

# THEODORE ROOSEVELT DEAD

## Noted Figure In National Life Died This Morning

### Nation Stirred to Depths-- Death Was Quite Unexpected

OYSTER BAY, L. I., Jan. 6.—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, the twenty-sixth president of the United States and one of the foremost and most picturesque figures ever known in American public life, died at his home at Sagamore Hill shortly after 4 o'clock this morning of embolism, a blood clot having affected the flow of blood from the heart to the lungs.

Although the colonel had been ill quite recently, having been discharged much improved in health but a few days ago from a hospital where he had been taking treatment for rheumatism, his death was entirely unexpected.

The funeral will be strictly private and will be held Wednesday, with services at the home and at Christ Episcopal church. The body will not be taken from Oyster Bay, but will be buried in Young's memorial cemetery. The family have requested that no flowers be sent.

So well did the colonel feel upon retiring to his room last night that his nurse did not attend him, and the only person present when he expired at 4:15 o'clock this morning was his body servant, James Amon, who has been continually in the colonel's service since his White House days. The former president passed away very quietly in his sleep, simply ceasing at once to breathe. Mrs. Roosevelt was the only other member of the family present at Sagamore Hill at the time.

The family physician, Dr. W. G. Falter, was hastily summoned, but the colonel had been dead some time before he arrived. After an examination Dr. Falter made a statement attributing the cause of death to embolism, superinduced by a number of maladies which the colonel contracted during his last expedition to the wilds of South America.

Colonel Roosevelt had retired last night about 10:30 o'clock, in the best of spirits and apparently feeling unusually well. His body servant, who has been sitting up in the colonel's room of nights, said that the former president was sleeping soundly and peacefully at midnight, and that it was a few minutes after 4 o'clock this morning when the disturbed breathing of the colonel indicated that something was wrong. The sleeper seemed restless, but did not awaken, and death apparently came to him painlessly.

The date of the funeral was not decided upon until word had been received back from the colonel's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Derby, who were in Asheville, S. C. Archibald Roosevelt, son of the colonel, was in Boston when his father died.

Of the other sons, Major Theodore Roosevelt is with the American army of occupation in Germany, and Captain Kermit Roosevelt is with the American expeditionary forces in France. Captain Quentin Roosevelt was killed in an air battle in France some time ago.

Mrs. Roosevelt bore up well under the shock. Although her grief is profound and deep, she did not collapse nor become hysterical.

### President Wilson Notified.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Notification of the death of ex-President Theodore Roosevelt was flashed to President Wilson today by Secretary Tumulty. Tumulty also ordered the flags at the White House to be lowered to half mast, and flags on all other public buildings in Washington were also lowered in reverence to the great national figure.

### Congress Adjourns.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Congress adjourned this afternoon in respect to Colonel Roosevelt. Formal resolutions of sorrow and condolence were adopted by both houses. Vice President Marshall appointed a committee of fifteen senators to attend the funeral, and a committee of five representatives will be appointed tomorrow. Senator Lodge, veteran republican leader, broke down in tears as he attempted to eulogize Colonel Roosevelt.

### Socialists Claim Seat in Peace Conference.

PARIS, Jan. 6.—The Bolshevik government of Russia intends to send Adolph Joffe, the former Bolshevik ambassador at Berlin, as its delegate to Paris, to claim admission to the peace conference, according to the Echo de Paris Saturday.

### DR. SEELEY'S VERDICT ON CLOSING ORDER

Dr. Bacon, who is the new city physician succeeding Dr. A. L. Richardson, resigned, had a talk this morning with Dr. Seeley of Portland, who is head of the state board of health. Dr. Bacon secured the opinion of Dr. Seeley on the efficacy of closing business places as a means of combating influenza, and he states that Dr. Seeley's opinion is as follows:

"I believe that all places of business, including picture shows, but excluding dance halls, may be kept open.

"All homes in which there is influenza present should be kept under strict quarantine, and persons who have the disease should not be allowed out of quarantine until two weeks after the fever has left them."

### POPULAR LA GRANDE YOUNG MAN IS VICTIM OF THE INFLUENZA

The death of Robert Gale Sturdivant, one of the most popular and best liked young men of this city, occurred at the Grande Ronde hospital last evening, after a short illness. Mr. Sturdivant spent Christmas in Pendleton with his wife and baby, returning home immediately after Christmas. He had not been very well but no alarm was felt for his condition until Saturday, December 28, when he was taken to the hospital. He died one week from that day.

Mr. Sturdivant has been in La Grande nearly four years and has been an employee of N. K. West & Co., during that time. About two years ago he was married to Miss Edna Wiestler, then of Pendleton, but formerly of La Grande. He was born in Ukiah, Oregon, twenty-nine years ago. His father and one brother still live there.

Besides his wife and baby daughter, Eva Jean, he leaves to mourn his death, his father, Robert E. Sturdivant of Ukiah, and three brothers, Ivan, who is in the army service, Glen of Buhl, Idaho, and Charles of Ukiah.

The remains will be in state at the Bohnekamp chapel tonight from 7:30 until 9 o'clock. They will be taken on No. 17 tomorrow morning to Pendleton for burial, and the funeral will be held from the Fulsom undertaking parlors Wednesday afternoon.

### MORE OUTRAGES

Massacre Armenians in Final Effort to Exterminate Race.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—It is authoritatively announced that evidence has been received that the Turkish army is withdrawing from invaded territories in the Caucasus region, has committed outrages on the Armenians in spite of the terms of the armistice. It is reported that individual Turks have acknowledged to be their intention to deal a final blow at the Armenians and to consummate the Turkish policy of extermination that race.

An eye witness reports having seen Armenians cruelly beaten and says that one place he found the bodies of more than sixty women and children. Tortures were inflicted upon the living, he says.

## EPIDEMIC TOLL IS STARTLING

111,688 DEATHS FROM "FLU" IN FORTY-SIX STATES.

Mortality Rate is Increased to 19.6 Per 1000—Baltimore Has Highest Rate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The influenza epidemic which swept the country during the latter part of last year caused 111,688 deaths in the 46 largest cities and increased the combined death rate for those communities in 1918 to 19.6 per thousand, according to statistics made public Sunday by the census bureau. Total figures for the country were not available.

Baltimore with 26.8 per thousand and Nashville with 26.4 had the highest rates of the registration cities, while St. Paul with 13.9 and Minneapolis and Grand Rapids with 14 each had the lowest. Grand Rapids showed the smallest increase, the death rate for 1917 having been 13.1.

There were 422,374 deaths in the 46 cities, the estimated population of 42 of which aggregated 20,514,520. There was no estimate of population for the other four. Deaths from influenza totalled 69,429, with 48,149 deaths from pneumonia.

Hits Largest Cities.

The year's total death rate in New York city was 18.8 per thousand, compared with 15.2 for 1917. In Chicago it was 17.1 against 14.9 the year before and in Philadelphia where the influenza epidemic was severe, it was 24.2 compared with 17.1 in 1917.

The rate in Cleveland was 16.0 for last year and 13.9 in 1917; Boston 22.0 and 16.4; St. Louis 17.9 and 15.1; Pittsburgh 25.4 and 18.2; and Los Angeles 16.4 and 12.5.

In San Francisco the rate was 29.5 compared with 15.0 for 1917; in Buffalo 21.2 and 16.4; Milwaukee 14.4 and 12.3; Newark, N. J., 19.5 and 14.2; Cincinnati 20.6 and 16.3; Washington, 23.6 and 16.8.

## WILL CLEAN UP BIG CALENDAR

HOLIDAYS OVER—CONGRESS BACK TO WORK.

Unusually Heavy Calendar to Be Gone Through Before End of the Session March 4.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—With its holiday vacation ended, congress will settle down today to the task of clearing an unusually heavy legislative calendar before the session ends early in March.

The peace debate was reopened in the senate today with an address by Senator McCumber of North Dakota, Republican, in support of a league of nations. Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, plans an address on the resolution of Senator Johnson of California, asking the state department for information as to America's relations with Russia. Senator Hitchcock conferred with Acting Secretary Peck Saturday regarding Russia.

Senate and house conferees met today in an effort to compose differences over the war revenue bill with night session planned if necessary so that an early report may be made.

Appropriation Committee Report.

The house appropriations committee plans to begin consideration of President Wilson's recommendation that \$100,000,000 be appropriated for the relief of demoralized civilian populations in Europe outside of Germany, and other committees also will be busy.

An effort will be made early in the week to have the senate consider Senator Hitchcock's bill legalizing war contracts held by the treasury department to be invalid because they were made informally. In the house the rivers and harbors bill will be called up during the week.

Senate committees will resume investigations into government merchant shipping on Thursday.

### CONCLUDES ITALIAN TRIP.

WILSON VIA TURIN, Jan. 6.—President Wilson will conclude his Italian trip today with an address at Turin, and will arrive at Paris for resumption of informal peace conferences on Tuesday.

## Theatres Open Saturday-- Owners Arrested, But Obtain Injunction

### EMBARGO ON SHIPMENTS

FOOD STUFFS FOR EUROPE ARE HELD UP.

Strike of Freight Handlers and Lack of Tonnage Cause Serious Congestion.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—Shipment of all classes of freight, and particularly foodstuffs intended for American troops abroad and Europe's starving people, was embargoed Friday from other parts of the country through the ports of Boston, Philadelphia and New York for export by order of the freight traffic committee, north Atlantic ports representing north Atlantic railroads at the suggestion, it was stated of the federal food administration.

Food and supplies are accumulated on the piers of New York to such an extent that it is impossible for it to be handled or for cargo space to be provided for its transportation abroad. Similar conditions are declared to exist in Boston and Philadelphia, with the situation becoming more serious.

Strikes Proves Obnoxious.

Three principal causes are assigned. One is the strike of freight handlers, which was reported to be spreading Friday. Another was a disposition on the part of ship owners to put their vessels in drydock upon being released from the war straits, instead of continuing the ships in trade, still another was the holiday season with consequent decrease in labor facilities regardless of existing strike conditions.

It was declared that vessels for use by the food administration had not become available in the tonnage that had been expected.

The embargo began Thursday on shipments from interior points in New York over the New York Central railroad, due to the strike by freight handlers. Friday virtually every pier here was affected.

The freight handlers have been receiving 42 cents an hour for a 10-hour day. Their demand now is 50 cents an hour for an eight-hour day, with time and a half overtime pay for the ninth and tenth hours.

### CITY SCHOOLS REOPEN WITH BIG ATTENDANCE

A. C. Hampton, superintendent of the city schools, informed the Observer today that upon reopening after the holidays a decided improvement in the attendance is noted. The attendance at the high school was the best today of any time since the first month of the school term. The ward schools also showed a distinct improvement, this being the case with Central school especially, where the attendance was quite low preceding the holidays.

### PRESIDENT AT TURIN.

TURIN, Jan. 6.—President Wilson arrived here today to receive the greatest ovation ever tendered, a foreigner. Military and civil officials received the President at the railway station and the formal address were excellent. This is the last city the President will visit in Italy along the way. The President has been given ovation and affectionate greetings. At Genoa the President visited the tomb of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the country over which the distinguished visitor is now president.

### WEATHER WARMER

Higher Temperatures in Middle West Give Relief.

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—Relief from the severe cold in the western half of the country came Saturday in most sections, and Saturday night more comfortable temperatures were reported. In Chicago, where a minimum of 11 degrees below zero—the coldest thus far this winter—was recorded at 6 a. m., a reaction has carried the temperature upward 24 degrees in 16 hours.

## RAILROAD MEN OPPOSE PLAN

REITERATE OBJECTIONS TO LONG GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Points Out Evils of Prolonged Operation by Government—Defects Easily Cured.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6.—Opposition to a prolongation to five years' government control of railroads was reiterated Sunday at a session of the association of railway executives. Nine-two per cent of the mileage of the country was represented at the meeting and practically every railroad had its president here.

An elaborate presentation of the contention of the railroad has been prepared and this will be laid before the senate interstate commerce committee at its hearing next Wednesday. A committee of six will then appear on behalf of the companies. T. Dewitt Taylor, Pennsylvania railroad, chairman of the association of railway executives; Alfred P. Thom, counsel of the association; Howard Ellicott, president of the Northern Pacific; Julius Kruttschnitt, president Scuthar Pacific; Samuel Res, president the Pennsylvania, and Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio.

Adopt Kahn's Views.

Mr. Cuyler made public Sunday night a letter from Otto H. Kahn of New York, in which Mr. Kahn states his objections to a policy of permanent government ownership and operation of the railroads and to Director General McAdoo's proposal to continue the present government control for five years.

"Mr. Kahn's letter," commented Mr. Cuyler, "clearly and concisely summarizes the views held by the association of railway executives."

The letter in part follows: "From the point of view of the monetary interest of the investor in railroad securities the prospect of government ownership and operation, which would relieve him of risk and make his investment secure, may be attractive.

Evils of Government Operation.

"From the national point of view, however, I consider government ownership and operation as gravely and far-reaching detrimental, socially, economically and politically. It is incompatible with our system and methods of government and with the genius of American institutions.

"It would mean lessened efficiency and lead to stagnation and retrogression. It would mean the setting up of a huge bureaucratic machine, political wires pulling and log rolling, largely increased cost to the merchant and farmer, indeed largely increased cost all around and many other evils.

### 150 MILE TRIP GROWS TO 1600.

Short Trip Made Long Between Klamath and Bend to Get Prisoners.

KLAMATH FALLS, Jan. 6.—Some idea of the inadequate railway facilities of Eastern Oregon is indicated in the trip of Constable Fred Moreley, who left yesterday to capture two prisoners held at Bend, 150 miles north, and will travel about 1600 miles in making the trip.

Raymond Frost and a Mrs. Peterson are accused of having stolen between \$200 and \$400 worth of goods from the Randolph residence in Crescent, in the northern part of the county, and are reported to have had some of the stolen goods in their possession when apprehended at Bend.

### CHARGE NEGLECT OF DUTY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Though investigation of the charge alleged to have been made by army officers and troops aboard the transport Northern Pacific that the vessel was ashore because of neglect of duty on the part of the naval officers in charge of the boat, as the aftermath of New Year's celebration, will be conducted by the navy department, Secretary Daniels announced here today.

### POLES GOING HOME

Battalion Recruited in U. S. Sails for Poland.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—The French line steamship France, which sailed Saturday, carried a battalion of Poles, numbering 554 men, recruited in America, for the Polish army.

### Orders of Board of Commission Defied By The Proprietors

The local moving picture houses, the Arcade, the Star and Sherry's, were operated Saturday and yesterday in defiance of the rulings of the board of city commissioners.

In line with the statement of their intentions in Saturday's Observer, the proprietors of the theatres opened up Saturday afternoon, or at least tried to open up. As soon as the time for the commencement of the shows drew near, Chief of Police Rayburn, acting under instructions from the commissioners, appeared on the scene, ordered the doors closed and the shows called off, and requested the proprietors to accompany him to the police station.

The proprietors, Mr. Trull and Mr. Meyers, were released upon their own cognizance, however, as they had filed complaints against the action of the commissioners. Injunctions were issued by Judge Phy for the relief of the complainants and under the protection of these the theatre proprietors put on their shows Saturday night and yesterday.

The cases of the proprietors were to have been heard in police court this morning, but on account of the illness of Judge Knowles, the matter of the injunctions issued and the demurrer filed by the board of commissioners could not be decided today. Until Judge Knowles is able to attend to that matter, therefore, their cases are being held over.

Business Men Offend.

The Observer understands that complaints were also laid against proprietors of several stores in the city for alleged violation of the closing regulations by allowing their stores to become overcrowded Saturday night. Trial of these cases has been postponed also, it is understood.

## MEETING DATES DRAWING NEAR

PLANS FOR PORTLAND CONVENTION COMPLETED

Important Work to Be Done Without Delay—Quick Action Very Necessary.

Oregon's reconstruction convention, to be held in Portland, January 9, 10 and 11 will result in every definite plan to become effective immediately in connection with Oregon readjustment from a war to a peace basis. The convention will not be a general far-fetched, those in charge of the meeting having made careful selections of the speakers.

Subjects assigned to the speakers will lead to concrete plans and programs in various lines of industry, which will be submitted to the delegates in attendance from every section of the state for approval.

With the announcement that the old Third Oregon Unit is about to be mobilized in France for its return to the states and then to Oregon for demobilization, comes the need for quick action on the part of Oregon in framing its plans and carrying these into execution. Mayor George L. Baker, of Portland, who heads the committee handling the details of the meeting, is of the opinion that everything should be ready for Oregon's warriors upon their return.

"We must be ready to give our boys a rousing welcome," he says, "but we must do this more than that. We must do such action now, as will guarantee conditions to absorb our boys back into civilian life, and at the same time give for thousands who may soon become unemployed through the cancellation of war contracts.

"Oregon has no time to waste—every minute will count—and the reconstruction convention is the means of bringing together the thought of the state to outline a comprehensive plan, which will solve the biggest problem of the age—that of reconstruction and readjustment."

### CITY PHYSICIAN GIVES UP JOB

DR. A. L. RICHARDSON TENDERED RESIGNATION TO CITY MANAGERS SATURDAY

The stand of the board of city commissioners in sticking to their arbitrary ruling with respect to closing of business and meeting places was considerably weakened Saturday when Dr. A. L. Richardson, city physician and health officer, informed them that he did not consider their ruling just and would not support nor try to enforce their orders, giving notice at the same time that he wished his resignation to be accepted at once.

Dr. Richardson's letter, in which was contained notice of his intention to quit, was as follows: JOHN COLLIER, City Manager, La Grande, Oregon.

Dear Sir: I hereby tender my resignation as city physician and city health officer of the city of La Grande, to take effect at once.

In taking this step I deem it advisable that I should make an explanation to the city commission, the city manager and to the public. In the first place I understand that the city commission has issued an order for the continuation of the closing of picture shows, and in that order have instructed the city attorney and the city health officer to see that the order is obeyed.

First, I decline to enforce this order, because I deem it unnecessary to close one business and permit all other business to remain open. The congregation of crowds therein is a great menace to the spreading of influenza as are the patches of the picture shows.

On numerous occasions I have publicly expressed my belief that if any ban or quarantine against influenza was productive of good results it would be one of a most drastic nature. The nine days past have thoroughly demonstrated to my satisfaction that the opening of all places of business has had a beneficial effect. Today there are not more than fifty per cent. of the houses quarantined that there were at the beginning of the ban, and the physicians are not being called to treat one case where they were treating ten or more before the ban. Hence I refuse to order the closing of one business, discriminating against it as to all others.

Your very truly,

A. L. RICHARDSON.

La Grande, January 4, 1919.

Dr. Bacon is Successor.

The position of city physician was tendered by the city manager to Dr. G. L. Bizzess, following Dr. Richardson's resignation. The Observer understands Dr. Bizzess, however, would accept unless the duties of health officer were also added upon Chief of Police Rayburn's resignation.

Dr. T. Bacon was then approached and he accepted the office.

### BRITISH CABINET RESIGNS

LONDON, Jan. 6.—All members of the British cabinet have resigned in order to give Premier Lloyd George a free hand in selection of the new ministry, the Daily Express stated today.