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DEATH OF ROOSEVELT

Career Was Full of Great Achievements.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt died at his home, Oyster Bay, N. Y., early Monday morning, Jan. 6. The news came as a surprise to the country, as he had not been considered seriously ill, although he had been suffering from rheumatism for some time. Embolism, or a blood clot on one lung, caused by inflammatory rheumatism, is said to have been the direct cause of his death.

Flags throughout the nation were put at half mast as a mark of respect to the great American citizen, and public men the world over paid tribute to his memory.

Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th president of the United States, led a most active career, and was described by Grover Cleveland as the "best equipped politician of his time." Born in New York city, Oct. 27, 1858, Roosevelt's early education was received by private tutor at home and in travels abroad. He was graduated from Harvard university in 1880, and after a trip to Europe, served in the New York assembly. From 1884 to 1886 he spent his time on his cattle ranches in the west. Returning to New York he reentered politics. President Harrison appointed him a member of the United States civil service commission, in which he was continued by President Cleveland. He resigned in 1895 to become police commissioner of New York city. In 1897 President McKinley appointed him assistant secretary of the navy in which position he has been credited with instituting many reforms making for greater efficiency. He entered the Spanish war in 1898, and became colonel of the Rough Riders while serving in Cuba. After serving one term as governor of New York he was elected vice president in 1900, and succeeded to the presidency upon the death of McKinley. Roosevelt was the youngest president, being but 42 when he entered that office Sept. 14, 1901. He was elected in 1904 by the largest popular vote ever received by a president, and crowded the succeeding four years with achievements still fresh in the public mind. On retiring from this office March 4, 1909, he made a hunting trip to Africa. Returning from this trip he evinced great dissatisfaction at the policy of Taft, his successor, and organizing the Progressive party caused a split in the republican party which resulted in the election of Wilson in 1912.

In 1914 Roosevelt headed an exploring expedition in South America and discovered a large river which the Brazilian government named for him. His later years have been spent chiefly in speaking, lecturing and writing. Especially since the European war broke out, his activity in the welfare of America and Americanism has been most marked. He voiced strong arguments for preparedness since 1914 and was tireless in warning the country of the German menace to world liberty. Roosevelt leaves a widow, four sons and two daughters. His sons all served in the war. One son, Quentin, was killed in an air battle in France last summer, and Archie was severely wounded in action. Theodore, Jr., is a major; and Kermit a lieutenant in the British army in Mesopotamia.

Gold production in the United States in 1918 fell to 3,313,000 fine ounces, worth \$68,493,000, the lowest in 20 years, and silver production dropped to 67,879,000 fine ounces, worth \$67,879,000 at the standard government price of \$1 an ounce, the smallest record since 1913.

LETTERS FROM SOLDIERS

Mark W. Egbers.

Following is a part of a letter written to Attorney Miles Egbers by his brother, Mark W. Egbers, private in Co. F, 363d Infantry, 91st division, just prior to starting on the march into Germany to form part of the army of occupation. (Since that time the orders were changed and the 91st was brought back to France, scheduled for early return home.)

Meaulbeke, Belgium, Dec. 1, 1918. Dear Brother: We marched from our billets in the country (baras) to billets in the edge of this town. It is cold here but we expect to move soon.

I have been in Belgium now about a month and a half. We have fought on three different fronts. Have done much hiking. The last front was easy. No one in our company was killed. The Germans merely left rear guards. We were scheduled to advance on them the morning hostilities ceased. The news came just in time. When word came many would not believe, but the silencing of the big guns was convincing and the losing boys were happy to pay their little bets.

The worst and toughest siege of all was in France in the Argonne forest. Machine gun fire was bad. The artillery also claimed a large toll in some places. Many of the boys who were wounded there are now returning to the company again. We are sure glad to see them back looking so well, but some of them who were more severely wounded died in the hospitals. Two of my closest friends, the ones I associated with most, were both killed in the field only a few yards away from me. It was the day of severe artillery fire. We were dug in in the open field. They were in the same hole together and were struck with the same fatal shell. The man in the hole next to me not more than seven feet away was wounded by shrapnel but has returned to the company. Many of the boys could not endure the fatigue and exhaustion and were taken to the hospitals. Some were shellshocked. Most of the less severe cases have returned to the company in the last week or two. Neither my corporal or sergeant have returned yet. Our lieutenant was shot the first morning over the top, so I have all new officers now. Our captain was also wounded and sent to the hospital. This happened in France. The succeeding captain, who was then a second lieutenant, was wounded here in Belgium. He probably will not return, as we have still another captain now. Our major was also wounded but was away from us but a short time.

We were a long time coming over on the boat. We encountered submarines but no one was lost. The boat we came over on, the "City of Cairo," was sunk on her return trip. We were about 16 days on the trip. Some one asked me at Halifax if I got sea sick. To use the yankie language, I "fed the fish" along with a good many others.

Paul Wickertsheimer.

Paul Wickertsheimer, gunner of Battery B, 146th field artillery, writing to his father, Chas. Wickertsheimer of Rathdrum, under date of Nov. 28, from Blercourt, France, gives an account of the work of his battery from the time it first went into action:

We arrived at the front on July 8, within hearing distance of the big guns, and went into position July 12 on the Chateau Thierry front. Did but little firing until the 15th. Took part in the most successful 6-inch barrage ever put over in the war on the morning of July 18. The gun I worked on fired 102 rounds, blowing out the primer holder on the 102nd round. The gun was sure hot, all being rapid fire. From then on we

(CONTINUED ON LAST PAGE)

WANTS TAX LEVY

Highway Commission Makes Request to Solons.

Boise, Idaho.—A tax levy which will provide \$700,000 annually for road construction and maintenance, a revolving fund of \$10,000 designed to make unnecessary delayed warrant payments to laborers, the construction of an interstate bridge across the Snake river and the removal of present restrictions requiring that state highway work be done by contract are among the recommendations addressed to the legislature by the state highway commission in its recently published biennial report.

The commission suggests that a levy of one and one-half mills be made in view of the fact that Idaho's \$2,000,000 bonded indebtedness does not permit the raising of further funds by that medium. Adequate construction, reconstruction, reconstruction and maintenance demand at least the \$700,000 which such a levy would provide, according to estimates made.

Affirming that trucks damage improved roads unreasonably, the commission suggests that a truck tax be assessed and also advises that the law enacted in 1917 for the licensing of auto stages be made more effective by amendment.

Other states and the federal government have found it advisable to do state highway work by force account instead of by contract the commission argues in its recommendation that the present restriction demanding contract work only be removed.

Final suggestions touch upon the reduction of the bond demanded of contractors from 100 per cent to 50 per cent of the total contract estimate and upon a suitable law compelling the use of non-glare headlights.

The legislature was organized Monday with M. A. Kiger of Kootenai county elected speaker of the house, and E. W. Whitcomb of Lemhi county, president pro tem of the senate.

The house adjourned out of respect to the memory of Theodore Roosevelt after passing a resolution of sympathy and respect.

FROM OVER THE COUNTY

POST FALLS

Miss Ella Miller and E. C. Brunner were married at Hauser Lake.

A son was born Christmas morning to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Overcash of McGuire.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Klein of McGulres are the parents of a daughter born recently.

A boy was born Dec. 28 to Mr. and Mrs. Basil Warren.

Joe Cogan has been discharged from the military service.

A lynx is believed to be stealing Will Ness' chickens.

Assessor S. H. Smith states he will not move to Coeur d'Alene, but will make trips back and forth on the train.

Mrs. Schinzel of Cedar Creek received a telegram informing her of the death of her son, Leo, in France. He had been wounded in battle but had recovered and died of spinal meningitis after the armistice was signed.

SPIRIT LAKE

Bonnie, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Snook, passed away Tuesday morning with the influenza.

William Lowry, Jr., has been discharged from the naval training school at Seattle.

Mrs. E. F. Conklin is recovering from influenza.

P. S. Brown was injured at the Panhandle lumber yards last week, but not seriously.

J. P. Isaacs left last week for Boise on I. O. O. F. lodge business.

There is said to be 8 inches of ice on the lake at Blanchard.

Spirit Lake raised \$21,756 in the war savings stamps drive of 1918.

Fire completely destroyed the Cozy theatre at 2 o'clock Sunday morning. The loss is estimated at \$3000, covered by insurance except as to the fixtures.

Mrs. Agnes Sizemore died at the home of her parents Jan. 5. She was stricken with influenza on Christmas day and apparently recovered, but pneumonia developed.

The citizens of Spirit Lake took up a collection of \$500 for Mrs. Hamacher and children, and \$200 for Henry Oldenburg, who were recently bereaved by death from influenza.

HARRISON

A basket ball game and dance were held in the "Y" at Rose Lake Jan. 4.

The Harrison schools re-opened Jan. 2 after being closed two months on account of influenza.

On account of high cost of fuel to generate the power, electric lights in Harrison are turned off between 12:30 and 4:30 a. m. each day.

The influenza ban in Harrison has been lifted from all public gatherings excepting dances.

Ice up the St. Joe is delaying the boats.

COEUR D'ALENE

Ice is nine inches thick on Fernan lake.

A. A. Foote, age 68, and Mrs. Jos. Perry, age 20, died of pneumonia Monday.

Clarence S. Sowder, age 20, son of County Auditor-elect C. O. Sowder, died of pneumonia at Washington, D. C. He was in the student army training corps in George Washington university, and contracted influenza there.

Dr. John Busby recovered his stolen Haynes car at Wilson Creek, Wash., where it was abandoned by the thieves.

The Kootenai county council of defense appointed H. H. Beier, T. J. Stonestreet and C. D. Stevens to work with R. G. Wearne to secure employment for the soldiers and sailors.

Roland B. Spain of the air service, who died in New York, was buried Jan. 4. The pallbearers were sailors and the firing squad was composed of returned soldiers.

FIRST CALL TO FOOD ARMY.

This co-operation and service I ask of all in full confidence that America will render more for flag and freedom than king ridden people surrender at compulsion.—Herbert Hoover, August 10, 1917.

A year ago voluntary food control was a daring adventure in democracy; during the year an established proof of democratic efficiency.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Synopsis of Davis' Recommendation to Legislature.

Following is a synopsis of the message of Governor D. W. Davis to the Fifteenth Legislature, which convened at Boise Monday.

Favors organization of the state council of defense as a permanent body, officially recognized, to be called into action and dismissed by the governor as emergencies arise and subside.

Advocates permanent memorial for Idaho soldiers and insists on employment for returning soldiers.

Urges that only English be spoken at public assemblages and taught exclusively in the grade schools.

Asks ratification of the national prohibition amendment and favors national equal suffrage.

Advices a wise and constructive policy of employment and state and community development in highway work, building, reclamation, etc.

Asks co-operation with the federal government in education, agriculture, roads and water measurements.

Urges completion of the capitol building and asks Boise to proceed in that event, with program to make its surroundings a civic center.

Points out that there is no budget-making machinery at present and suggests that study and preparation of budgets be made the duty of some official responsible to the governor.

Recommends reorganization of the land board and the fish and game department; a better system of accounting for departmental fees; consolidation of departments to avoid duplication of effort and lack of co-ordination, and urges that responsibility be strictly fixed.

Favors organization of state constabulary; increase in membership of the supreme court.

Favors the short ballot. Urges that the powers of the governor be increased to harmonize with the responsibilities. Favors adoption for Idaho of national departmental plan and application of modern business methods.

Urges that the bureau of farm markets be made of practical benefit to the farmers, especially as to marketing conditions.

Recommends rehabilitation of the department of immigration and labor; urges that present schedule of compensation for workmen be increased in some cases.

Wealthy men are suspected of selling \$250,000,000 of Liberty bonds at a heavy discount on the New York stock exchange during the closing days of 1918 in order to claim a loss and thereby evade the income tax. District Attorney Brogan claims the loss is fictitious because the parties selling arranged to buy back at the same price.

The 91st, or Wild West division has been returned from the American army of occupation in Germany to Le Mans, France, preparatory to being sent home the latter part of January. This division composed of northwestern men, was trained at Camp Lewis and did much heavy fighting in France and Belgium.

Great Britain built 1245 ships during 1918.