

# SKETCHES from THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S BUSY LIFE.

## Theodore Roosevelt's Father.

Theodore Roosevelt is the youngest American citizen who has ever been called to the head of our nation. He was born in New York City, October 27, 1858, his father, after whom he was named, being a prominent merchant, a patriot, a philanthropist, and a moving spirit in the Civil War. The elder Theodore Roosevelt went to Washington after the first Battle of Bull Run, and warned President Lincoln that he must get rid of Simon Cameron as Secretary of War, with the result that Mr. Stanton, the "organizer of victory," took his place. When the war was fairly under way, it was Theodore Roosevelt who organized the allotment plan, which saved the families of eighty thousand soldiers of New York State more than five million dollars of their pay; and when the war was over he protected the soldiers against the sharks that lay in wait for them, and saw to it that they got employment. Through his influence the New York newboys' lodging-house system and many other institutions of public benefit and helpful charity were established. There were four children in the Roosevelt family, of whom Theodore was the second. There were two boys and two girls. A younger brother was killed in a railroad accident, and the hopes of the father were centered on Theodore. At the age of five or six, Theodore gave little promise of maintaining the prestige of the Roosevelt family line.

## The President's Early Boyhood.

He was a puny, sickly, delicate boy. Some one who knew him in those days of the Civil War described him as a "weak-eyed, pig-chested boy, who was too frail to take part in the sports of his age." When he arrived at the age of six, he was sent to the famous old McMullen School, where he remained for eight years. It was not, however, in New York that the boy Roosevelt spent with most profit the months to which he looks back with pleasure. The elder Roosevelt believed that children best thrive in the country. He selected a beautiful spot near the village of Oyster Bay, on the north shore of Long Island, and erected a country house which well deserves its title, "Tranquillity." Here it was among the hills which border the sound and the bay, that Theodore Roosevelt and his brother and sisters spent the long summer months. At fourteen Theodore was admitted to the Cutler School, a private academy in New York conducted by Arthur H. Cutler. Here he took the preparatory course for Harvard University, making rapid advancement under the careful tuition of Mr. Cutler, and graduating with honors.

## Becomes an Athlete.

By careful attention and plenty of gymnastic exercise and out-of-door life his frame became more sturdy and his health vastly improved. It thus happened that when young Roosevelt entered on college life at Harvard, in 1876, he suffered little by comparison with boys of his age. While he did not stand in the front rank of athletics, he was well above the average, and had no reason to be ashamed of his physical prowess.

## Never for a waking moment was he idle.

It was either study or exercise. In addition to his regular studies and special courses he took upon himself the editorship of the college paper, and made a success of it. He was democratic in his tastes and simple in his mode of living. Theodore Roosevelt was graduated from Harvard in 1880 with high honors. In spite of severe study, his health was but little impaired, and he at once started on a foreign journey in search of instruction, pleasure and adventure. He distinguished himself as a mountain climber, ascending the Jungfrau, the Matterhorn and many other peaks, and was made a member of the Alpine Club of London.

## Begins Study of Law.

On his return to America he studied law, and in the fall of 1881 he was elected to the State Assembly from the Twenty-first District of New York, generally known as Jacob Hess's district.

## By re-election he continued in the body during the session of 1883 and 1884.

He introduced important reform measures, and his entire legislative career was made conspicuous by the courage and zeal with which he assailed political abuses. As chairman of the Committee on Cities he introduced the measure which took from the Board of Aldermen the power to confirm or reject the appointments of the Mayor. He was chairman of the noted legislative investigating committee which bore his name. In 1884 he went to the Bad Lands in Dakota, near the "Pretty Buttes," where he built a log-cabin, and for several years mingled the life of a ranchman with that of a literary worker. From his front door he could shoot deer, and the mountains around him were full of big game. Amid such surroundings he wrote some of his most popular books. He became a daring horseman and a rival of the cowboys in feats of skill and strength. In 1885 Mr. Roosevelt was the Republican candidate for Mayor against Abram S. Hewitt, United Democracy, and Henry George, United Labor. Mr. Hewitt was elected by about twenty-two thousand plurality. In 1889 Roosevelt was appointed by President Harrison a member of the



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United States Civil Service Commission. His ability and rugged honesty in the administration of the affairs of that office greatly helped to strengthen his hold on popular regard.

## Police Commissioner in New York.

Roosevelt continued in that office until May 1, 1895, when he resigned to accept the office of Police Commissioner from Mayor Strong. He found the administration of affairs in a demoralized condition, but he soon brought order out of chaos. Says James A. Riis, who is an intimate friend of President Roosevelt:

We had been trying for forty years to achieve a system of dealing decently with our homeless poor. Two score years before, the surgeons of the police department had pointed out that herding them in the cellars or over the prisons of police stations in festering heaps, and turning them out hungry at daybreak to beg their way from door to door, was indecent and inhuman. Since then grand juries, academies of medicine, committees on philanthropic citizens, had attacked the foul disgrace, but to no purpose. Pestilence ravaged the prison lodgings, but still they stayed, I remember the caricatures of tramps shivering in the cold with which I year after year, and suffered defeat every time, until Theodore Roosevelt came and destroyed the nuisance in a night. I know what that fight meant, and, having thought it out, suited action to his judgment. Of the consequences he didn't think at all. He made sure he was right, and then went ahead with perfect confidence that things would come out right.

## His Advice to Organized Labor.

Mr. Riis says he never saw Roosevelt to better advantage than when he once confronted the labor men at their meeting-place, Clarendon Hall:

The police were all the time having trouble with strikers and their "pickets." Roosevelt saw that it was because neither party understood fully the position of the other, and, with his usual directness, he went to the labor organizations that he would like to talk it over with them. At his request I went with him to the meeting. It developed almost immediately that the labor men had taken a wrong measure of the man. They met him as a politician playing for points, and hinted at trouble unless their demands were met. Mr. Roosevelt broke them off short:

"Gentlemen," he said—with that snap of the jaws that always made people listen—"I asked to meet you, hoping that we might come to understand one another. Remember, please, before we go further, that the worst injury anyone of you can do to the cause of labor is to counsel violence. It will also be worse for himself. Understand distinctly that order will be kept. The police will keep it. Now we can proceed."

## Attacked by "Yellow" Newspapers.

It was of this incident that a handle was first made by Mr. Roosevelt's enemies in and out of the police board—and he had many—to attack him:

It happened that there was a music-hall in the building in which the labor men met. The yellow newspapers circulated the lie that he went there on purpose to see the show, and the ridiculous story was repeated until actually the laborers persuaded themselves that it was so. They would not have been able to understand the kind of man they had to do with, had they tried. Accordingly they fell into their own trap. It is a tradition of Mulberry Street that the notorious Sweeney dinner raid was planned by his enemies in the department of which he was to be head, in the belief that they would catch Mr. Roosevelt there. The dinners were supposed to be his "set."

Some time after that, Mr. Riis was in Roosevelt's office when a police official of superior rank came in, and requested a private audience with him:

They stepped aside and the policeman spoke in an undertone, urging something strongly. Mr. Roosevelt listened. Suddenly I saw him straighten up as man recoils from something unclean, and I saw the other with a sharp: "No, sir! I don't fight that way." The policeman went on, creating the Roosevelt took two or three turns about the floor, strutting evidently with strong disgust. He told

me afterward that the man had come to him with what he said was certain knowledge that his enemy could that night be found in a known evil house uptown, which it was his alleged habit to visit. His proposition was to raid it then and so "get square." To the policeman it must have seemed like throwing a good chance away. But it was not Roosevelt's way; he struck no blow below the belt. In the governor's chair afterward he gave the politicians whom he fought, and who fought him, the same terms. They tried their best to upset him, for they had nothing to expect from him. But they knew and owned that he fought fair. Their backs were secure. He never tricked them to gain an advantage. A promise given by him was always kept to the letter.

## Assistant Secretary of Navy.

Early in 1897 he was called by President McKinley to give up his New York office to become Assistant-Secretary of the Navy. His energy and quick mastery of detail had much to do with the speedy equipment of the navy for its brilliant feats in the war with Spain. It was he who suggested Admiral Dewey for commander of the Asiatic station.

Dewey was sometimes spoken of in those days as if he were a kind of fashion-plate. Roosevelt, however, had faith in him, and while walking up Connecticut avenue one day said to Mr. Riis: "Dewey is all right. He has a lion heart. He is the man for the place." No one now doubts the wisdom of his selection, and naval officers agree that the remarkable skill in marksmanship displayed by the American gunners was due to his foresight. He saw the necessity of practice, and he thought it the best kind of economy to burn up ammunition in acquiring skill.

## A characteristic story is told regarding Roosevelt's insistence on practice in the navy.

Shortly after his appointment he asked for an appropriation of \$800,000 for ammunition, powder, and shot for the navy. The appropriation was made, and a few months later he asked for another appropriation, this time of \$500,000. When asked by the proper authorities what had become of the first appropriation, he replied: "Every cent of it was spent for powder and shot, and every bit of powder and shot has been fired." When he was asked what he was going to do with the \$500,000, he replied: "Use every ounce of that, too, within the next thirty days in practice shooting."

## His Cuban War Record.

Soon after the outbreak of the war, however, his patriotism and love of active life led him to leave the comparative quiet of his government office for service in the field. As a lieutenant-colonel of volunteers he recruited the First Volunteer Cavalry, popularly known as the "Rough Riders." The men were gathered largely from the cowboys of the west and southwest, but also numbered many college-bred men of the east. In the beginning he was second in command, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, Dr. Leonard Wood being colonel. But at the close of the war the latter was a brigadier-general and Roosevelt was colonel in command. Since no horses were transported to Cuba, this regiment, together with the rest of the cavalry, was obliged to serve on foot. The regiment distinguished itself in the Santiago campaign, and Colonel Roosevelt became famous for his bravery in leading the charge up San Juan Hill on July 1st. He was an efficient officer, and won the love and admiration of his men. His care for them was shown by the circulation of the famous r-and-robin which he wrote protesting against keeping the army longer in Cuba.

## As Governor of New York.

Upon Roosevelt's return to New York there was a popular demand for his nomination for governor. Previous to the state convention he was nominated by the Citizens' Union, but he declined, replying that he was a Republican. The Democrats tried to frustrate his nomination by attempting to prove that he had lost his legal residence in that state. That plan failed

and he was nominated in the convention by a vote of 753 to 218 for Governor Black. The campaign throughout the state was spirited. Roosevelt took the stump and delivered many speeches. His plurality was 18,079.

As the campaign of 1900 drew near, the popular demand that Roosevelt's name should be on the National Republican ticket grew too imperative to be ignored by the leaders. The honor of the nomination for Vice-President was refused time and time again by Roosevelt, who felt that he had a great duty to perform as governor of New York state.

Says Cal O'Laughlin, apropos of the Republican National Convention, which was held in Philadelphia on June 19, 20 and 21, 1900:

## Nomination at Philadelphia.

On the evening of the first day of the convention, Roosevelt saw Platt. "My name must not be presented to the convention," he told him. Platt was mad, and mad clean through; but he acquiesced and Roosevelt returned to his apartment to run into the arms of the Kansas delegation. "We do not request you to accept the nomination, but we propose to issue orders to you, and we expect you to obey them." Throughout the delivery of Mr. Burton's remarks, Roosevelt stood, with shoulders square and feet at right angles, his chin occasionally shooting forward, as if he were on the point of objecting to the argument that he alone could rescue "bleeding Kansas" from demagogism and populism. But he waited patiently until the address was ended, and then appealed to the Kansas to take his words at their face value, and vote for some one of the candidates. But his appeal was useless, for Senator Burton, grasping his hand, congratulated him on his success in his nomination and election, and the delegation enthusiastically approved the sentiments. So certain was Kansas that Roosevelt would be the choice of the convention, that it had printed a huge placard, bearing the words in large, black type:

## "KANSAS DELEGATION FIRST TO DECLARE FOR GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT."

And, when the nomination was declared to have occurred, triumphantly carried it about Convention Hall.

## After his nomination, Roosevelt said:

I held out as long as I could. I had to give in when I saw the popular sentiment of the convention. I believe it is my duty. Now that it is all over, I want to say that I appreciate fully the sentiment which accompanied my nomination. The unanimity and enthusiasm of the convention for my nomination never will be forgotten by me.

During the political campaign which followed, he traveled 16,100 miles, flashed through 23 states, delivered 459 speeches, containing 860,000 words, and made his appeal directly to 1,600,000 persons.

## His Capacity for Work.

Mr. Riis says that the thing that bedevils the judgment of his critics is Roosevelt's amazing capacity for work. He says:

He can weigh the pros and cons of a case and get at the meat of it in less than the time it takes most of us to state the mere proposition. And he is surprisingly thorough. Nothing escapes him. His judgment comes sometimes as a shock to the men of slower ways. He does not stop at conventionalities. If a thing is right, it is to be done—and right away. It was notably so with the round-robin in Cuba, which the government recalled the perishing army when it had won the fight. People shook their heads and talked of precedents. Precedents! It has been Roosevelt's business to make them most of his time. But is there anyone today who thinks who with me saw the army come home. It did not come a day too soon. Roosevelt is no more inflexible than the rest of us. Over and over again I have seen him pause when he had decided upon his line of action, and review it to see whether there was a chance for mistake. Finding none he would issue his order with the sober comment: "There, we have done the best we could. If there is any mistake we must make it right. The fear of it shall not deter us from doing our duty. The only man who never makes a mistake is the man who never does anything."

## Enforcing the Law.

Referring to Roosevelt's strict enforcement of the Sunday excise law, the San Francisco Argonaut's New York correspondent, "Flaneur," wrote under date of September 2, 1895:

The law is not a Republican law. It was passed by Tammany, as a means of blackmailing saloonkeepers who refused to yield up tribute. It is a Democratic law, was introduced at the instigation of legislators, and was signed by a Democratic governor, David B. Hill. Senator Hill is now trying to make political capital by abusing Roosevelt for enforcing the law. He places himself in a very the leader of a party in a state when he himself signs it as governor, he certainly a political opponent, he fights against the enforcement of the very law which he himself passed. The opponents of enforcing the law are having a rather hard time. Nobody denies that the law exists; all that they say is that it is "a hardship to enforce," and was signed by a "hardhearted" relative severity or mildness of the laws? Commissioner Roosevelt himself frankly says that he does not believe in such a severe Sunday law, but as it is the law, he is going to enforce it. And he is certainly doing so. There is a good deal of humor in the American people, and in this great city there are many thousands who are smiling sardonically over the piteous of Tammany caused by enforcing a Tammany law. For Tammany's revenues come largely from the blackmailing of liquor saloons.

President Roosevelt has been a student of political economy since boyhood. He has been an omnivorous reader, and has pursued his studies with the same zeal and energy that have characterized all his acts in civil and military life.—San Francisco Argonaut.

## SOMETHING DOING.

### RESULTS OF TREMENDOUS ENERGY IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

No Such Significant Achievements Have Ever Before Been Possible and They Are Largely Due to Wise National Policy.

Our sales to Canada increased from \$28,500,000 in 1896 to \$117,000,000 in 1900. Of the latter \$56,000,000 was on the Canadian free list. This was 73 per cent of the total free imports into Canada for 1900.

Census reports show that in 1890 the number of manufacturing establishments in the United States was 355,415. Though our 1900 census is not complete, it already shows 653,000, nearly double as many. In 1890 the output was \$9,372,000,000. Allowing for the great reduction in price, since 1890, of most of our manufactures, notably electrical apparatus, we can safely estimate the output for 1900 at \$16,500,000,000. In this we make allowance for the larger product, due to improved methods of manufacture.

In connection with the poor of foreign countries, we are accustomed to speak of the United States as the best place for them to come to, in the sure hope, if they have a trade and are willing and able to work, if improving their condition, but there is a still further gain. They are soon able to save up a little money and send it to the old home to improve the position there of those dear to them, thus making American energy, work and prosperity do good in lands beyond the seas. The records of the New York postoffice show that, last year, foreigners, resident here sent to Europe the large total of \$15,148,000, while only \$4,019,000 was sent out to New York. A gain from free America to oppressed Europe of over \$11,000,000. Ireland received the largest proportionate share of this; Italy comes next, but with thirty Germany it was nearly an equal thing each way.

The Dominion Securities company, owned by New York capitalists, is rapidly acquiring the smaller Canadian railroads. American surplus capital is now compelled to hunt the world over for investments.

The \$140,000,000 distributed last year among the 1,000,000,000 persons on our pension lists is not any loss whatever to the country, as it stays with us and passes from hand to hand, helping merchants, real estate owners, work people; indeed, people of each and every class.

The forthcoming report of the Interstate Commerce Commission will show gross earnings for last year of \$1,487,000,000, against operating expenses of \$961,000,000, leaving net earnings \$526,000,000; employes, \$1,017,653; passengers carried, 576,000,000 (equal to nearly seven rides per head of our entire population); dividends paid, \$139,000,000; interest and fixed charges paid, \$421,000,000. Of the 576,000,000 passengers carried, only 249 were killed, 4,057 extra miles of road completed. —Walter J. Ballard in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

## UNCLE SAM ON LABORERS.

I found Uncle Sam last Monday reviewing a labor parade.

"What more magnificent spectacle is there on earth than this?" said he. "Fully 20,000,000 men, resting from their labor for a day, marching, feasting, playing and listening to inspiring music and addresses. Think for a moment what these men are doing and what they are earning, and what they are buying and consuming. They are producing over \$20,000,000,000 worth of new material every year, much of which is added to the wealth of the country. On the farms immense crops are raised; in the mills, from a little, almost worthless ore, great locomotives are made, huge engines, plows, mowers and reapers; building material put into shape for construction; machinery of all kinds; innumerable tools; clothing and the countless articles of daily use by my 77,000,000 of people and the people of all the world."

"How much do you pay your men, Uncle Sam?" I asked.

## CRUCIAL CASES.

Mr. Edward Atkinson when, during his testimony before the Industrial commission, he was confronted with the cold indisputable facts that there was no tin plate industry in this country previous to the putting of a tariff on tin plate by the McKinley law, and that immediately after the enactment of that law the industry sprang up and flourished and grew and has gone on growing ever since, replied that the case of the tin plate industry was "one of the crucial cases where during the existence of a high protective tariff the special art has made a very great advance," and stated that the industry would have been developed in this country if there had been no tariff on tin plate. There have been so many of these "crucial cases" so many industries which have just "happened," according to the free traders, to be developed under protection that, if the free traders were to be believed, the history of this country would offer the most remarkable history of coincidences that the world has ever seen or the imagination conceived of.

If the free traders would let go for a little while, their childlike faith in the omnipotent power of "coincidence" to explain every occurrence in the industrial world, and would give a little time to the study of cause and effect, they would see rather more relation between our protective system and the development of our industries

than they see now. If the free traders are not the illogical unbusinesslike theorists which protectionists consider them to be, they certainly are, by their own showing, hoodoos of the most effective kind; for, whenever they come into control in this country, business collapses, industrial prosperity comes to an end, and more often than not, things wind up in a financial panic. They can take their choice as to names. The fact remains that free trade means closed factories and idle workmen, and the people of this country seem pretty unanimously inclined to steer clear of it in the future.

"I don't believe I could figure up exactly," he replied; "but fully \$30,000,000,000, counting those engaged in transportation and trade. That is \$100,000,000 for every working day. And it is all spent in some way, too. That is why I am getting so rich. We make for ourselves, and for the most part buy for ourselves. That, added to my splendid foreign balance, keeps plenty of money at home and in constant circulation."

"Isn't it a grand body of men? Every one of them well dressed, money in their pockets, and happiness reflected in their faces. They are well and strong and ambitious. Why, some of those men will be millionaires some day. Some of them will be Congressmen and governors and mayors. Their sons are getting a college education and their daughters are the equal of any princess on earth. How I should hate to see these men thrown out of work or their wages reduced to the level of foreign countries. But that is what will happen if they go to tinkering with the tariff. Don't make any mistake about that. I've seen it happen too many times already. And the farmers would suffer equally with the mill hands."

"But, Uncle Sam," I asked, "wouldn't you like to manufacture for the world and increase your exports five or ten fold?"

"Of course I would, and I propose to, but not by means of free trade or jug-handled reciprocity. When I do it I want it to come about without the sacrifice of a single job these men hold. I've got a trade of upward of \$30,000,000,000 a year right here at home and a few hundreds of millions abroad, more or less, don't cut much ice, as Dick Croker would say. Millions of these men you see in line today have homes wholly or partly paid for. Millions more have money out at interest. Millions more have little investments, some of them in the very concerns in which they are working. Free trade would mean an awful shrinkage of all these values, would mean idleness to many, lower wages to others, and no work or wages to some. This is the day of all days to think of these things and I hope every one of these men fully realize the situation. Labor Day is for all my people, for they are all laborers, whether they work with their hands or their heads, and all would suffer the same, for my American system of protection affects every man, woman and child in the land, no matter where they live or how the wage-earners of the family are employed."

While talking the old gentleman was constantly taking off his old gray hat to the cheering multitudes and looked as happy as the occasion. F. C.

## FREE TRADE CUTS WAGES.



## RIDICULOUS PROGNOSTICATIONS.

The tariff policy of the Republicans does not tend to induce foreign countries to buy more of our wheat, cotton, corn and other farm products. In fact, the reverse of this, for by shutting out foreign goods we cripple foreign countries in their purchasing power and necessarily they will buy less of our breadstuffs and raw materials.—Paterson (N. J.) Standard.

The Democrats are great for prophesying, but make a poor fist at acknowledging the facts already accomplished. How idle to say that the Republican tariff policy "does not tend to induce" foreign trade when that trade, both export and import, has been rolling up with unexampled volume under the rule of the very policy referred to! Jefferson said: "I can judge of the future only by the past." Why predict that the protective policy will not produce the same results in future as it has heretofore?

## Vest, Bryan and Silver.

Senator George G. Vest of Missouri a man who stands close to the top of Democratic councils, is credited in an interview with saying: "To again advocate silver would be suicidal for the Democratic party." So at last we are to be thrown down by the party which got everything it asked for in Colorado, and some things it took without asking. Mr. Bryan has our sympathy, for he is both a good and a great man, and it is certainly to be deplored that so brainy a man as he did not get into a party that knew its own mind for ten consecutive seconds at least.—Denver Searchlight.