

COL. ROOSEVELT WAS GUEST OF UNIVERSITY

Famous ex-President Spent Two Hours on Campus---Gave Address Before Great Throng.

BY ARTHUR P. BECKNER, '11

EDITOR'S NOTE—The following article was awarded first place in the competition for the prize offered by the English Club for the best story of Roosevelt Day. Miss Lucy E. Mason, '11, received the second prize, and her work was so good that one of the three judges gave her first place, and put the story printed below, second. If we had the space we would print Miss Mason's article in addition to this one. We may decide to publish it in the next issue.

The writer estimates the crowd which heard Roosevelt on the campus at eight thousand. The representative of the Associated Press, who has been with the ex-President thruout his entire western trip, estimated it at fifteen thousand, and Mr. Roosevelt himself said he thot there were about twenty thousand people present.

"What town did you say? I've never heard tell of that place. Did America's foremost citizen,—did Teddy stop there? No? Well, he did at Moscow." That is what we will say for many days as we stand on our street corners and gossip. Theodore Roosevelt has honored the University of Idaho and the city of Moscow with his presence for sixteen hours. He came Sunday evening, April 9th, at 6:30, staid over night at the Hotel Moscow, breakfasted at Ridenbaugh Hall with a large and select party, spoke to eight thousand people from a pile of Idaho wheat sacks in front of the University Administration Building, and left again at 10:30 A. M. Monday. Meanwhile Idaho's sun was trying to smile but could not for Idaho's clouds and rain; and we all said, "Why couldn't we have had last week's weather!"

Thousands of people were waiting on the streets and at the depot Sunday evening to greet Colonel Roosevelt, and the procession of automobiles that followed him to the hotel was four blocks long.

A large crowd gathered early the next morning to see the great man leave for the breakfast at Ridenbaugh Hall at 7:45.

At the breakfast there were

about eighty people present, including the visitors and faculty, the presidents and secretaries of the College classes, the officers of the Associated Students, and the higher officers of the battalion of cadets. The tables were arranged in the shape of a large "U" with a great square table at the mouth. Nine Domestic Science girls served. From somewhere in the distance came strains of music, furnished by the University Orchestra. As the Colonel left the dining hall, the faculty men, some of whom it is said have not yelled since their college days, gave three old time cheers for "Teddy."

The people began to gather on the University campus at eight o'clock and stood in place in the rain and snow. Every one came, —eight thousand in all. The people of Moscow left their homes and their places of business. All the country people within a radius of many miles deserted the spring seeding for a glimpse of "Teddy." The neighboring towns also furnished their quota of the crowd, sending them in by train-loads.

After breakfast the great hunter was escorted by the Grand Army Corps, carrying the American flag, and by a company of the Univer-

sity cadets to the novel platform which had been erected by the Moscow Commercial Club and the Farmers' Union. The procession turned aside and the ex-president honored a little tree by planting it on the campus while the University students gave an Idaho yell.

At 9:03 Mr. Roosevelt mounted the pile of wheat sacks. The rain ceased, the sun almost shone and "Teddy" grinned. It was the same grin. Then the crowd yelled, every man after his own fashion and at the top of his own voice. On the platform with the speaker were Governor Hawley, ex-Governor McConnell, President MacLean, and the committee of the faculty and citizens who were responsible for the day's program.

At this juncture a company of cadets forced its way thru the jam of people and formed a circle about the platform, while all the maidens stood on tip-toe for just one glimpse of a uniform.

President MacLean, of the University introduced Governor Hawley, and Governor Hawley, in a brief but pointed speech, introduced "our distinguished visitor," naming only the regret that so small a portion of Idaho has the honor of a visit from him. As Colonel Roosevelt arose the University band struck up the "Star Spangled Banner" and the hats of the loyal Americans came off.

Mr. Roosevelt spoke in part as follows:

"My fellow citizens, I am glad for the privilege of speaking to you. I saw Idaho for the first time many years ago—before any of the students here were born. I am especially interested in the University of Idaho, for on my trips I make a point of seeing the state Universities, because I know that the University represents that which shall count in the state of tomorrow, and that it makes possible the growth in the fifty years to come that we have seen in the fifty years past. I admire the ideal expressed in your motto:

'For the training of Idaho's future citizens to their highest usefulness in private life and public service.'

"First I wish to say some things to the citizens—to you people with the dauntless spirit of the pioneer, whose business it is to conduct this great commonwealth wisely and to hand it down to your children. The pioneer spirit is still the proper spirit, but with it we must prepare to meet new conditions. In farming we have to adopt new methods. The day of

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Roosevelt speaking from platform of wheat sacks before University Administration Building.