

ALL EYES ON ROOSEVELT AS 3rd TERM CANDIDATE

Prominent Men of the Country Differ on Unwritten Law as to Presidency

HE HAS MANY WARM FRIENDS

Both Democrats and Republicans Praise Him and Would Ignore Tradition in His Case

BY BROUGHTON BRANDENBURG

Written for The Seattle Times and New York Herald

Whether Theodore Roosevelt is to become his own successor as President is now and for a year will be the most important and the most discussed of all political problems. Roosevelt has emphatically announced his determination not to seek a second election is well known, and the pressure to induce him to reconsider this determination is increasing daily is apparent. In all eyes of America Roosevelt is urged to take another term, the main argument advanced being that the so-called unwritten law against a third term does not apply in his case. Some friends of Roosevelt are inclined to take him at his word and look elsewhere for president. Others, just as loyal and sincere, take the opposite view and declare that his duty is paramount and that his inclinations or desires have no part in the crisis he is about to face. There is no question existing today on which the spokesmen of the political parties are so loath to express an opinion. For so delicate and involved is the topic that the enemies of Mr. Roosevelt are careful not to stir it up, while his friends do not desire to antagonize him or make themselves ridiculous by pretending to appear as givers of advice to a man who, after all, will follow his own way.

New York Herald, in order to sound the American public on the question of President Roosevelt's succession, have collected and herewith present the views of many leaders in varied walks of life. No man who might be reckoned as a presidential candidate was approached for his opinion, nor was one whose official position or business situation was such that it might be injured by his expressions. Men prominent merely by reason of wealth or social position were eliminated.

Results Are Astonishing.

That the results of this election are astonishing can easily be understood by a perusal of the opinions herewith presented. The politicians took their party lines, many Democrats, however, praising Roosevelt while they declared against another term. Men involved in gigantic industrial and commercial enterprises were unanimous in favor of another term for Roosevelt, with the exception of John Wanamaker, who says, "I agree with his good sense on the question." Publicists and others who are in the front of public life for various reasons were disposed to offer views along similar lines. Many of these declined to be quoted, but all three of these vouchsafed the confidential opinion that there was nothing to do but compel Roosevelt to accept a third term; while others went so far as to say they

hoped this joint expression of a company of men whose word is important in such a matter would precipitate the general agitation and so lead to reconsideration by Roosevelt.

His friends and his enemies agree that the common people of all parties want him to remain where he is. The form of question accounts for the wording of many of the replies. The men were asked as to their attitude on a third term for any President, firstly, and third term for Roosevelt secondly.

One Democratic senator who bitterly assails Roosevelt in public life wrote a confidential letter praising the President, both as an individual and an officer, and ending with the hope that he might be renominated and elected as a truly patriotic president.

There were some oddities that cropped out, such as Richard Mansfield's declaration for a constitutional monarchy, Russell Gardner's slogan of supremacy of the whites and Charles A. Towne's prophecy that Roosevelt will be renominated and elected.

There was also developed a strong expression of opinion in favor of an amendment to the constitution making the term six years instead of four. The replies follow:

Illinois and West Virginia.

"Illinois, has been heart-set on Roosevelt and I have no idea but what he will be compelled to play the part of the wisest man and bend to his country's wishes.

(Signed) "S. M. CULLOM,

"Senator from Illinois."

"Political arrangements do not seem to enter into the minds of the people of West Virginia on the matter of the candidacy of President Roosevelt for another term. They are determined he shall be the candidate.

(Signed) "S. B. ELKINS,

"Senator from West Virginia."

"Opposition to a third term for any President is among the first and the strongest of the political convictions I entertain. The reasons for opposing a third term have been so often and forcefully presented that I need not reiterate any of them. I do not believe that Presidents should have third terms thrust upon them. Belonging, as I do, to another political party than that of Roosevelt, I freely bear testimony to his sincerity of purpose, when, on the morning after the last presidential election, he formally announced to the American people that he would not, under any circumstances, be a candidate for the presidency again. If the President had given any other reason than the one he did for his determination should he accept another term for the presidency, were it tendered him, he might with propriety say he yielded to influences that were convincing and that justified him in recalling his pledge, but he based his determination upon a great principle, the one established by Washington, Jefferson and other Presidents, for the reason that a third and additional term to any President might be potential in transforming our government from a republic to a monarchy. I regard all the talk of inducing the President to stand for a third term as idle, for the President cannot yield to it, however great the pressure might be, without appearing before the American public as deliberately violating that principle essential to the perpetuity of a republican form of government.

Possess Kingly Power.

"Already the President of the United States is in the possession of kingly power. It is the limitation of his term of office by unwritten law that saves the name of it and the fact of it. Extinguish this limitation and no constitutional monarch on earth possesses any such sovereignty. The election of Theodore Roosevelt in 1905 would proclaim to the world the failure of Republican institutions in America and would be so accepted. That would be surely Mexicanize our system of government as free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 would have Mexicanized our money system. To propose it would be to involve a political revolution as much as that which broke up the Democratic party in 1896. It might not break up the Republican party, but it would divide it as to procure its defeat. I have always held Theodore Roosevelt to be a statesman and a politician of the very first order, of originality, sagacity and courage. Of his personal cleanliness I entertain no doubt. But, in democracy just such men become dangerous when they let their ambitions overlap their scruples. I do not fear the millions of Hearst; I do fear the genius of Roosevelt. Nobody can dissipate this fear but Theodore Roosevelt himself, and not until the proper time arrives. That will be when the

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Mrs. Fred Certia and Mrs. Pinkham.



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Mrs. Fred Certia, 2014 So. Lafayette Street, No. Bend, Ind., writes:

"I am a woman who has been very much troubled by the change of life. I have been suffering from hot flashes, extreme nervousness, headache and sleeplessness. I had no appetite and could not sleep. I had made up my mind there was no help for me until I began to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. My bad symptoms ceased, and it brought me safely through the danger period, built up my system and I am in excellent health. I consider Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound unsurpassed for women during this trying period of life."

Mrs. Henry Lee, 60 Winter Street, New Haven, Conn., writes:

Dear Mrs. Pinkham—

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Women passing through this critical period should rely upon Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. If there is anything about your case you don't understand write to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., for advice. It is free and has guided thousands to health.

When a medicine has been successful in restoring to health, thousands of women, you cannot well say without trying it. I do not believe it will help me. It is your duty to yourself and family to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

(Continued on page six.)