of age, hailing from Bisbee, is said to have a mild hallucination. Bricks, thousands and thousands of them, which once stood as the Cen-

JANUARY 1st, 1920 GREETING

To all our many and valued friends and patrons in Phoenix, Salt River Valley, Arizona and wherever they may be.

We wish to extend to one and all

Our Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year

May all your blessings be doubled, your sorrows reduced to a minimum.

We also wish to take this public method of again thanking you our friends and customers, for your more than liberal support during the year just gone, and trust our relations may be even closer in the year now opening.

Sincerely Yours
CHAS. KORRICK AND BRO.

RESOLUTION

By Edmund Vance Cooke

Rather than say "I will not," say "I will."
This is the new day of our newest year.
A day to hail with joy and hope—and fear!
Joy that we live and have our task to do.
Hope that we shall not halt, but see it through.
Fear, lest we be content to stagnate still.

'Tis not enough that we abate our ill.
He who has pandered to an appetite
And slays his habit, is he doing right?
Or has he merely ceased from doing wrong?
Shall we not be affirmatively strong
And rather than "I will not," say "I will."

Rather than say "I will not," say "I will."
For all the days which follow this new day
Are ominous with fate, and who shall say
But you are he to meet some human need,
That you may do some work, or sow some seed,
Or you may storm and win high heaven's hill!

Rather than say "I will not," say "I will."

SUES FOR ALLEGED DEBT ON BRICKS

school building on the site of the new Apache hotel, received notice in superior court yesterday when A. G. Smith filed suit against J. H. Williams for recovery of \$350 he alleges is the amount due him on a contract. Smith alleges that on August 19, 1919, with 11 residences under construction, he entered into an agreement with Williams whereby the latter was to supply him with cleaned bricks obtained in the razing of the Central school, at \$9 a thousand. The bricks were to have been 90 per cent whole brick, Smith alleges, and were to have been delivered to the various building sites. The total number contracted for was 100,000, he continues in his complaint, but after 5,000 had been scraped and distributed, deliveries stopped. And now that they're at work again, We hope they'll soon fill up the bin.

THE HART-PARR WINS

AT THE MARINETTE DEMONSTRATION

If Interested Call or Write and We Will Tell You

WHY

Southern Border Motor Co.

DISTRIBUTORS

337-41 W. WASHINGTON El Paso PHONE 607 Los Angeles

New Year's Greetings

We wish to thank our patrons for the very satisfactory business of 1919.

We shall endeavor to be worthy of your continued patronage.

Title Insurance Abstracts
Escrows Trusts

"THE SAFE WAY"

Phoenix Title and Trust Company

130 West Adams St. Phoenix, Ariz.