

## Wilson Pays Tribute to Roosevelt

The following proclamation on the death of Theodore Roosevelt was sent by cable from Paris January 7 by President Wilson:

"A proclamation to the people of the United States:—

"It becomes my sad duty to announce officially the death of Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States from September 14, 1901, to March 4, 1909, which occurred at his home at Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, New York, at 4:15 o'clock in the morning of January 6, 1919. In his death the United States has lost one of its most distinguished and patriotic citizens, who had endeared himself to the people by his strenuous devotion to their interests and to the public interests of his country.

"As president of the police board of his native city, as member of the legislature and governor of his state, as civil service commissioner, as assistant secretary of the navy, as vice-president and as president of the United States he displayed administrative powers of a signal order and conducted the affairs of these various offices with a concentration of effort and a watchful care which permitted no divergence from the line of duty he had definitely set for himself.

"In the war with Spain he displayed singular initiative and energy and distinguished himself among the commanders of the army in the field. As President he awoke the nation to the dangers of private control which lurked in our financial and industrial systems. It was by thus arresting the attention and stimulating the purpose of the country that he opened the way for subsequent necessary and beneficent reforms.

"His private life was characterized by a simplicity, a virtue and an affection worthy of all admiration and emulation by the people of America.

"In testimony of the respect in which his memory is held by the government and people of the United States I do hereby direct that the flags of the White House and the several departmental buildings be displayed at half-staff for a period of thirty days, and that suitable military and naval honors under orders of the Secretaries of War and of the Navy be rendered on the day of the funeral.

"Done this seventh day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-third.

WOODROW WILSON.

"By the President. Frank L. Polk, Acting Secretary of State."

### SECRETARY GREGORY TO RETIRE FROM CABINET

Thomas W. Gregory, attorney-general of the United States since 1914, has resigned and will return to the practice of law. President Wilson has agreed to his retirement next March 4. Mr. Gregory's letter of resignation, dated January 9, and the President's reply, cabled from Paris the next day, were made public at Washington, January 12. Mr. Gregory in his letter of resignation says:

"Dear Mr. President: In accordance with the purpose expressed in our conversations just before you went abroad, I tender my resignation as attorney general. No man ever served a leader who was more uniformly considerate, more kindly helpful and more generously appreciative; no subordinate was ever more deeply grateful for the numberless friendly words and acts of his superior. Precarious responsibilities of a substantial nature rest upon me, and my private affairs have long demanded attention. During the continuance of actual warfare I did not feel at liberty to weigh these personal considerations in the balance against the public duties with which I was charged. By March the 4 of the present year the department of justice will have substantially brought its war activities to a close and be working under normal conditions. I therefore ask that this resignation take effect on that date. Faithfully yours,

"T. W. GREGORY."

The President's reply said:

"My Dear Mr. Attorney-General: It is with profound reluctance and regret that I accept your resignation. I do so only because you have convinced me that it is necessary in your own interest for you to retire. There has been no one

with whom I have been associated in Washington whom I have learned more to trust nor to whose counsels I have attached more value and importance. Your administration of your office has been singularly able and singularly conspicuous and watchful of the public interest and I feel it is a very serious loss indeed to the nation that you should find yourself obliged to withdraw from public life. My best wishes not only, but my affectionate friendship will follow you into retirement and I hope with all my heart that in some way and at some time I shall again have the privilege and benefit of being associated with you. Cordially and faithfully yours,

"WOODROW WILSON."

### BRYAN FLAYS ATHEISTS

[From Baltimore newspaper.]

Declaring that the teachings of Nietzsche, the German philosopher, were responsible for the atrocities committed upon the human race by the Huns; that Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson are in accord upon the one great idea of peace based upon Christian principles; that the faith of our young men is often undermined in our colleges by professors who teach infidelity in the garb of philosophy and science, and flinging defiance to atheists the world over, William Jennings Bryan thrilled one of the largest audiences which ever assembled in Ford's Opera House yesterday afternoon in what has been designated by many who heard him as one of the greatest addresses he has ever made.

The meeting which was under the direction of the Young Men's Christian Association, was scheduled to begin at 3:30 o'clock, but by 3:00 o'clock the audience was packed to the doors, and those who had stage seats had to force their way through the rear entrance. Nearly as many men—the meeting was for men only—were left on the outside as gained admission to the theater. Mr. Bryan was evidently in splendid condition, and it seemed that he gained inspiration from the enthusiasm of his audience as he proceeded with his address. There was a dramatic moment near the end of his remarks when, after defending the Bible with all the vigor of his strong personality, he said that, with all that the doubters in all the world had been able to do to discredit it since the time of Christ, it was the only book a man or woman cared to have near when they were about to face the mysteries of the great beyond, and he recited the twenty-third Psalm, beginning with "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." The audience listened to the familiar words as though they were new thoughts and they did seem to have a different, a new meaning when spoken by Mr. Bryan, with all the fine intonations of which the Nebraskan is capable in his masterly delivery.

Mr. Bryan took for his subject "Back to God," and prior to speaking had asked the Rev. Hugh Birkhead, rector of Emanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, who had been asked to read a passage from the Scriptures, to read from the twenty-second chapter of St. Matthew, with emphasis on the thirty-seventh verse: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." After the reading Dr. Birkhead offered prayer, the audience joining in at the end in the recitation of the Lord's Prayer. Eugene Levering introduced Mr. Bryan simply as "The Great Commoner," following the singing of "America," by the audience, led by Hobart Smock, and announcement by William H. Morriss, general secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association.

It is claimed that the kaiser, under an assumed name, has several million dollars invested in western American lands. A great deal might be said in criticism of the kaiser—and it is being said—but it seems quite clear that he has an accurate knowledge of how to act when it comes to making investments.

Says Lloyd George: "We must not allow any sense of revenge, any spirit of greed, any grasping desire, to override the fundamental principle of righteousness." He was talking about the basis for making a permanent peace. Yet this is the man that torquism and Threadneedle street is trying to overthrow as premier of England.

The Germans came forward first with the white flag and then adopted the red flag. As they are feeling pretty blue at the present time, it might be said, for the purpose of this paragraph, that they seem to have a pretty good idea of the color scheme of democracy.

## Cotter T. Bride

(Mr. Bryan's tribute to a friend.)

Because we were close personal and political friends for more than a quarter of a century I have been asked by the family of the deceased to say a word at the grave. I appreciate the honor done me and the privilege of participating in this last tribute of respect.

The word "friend" is a treasure word in every language and the sacred relationship which it describes is recognized throughout all history. Abraham is called "the Friend of God," and it is said of the great Jewish lawgiver, Moses, that the Lord spoke to him "face to face as a man speaketh unto his friend." Solomon understood the strength of the friendship tie—that it is sometimes stronger than the ties of blood—for he speaks of "a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." He was also acquainted with the superb qualities of true friendship for he says that "A friend loved at all times."

Christ, too, hallowed the word and the relationship. He found the supreme test of love in man's willingness to lay down his life for a friend; and He called attention to the confidential character of friendship when He said to His disciples "Henceforth, I call you not servants, for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth; but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of My Father I have made known unto you."

Mr. Bride's friendship measured up to the highest requirements of the most exacting definition of the word. Among the many with whose friendship I have been honored I have known none more true and unwavering.

We became friends on the day we first met, some twenty-eight years ago, and that friendship continued without a moment's interruption until he was called to his reward.

Friendship to him was not like the tide that has its flow and ebb; it was not like the surface stream that is swollen by sudden showers and then recedes. It had rather the evenness of the mountain brook that finds its source in living springs.

Our friendship rested upon a very substantial foundation. We found ourselves in accord on the fundamental tenets of the Christian faith and on the basic principles of popular government. We were in agreement as to party policies and methods and, in addition, were personally congenial. We loved and trusted each other.

During my four years in congress I roomed at his house and the attachment which grew up between our good wives was scarcely less intimate than that which existed between us. I valued his constancy and his companionship and seldom visited Washington without seeing him. When I learned, ten days ago, of the illness which proved fatal to him I hastened to his bedside and enjoyed an hour's communion with him—an hour made precious by the fear that it would be the last meeting with him on this side the tomb. I shall sorely miss him when I return, from time to time, to the national capital—I shall miss the earnest look in his steadfast eye, the cordial grasp of his hand and the warmth of his honest heart.

He was a typical American. In the home he was faithful to every tie; in the state, loyal to every civic duty; in politics, active; and, in office, incorruptible. He was of the kind that give to our government a guaranty of perpetuity and progress. We can ill afford to lose such an one—especially at this time when so many great problems demand attention.

We can say of the deceased as the Master said of Lazarus—"Our friend sleepeth," but, alas, we cannot recall to its tenement of clay the imperial spirit that has been summoned to the world beyond. Our words cannot soothe his ear or bring back to his face the smile of welcome with which he was wont to greet his friends. But as one who prized his confidence and devotion I come to bear witness to his worth and to speak words of comfort and sympathy to his family.

I shared with them the happiness which his life bestowed and I could bear with them the sorrow which his death has brought into their homes. Peace to his ashes; repose to his soul.

A special commission to investigate the reasons why coal confined in bins shrinks so rapidly during January and February would meet a widespread need just at this time.