

## IN HOME TOWN

### Roosevelt Arrives at Oyster Bay.

### FETED BY LOYAL NEIGHBORS

### Local Dispute Causes the Reception to Be Double.

### PROMINENT PART BY CHILDREN

They Form a Solid Wall for the Line of March to the Reception Hall—The President Makes a Happy Address.

Under smiling skies, President Roosevelt stepped from his car in his home town of Oyster Bay yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The city was gayly decorated, the citizens and school children were out en masse, and added to the great welcome boomed by cannon. A special committee, headed by the president of the Oyster Bay Town Board, met the President at Long Island City, and escorted him home.

OYSTER BAY, L. I., June 27.—President Roosevelt's homecoming for the summer was made the occasion for a fête here. His reception was notable for its enthusiastic cordiality, and likewise for its vigor. The latter quality was due to a slight factional difference among the townpeople, the result being that the President was accorded a double reception.

The Oyster Bay Board of Trade, headed by President J. Morgan Griffin, had planned an elaborate demonstration, and ex-Assemblyman Maurice Townsend had arranged another. Both were carried out according to programme, but as both were directed to the same end, the friendly rivalry between the factions resulted only in adding to the enthusiasm of the reception.

Escorted Home by Committee. President Roosevelt and his party were met at Long Island City by a committee headed by J. C. Travers, president of the Oyster Bay Town Board, and escorted home on a special train, the President occupying the private car of President Baldwin, of the Long Island Railroad.

Under smiling skies, the President stepped from his car at 4:30 o'clock, and, while the cannon crashed out its salute and the people cheered, he was escorted by the reception committee to the Town Hall. The march to the hall was between lines of school children, each child waving a tiny American flag. Business houses and residences throughout the town were handsomely decorated with flags and bunting, and scores of large American ensigns swung across the principal streets.

President Makes an Address. Arrived at the hall, President Roosevelt unveiled the Civil War trophy gun presented to the people of Oyster Bay by the Navy Department. Then, standing on a chair placed on the steps leading to the hall, he delivered a brief address to the crowd, of his friends and neighbors massed in front of the building. The President said:

"My friends and neighbors: I thank you heartily, more heartily than I can express, for your coming out to greet me today. I wonder if some of you remember what I shall never forget—the way that you came out to greet me nearly five years ago, when I got home from Santiago. I thought some of you would remember it.

"Since I last saw you I have been across the continent. I have traveled from the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, across the Mississippi Valley, by the side of the Great Lakes, over the Rocky Mountains to the shores of the Pacific, and the thing that has struck me most in that journey of nearly 15,000 miles right across the continent has been the essential unity of our people, that wherever an American President goes here in the United States he feels himself to be at home among those who feel as he does, and who have the same ideals with which he can appeal.

Not the President in Oyster Bay. "And now I am coming back to you whom I know so well. The older among you I have known for some 20 years and over, and my children are now growing up here. Just as I grew up, and I hope they will do better in knowing out of mischief. And naturally it pleases me very greatly to have you show me the feeling that you have this afternoon. When I get back here, I am not the President. I am your old neighbor and friend, and in welcoming all of you I want to say I am particularly pleased to see here the children. As you know, I believe in children, and I am very glad that the children of Oyster Bay seem to be all right in quality and also in quantity.

"I shall just say again, my friends and neighbors—those with whom I am knit by such close ties—I thank you from my heart, and I am deeply touched by your greeting this afternoon."

At the conclusion of the speech, the President entered the hall and greeted Mrs. Roosevelt and his children, who had been in waiting there for him. While he was holding an informal reception in the hall, the school children were drawn up in front of the building, and under the leadership of the band, sang an original song of welcome to the President.

Delights the Children. Attracted by the singing, the President appeared on the steps and, to the delight

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