

# COL. ROOSEVELT ON WHAT HE DRINKS AND DOES NOT DRINK

Never Drank a Cocktail or a Highball, He Says at Libel Trial.

Drinks Some Wine, but Takes Whisky or Brandy Only as Medicine.

THE country at large may now know just what Colonel Roosevelt does and does not drink. He has told it himself, a complete statement as to his drinking habits having been part of his testimony in the trial at Marquette, Mich., of his \$10,000 libel suit against George A. Newett, publisher of the Ishpeming Iron Ore.

During the last presidential campaign there was published in Iron Ore the assertion that "Roosevelt frequently gets drunk, and all his intimates know it." That assertion was the basis of the libel suit.

Colonel Roosevelt testified that he never gets drunk and that he uses liquor very sparingly. When he does drink, he drinks wine as a rule, he said. He never uses whisky or brandy except for medicinal purposes, never drinks beer at all, because he doesn't like the taste of it; never made a prac-

nigan received from Minneapolis a telegram which read:

"Don't let this sensational trial continue until I have arrived."

The message was signed Jacob Miles. Judge Flannigan turned the message over to Frank Tyree, one of Colonel Roosevelt's former body guards. He telegraphed the chief of police at Minneapolis, who wired back that Miles was insane and had been arrested.

Several amusing incidents brightened the preparations for the trial.

Colonel Roosevelt and his party arrived in Marquette at 7:45 o'clock in the morning and were warmly greeted by a crowd at the station. As the easterners stepped from the train it suddenly dawned on them that the climate on Lake Superior was different.

Looking out of the car windows on the overcoated crowd lined up to meet them, James Sloan, secret service agent, turned around in a panic stricken way and said:

"Let all the men with straw hats go out together. Then if we are killed we can at least die together."

Accordingly he went out with Clifford Pinchot, Marshal Frank Tyree, O. K. Davis and ex-Secretary Bacon, and the five straw hats created a lot of well bred interest on the part of the inhabitants.

### No Use For Cigars.

Somebody offered the colonel a cigar. "I take a cigar as often as I do a drink of whisky," said the colonel.

Homer Guck, editor of the Houghton Mining Gazette, reminded the colonel that they had met in Cuba.

"Just a moment," said the colonel, pausing. "Oh, yes; you were one of the sentries that stopped me on the bridge as I was riding into Santiago after the surrender?"

"Yes," said Guck, "and we made you dig your pass out of your boot and

### COL. ROOSEVELT'S STATEMENTS AS TO HIS DRINKING HABITS.

I have never drunk a cocktail or a highball in my life. I don't smoke, and I don't drink beer.

I never have drunk whisky or brandy except when the doctor prescribed it or possibly on some occasion after great exposure.

The only wines that I have drunk have been white wines, Madeira, champagne or occasionally a glass of sherry.

At public dinners I sometimes drink a glass of champagne or perhaps two.

At home I often at dinner will drink a wineglass or two wine-glasses of Madeira.

Mint juleps I very rarely drink. Since I left the White House, four years ago, to the best of my memory I have drunk mint juleps twice.

During the last fourteen years I do not think I have drunk whisky straight or with water more than half a dozen times.

As for brandy, I never drink it any more than I do whisky when I am at home or on a hunting trip, but on very hard campaign trips I have frequently just before going to bed drunk one or two goblets of milk with a teaspoonful of brandy to the goblet.

I never made a practice of drinking at a bar, and I don't believe that I have drunk at a bar for twenty odd years.

I never in my life, while in the White House or anywhere else, have ever left a room for the purpose of getting a drink between meals.

Since I have been of age I have never under any circumstances been in even the smallest degree under the influence of liquor.

speeches, with emphatic nods of the head, with words that were flung hot from his tongue, he looked the jurors in the face and hammered home his evidence.

He talked fast, his voice was good, and every sentence carried to every corner in the room. The defense allowed him to go as far as he pleased.

Many exceptions were taken, but both Judge Flannigan and the counsel for the defense extended every courtesy. The colonel clearly dominated the court, counsel and jury.

Many objections were made to his story of his strenuous adventures in Africa and the circumstances involved in the Milwaukee shooting, but the matter was allowed to go.

The colonel intimated, as did his counsel, that the bullet he received in Milwaukee might have been due to the Newett publication. He repeated several times the description of his abstemiousness. His counsel had him go over time and again his caution in handling drink.

Mr. Pound stood to the rear of the jury, so that in facing him the colonel faced the jurors. His ignorance of the ways of wicked drinkers was displayed when he was asked, "Colonel how many bottles are there in a case of champagne?"

"I don't know."  
"Are there eight or ten?"  
"I could not tell. I don't know a thing about it."

Colonel Roosevelt told of his early political career, his ranch experiences and his war and presidential history so far as they related to drink. Then his counsel introduced the alleged libel.

The entire article was read to the jury. When the sentence "Roosevelt is a pretty good liar himself" was read there was a titter around the room, and Judge Flannigan threatened the audience with expulsion.

### Tells of Shooting.

"When did you first see that article?" asked Pound.

"I think it was after I was shot and was in Mercy hospital in Chicago," said the colonel, rather grimly.

"Where were you shot—I mean the city in which you were shot?" inquired his counsel.

The defense entered objections, asserting that the shooting had nothing to do with the case, but the judge allowed the colonel to proceed.

"I was shot in Milwaukee, and I was taken to Chicago. I think I saw this article when I was in the hospital."

"You are now fifty-four years of age," continued Mr. Pound. "How often have you been drunk in your life?"

"I have never been drunk or in the slightest degree under the influence of liquor," was the reply.

"What use do you make of spirituous or malt liquors?"

"I do not drink beer, porter, ale or anything of that kind. I do not like beer. I do not drink either whisky or brandy except under the orders of a doctor. I never drank a highball or a cocktail in my life. I have drunk some mint juleps. There was a bed of mint in the White House yard, but I don't think I drank more than a dozen juleps in the whole time I was in the White House."

"Did you drink them all at once, or were they distributed?"

"No, indeed, not all at once; just a few in a year—not over twelve in the whole seven years I was in the White House. I can only remember drinking two since—one at the Country club in St. Louis and another in the Arkansas club in Little Rock, when a loving cup was passed around."

"In thirty-four years I might have taken two in succession, but I do not recall it. I do drink a glass or two of light wines—white wines, for I do not like red wines. At a public dinner I might take a glass or two of champagne.

"At the White House there are innumerable state dinners and cabinet dinners. At these champagne is served. I may have taken a glass of champagne on such occasion. I never take brandy or whisky except, as I have described, under the direction of a doctor."

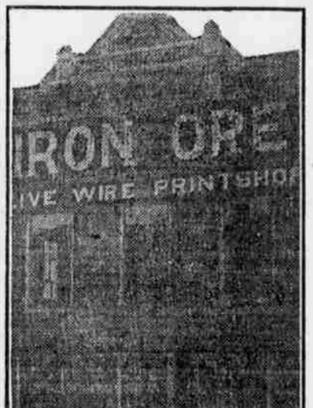


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PHOTO BY AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION. OFFICE OF THE ISHPERING IRON ORE, JUDGE FLANNIGAN, COLONEL ROOSEVELT AND A WITNESS.



PHOTO BY AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

He asserted, further, that he never did drink a cocktail or a highball and that he lets liquors, mixed drinks, ales and porters strictly alone.

Four physicians corroborated Colonel Roosevelt. Two appeared in person and two by depositions. The depositions were those of Drs. John B. Murphy and Arthur D. Bevan, who attended Colonel Roosevelt at Mercy hospital in Chicago after he had been shot by a fanatic at Milwaukee last fall.

The physicians agreed that Colonel Roosevelt's recovery would have been slower and might have been impossible had he been addicted to liquor. Drs. Murphy and Bevan said they did not notice an odor of liquor on his breath when they attended him.

### Great For Marquette.

Irrespective of the sides taken by its citizens, Marquette as a whole rejoiced when the trial began. The town became temporarily the center of national attention, as far as Colonel Roosevelt's admirers were concerned, at any rate.

It was indeed a distinguished group of men who gathered there to testify. The list of witnesses included the names of governors, former cabinet members, eminent physicians and high officials, past and present.

It fell to the lot of Judge Richard Flannigan to bear this remarkable trial of a former president's charge that he had been slandered by the editor of a trade journal. Judge Flannigan immediately won favor with the many women who were interested in hearing the evidence by ordering that certain good seats be virtually reserved for their use.

Colonel Roosevelt and Newett took seats very near each other when the trial began, but did not look at each other. Colonel Roosevelt's attorneys, Mr. Pound of Detroit, W. S. Hill of Marquette and William H. Van Benschoten of New York, sat at the counsel table with William A. Belden of Ishpeming, Horace E. Andrews of Cleveland and Mr. Belden's assistant, Thomas Clancy, representing Newett.

The day the trial began Judge Flannigan

### WHITE MILLS.

A very pleasant gathering was royally entertained Saturday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Haggerty, of Cherry Ridge, in honor of their daughter, Marie. Games, music and dancing were the amusements of the evening. A very delightful lunch was served by Mrs. Haggerty and daughter, Agnes, to the following guests: Misses Dorothy Seemans, Esther and Myrtle Gill, Agnes and Marie Haggerty, Helen Box, Erma Ham, Nellie and Clotilda Lane, Minnie O'Rourke, Fannie Johnson, Harold Down, Tagi Falk, Clarence and Egbert Elmore, Clarence Teimier, Frank Peters, Henry Haggerty, Emmet O'Rourke, Norman and Earl Reider, Albert and Fred Haggerty, Mr. and Mrs. John Haggerty and Paul Killen.

Dr. and Mrs. E. B. Gavette motored to Carbondale and spent the day on Monday.

Mrs. John Force entertained at pinoche Saturday evening in honor of her niece, Mrs. Stewart.

David Purcell, of New York City, has been a guest of Mrs. Clotilda Dorflinger for the past week.

Misses Nellie and Kathryn Dorflinger motored to Scranton Thursday and spent the day there.

Mrs. C. H. Dorflinger, Miss Grace Decker and Mrs. Wesley Toms left for Scranton Wednesday morning to be gone several days. They will stop at Hotel Casey.



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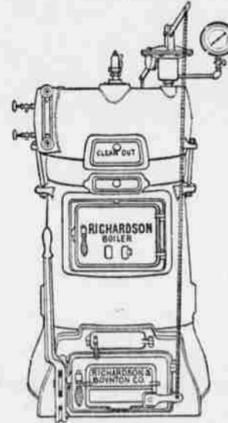
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