

CITIZEN ROOSEVELT AFTER THE WHITE HOUSE WHAT?

Remarkable Symposium of Opinions As to His Future Place in the World's Activities by His Fellow Makers of History.

By Broughton Brandenburg.

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The people of the United States are gravely concerned as to who the next President of the United States will be. The men of affairs of the whole world as well as the people of the United States are profoundly interested as to what the next occupation of Roosevelt will be. This topic is coming to be one of intense discussion and the widest speculation.

There are herewith presented the expressions of opinion thereon and the suggestions of eminent men as to what he should do, which matter I have collected with but few exceptions since Mr. Roosevelt's ultimatum on the question of a third term, and also, of course, since the late financial disturbance, which is considered by some to have had great bearing on the complexion of the American political situation, though others contend that it has merely drawn the lines of contest between reform and reaction all the more sharply.

It is folly to underestimate the place Theodore Roosevelt holds in the mind of the American public, and it is commonly admitted that there never has been a man who could lead so preponderating a body of his countrymen in any given direction. He is unique among our Presidents in a dozen ways, and the most conspicuous of these is that at the age of 50 he will have spent nearly eight years in the Presidential chair, will have left an impression on our history as deep as that of Washington, Jackson, Lincoln and McKinley, and yet leaves his post in the prime of health, vigor and potency.

What will he do during the next 20 years, for common sense says that he must be reckoned with as a National figure? There can be no one who believes that he will remain inactive. To what will he lay his hands?

A solution of the problem already has been offered to Congress in a bill introduced by Senator McCleary, of Kentucky, whose proposal to make former Presidents permanent commissioners to represent this Government in The Hague Peace Congress, at \$10,000 a year and all expenses.

There is a current superstition that our former Presidents do not live long after leaving the Presidential chair. The computation of this record is interesting indeed. Of the 25 predecessors of Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Harrison, Zachary Taylor, Abraham Lincoln, James A. Garfield and William McKinley died in office. Grover Cleveland is the only living former President. The average number of years that the 18 others lived is 21 years. The average age of retirement or death of all is 61, and Theodore Roosevelt will be 61 on his retirement, three years younger than either Fillmore or Pierce, the youngest two on the completion of Presidential service except James A. Garfield, who was assassinated. The record:

Name	Age at Retirement	Age at Death
George Washington	67	67
John Adams	68	90
Thomas Jefferson	63	83
James Madison	68	85
James Monroe	68	73
John Quincy Adams	67	81
Andrew Jackson	78	78
Martha Van Buren	53	73
William H. Harrison	68	68
John Tyler	64	73
James K. Polk	54	54
Zachary Taylor	65	66
Millard Fillmore	53	74
Franklin Pierce	55	63
James Buchanan	70	70
Abraham Lincoln	56	66
Andrew Johnson	66	66
Ulysses S. Grant	52	62
Rutherford B. Hayes	63	73
James A. Garfield	49	49
Chester A. Arthur	52	56
Grover Cleveland	59	87
Benjamin Harrison	59	67
Grover Cleveland	59	87
William McKinley	58	58

There are some suggestions which I cannot use directly. A European Ambassador told me that he was glad the old colonel of the Rough Riders, the once Assistant Secretary of the Navy, would still be able to take the field in case we have a war with Japan. "You will not need to go through a mauling to find a Grant to win your war."

A great Southern Democratic Senator said to me:

"If things go wrong in the next four years the Solid South will see that Theodore Roosevelt puts them right again. The American people will tolerate no 'shebangism' unless they are helpless, and they know they are not helpless, as long as Theodore Roosevelt is sound in mind and body."

GROVER CLEVELAND

The attitude of a President the day he leaves his high office and becomes a plain citizen of the United States is one so peculiar that it requires serious contemplation in the perspective to get his proper relations to the people at large.

There is a vague but none the less imperative feeling abroad in the land that one who has occupied the great office of President holds in trust for his fellow citizens a certain dignity which in his conduct and manner of life he is bound to protect against deterioration. Obliged

ence to this obligation, which can hardly be avoided, limits one who was once President in his choice of an occupation and prescribes for him only such work as is in popular judgment not undignified.

The American people are the best people in the world, and the honor and respect with which they have treated him is a firmament one who has served them in the highest office within their gift illustrates the innate nobility of the American character. The truth is that our people, so far from treating their retired Presidents simply as relics of past honors, seem disposed not only to bestow upon them honor and respect, but to continue in their service so far as to not interfere seriously with the untrammelled attention to private citizenship and their unrestrained assumption of the occupation of everyday life.

THOMAS W. LAWSON

The next job for Theodore Roosevelt? What a question to ask of intelligent Americans! Are there other Theodore Roosevelts than the one who during the last six years has stood in the calm and the storm on the deck of the old ship Republic, with her precious cargo of human souls, and with uncompromising fortitude and dauntless courage has steered her course through the treacherous seas and has made all the labors of America's rugged shores, repelling piratical boarders and avoiding all decoy beacons? No! Only one Theodore Roosevelt. Then the question incubates its own answer. The next job for Theodore Roosevelt after March 4, 1909, is helmsman still for the old ship until she reaches the harbor she started for on her present voyage.

Every state in the Union can furnish a dozen ideal Governor Generals of the Philippines, a score of presidents of Harvard College, heads of peace movements or Secretaries of the Navy, but in none of them is there a man who can hold the old ship to her course, in calm and gale alike, in this critical passage—none but Theodore Roosevelt. In none of them is there a man to whom the passengers of the old ship would intrust the finishing of this perilous voyage if they but knew the mazes and false harbor lights she must weather.

God forbid that the American people should allow Pilot Roosevelt to hunt a new job until he has berthed the Republic at her destination. Old sailors will tell you there is in the career of every staunch ship some one particular voyage which decides her fate for weal or woe, and with horror they would listen to the suggestion that such a ship's skipper be changed after she had started on such a voyage.

As an intense American, who reverences the very dirt of his country, one who knows the history his forefathers wrote with blood upon their raw flesh, and one who knows his country's sons and daughters, I cannot believe the American people are going to allow the raping of her traditions.

History, that horny-handed stayer of the past, left upon no tablet a single tale of a people of any nation taking from the middle of his gloriously successful task one of her heroes and depositing him by the roadside. History tells of many peoples, now dead, who in spells of temporary insanity arising from joy at their heroes' victories, who in temporary madness at his defeats, in the temporary bewilderment at his inactivity, killed him, but never have any people in the tallying of their heroes' on-sweeping successes deliberately, in the middle of a vital campaign, plucked him from the saddle and laid him upon the roadside grass.

The degenerate saggard Roman aristocracy upon whom Caesar had shed an eternity of glorious radiance drained in it the life of his heroism until their mad Caesar-hating brains visioned all things scariet, but even then they, the glorified of human beasts, allowed the greatest hero of all to complete the conquering of the whole world ere they plunged their daggers beneath his imperial ribs to the royal heart beyond. That inexorable strumpet, Fate, stayed her hand until the sainted Lincoln's task was finished, ere she hurled him to that rest which comes to those whose fight has not been in vain. There was nothing further for Grant to do when the people dismissed him.

Shame everlasting, damnable shame be the heritage of the system-oppressed people if they allow Theodore Roosevelt to hunt another job while the grand work he has so superbly begun and so boldly carried along with the speed of a Mercury, the strength of a Samson and the honesty of the man Diogenes unsuccessfully sought, is yet in the blue print stage.

The question should not be, "What will be Theodore Roosevelt's next job?" but who in the name of all that is sacred to a free and intelligent people is there



REPRESENTATIVE CHAMP CLARK



"COMPLETE PANAMA CANAL" WALTER WELLMAN



GENERAL JAMES T. MCCLEARY



JAMES HARDIE M.P. "LEAD LABOR REFORM"



ABRAHAM I. LAWSHE



SENATOR WILLIAM E. CHANDLER



GROVER CLEVELAND "MUST BE DIGNIFIED"



FRANCIS JOSEPH EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA



FRANK H. HITCHCOCK "A GOOD REST FIRST"



EDWARD W. BOK "HIS OWN CHOICE"



REPRESENTATIVE JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS "NOBODY CARES WHAT"



"THEODORE ROOSEVELT IS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WHO HAS EVER HAD A GRASP ON THE GREAT WORLD GAME" PRINCE ALEX SOURSKAN.

would say that he should seek that particular Cabinet portfolio which has to do with his country's foreign trade. If a nation has the second navy in the world, has such enormous manufacturing capacity, why not build up the first foreign trade in importance? Do the importers

and exporters of the United States even dream what would happen to American trade if Great Britain and Germany were to go to war and the Scandinavian countries were to become German allies, something which has never been improbable in the last 15 years? There would

be a grand suppression of trade in ships under the five flags and there would not be enough neutral cargo carrying ships afloat to carry into and out of American ports in a year the present tonnage of a fortnight. The United States, though entirely neutral and at peace, would

suffer the most frightful business calamity. All because her great importing trade and small but important exporting trade is carried in foreign ships. There is no good reason why the United States should not have a huge exporting trade and a fleet of cargo carriers to