

ROOSEVELT MEETS DAMPER AT BOSTON

Small Crowd at Fenway Park
and Only 2,500 People
in Big Arena.

NO STREET DEMONSTRATION

Refrains from Mentioning Fusion
and Declares He'll Stick to
the Progressive Party.

Special to The New York Times.

BOSTON, Aug. 17.—From the Progressive viewpoint, Col. Roosevelt's invasion of Massachusetts today was anything but a huge success. Bad management, stormy weather, and the fact that there is very little active interest in politics here as yet, all combined to keep the crowds away. There was no demonstration when he arrived at the Huntington Avenue Station at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon from Vermont, and there were not more than 2,500 persons at Fenway Park, which seats 20,000, and where he was taken to preside over the Progressive field day.

From the park he was driven at 5 o'clock in a heavy rainstorm to the Arena to make an address and found the hall scarcely one-third filled. Perhaps the audience number 2,500. Certainly there were not more. Many hundreds of enthusiastic Progressives had been forced to remain away, it was said, because of their work, and could not get there at that hour.

The fact that the Colonel would speak at the Arena was not advertised here, and until the last moment the rank and file of the Progressives were led to believe that he would talk at Fenway Park, where admission was charged, although he had informed the committee more than once that he could not, because of his physician's orders, deliver an open air address. It is quite a distance from the park to the Arena, and the wonder was that so many went to the Auditorium in the rain. A 5 o'clock meeting on a rainy afternoon in mid-Summer, and that meeting not even advertised, was the last situation in the world that the Colonel expected to face.

The 2,500 Progressives in the Arena cheered the Colonel wildly when he entered. His voice was in better shape today than it has been at any time since his return from Brazil, and he had no trouble making every one hear what he said.

Avoids Mention of Fusion.

The Massachusetts Progressives are of the type who don't like to hear the word "fusion," and they had made it very plain to Col. Roosevelt that the talk about his using the Progressive Party as a means to capture the Republican nomination for President in 1916 was bothering them not a little.

To make his position clear the Colonel read to his fellow-Progressives the statement he made at the "get-away" dinner in New York eleven months ago, when he sailed on his trip of exploration in South America.

"I will never rest content until every single principle enunciated by us is put into practice," he read, and the crowd cheered and cheered him. Then he continued:

"I will never abandon the principles to which we Progressives pledged ourselves, and I will never abandon the men and women who stood with us. That is what I said eleven months ago, and I repeat it now with even greater emphasis."

That seemed to satisfy the crowd, for the cheering was repeated. Hundreds of men and women made it evident also that they had not the slightest objection to Col. Roosevelt getting to the Presidential chair again if he got there in a way that met their favor, for they waved in front of him, and on every side of him, pennants bearing the inscription, "President, 1916."

Some of the Progressives who expected the Colonel to talk at length about his views of Fusion were disappointed, however, by the course he chose of simply reiterating the stand he had taken in his statement of eleven months ago. They called attention to the fact that since that year-old statement he had endorsed Hinman in New York and seemed perfectly satisfied with the stand of the Vermont Progressives in running Charles A. Prouty, former Interstate Commerce Commissioner and a Republican, for United States Senator.

But as the Colonel was hurried away directly after he had spoken they had no chance to press the matter or to learn whether the Colonel felt he could remain firm to the principles enunciated by the party, stand by those who joined him in the movement, and still go after the Republican nomination in 1916.

Col. Roosevelt avoided any reference to his indorsement of Hinman, a Republican, in New York. His address was undeniably an assertion that he was with the Progressives heart and soul in their decision to carry on a lone fight here this Fall. That the Colonel has put a lot of heart into the fight here, despite the small crowds that greeted him, there can be no doubt.

The cause needed a jolt, so the politicians say, because Charles Sumner Bird, who was the Progressive candidate for Governor in 1912 and 1913, was most open in his opposition to fusion with the Republicans anywhere, and other leaders had sided with him. It was even hinted that the amalgamation talk in some other States had much to do with Bird's refusal to run for Governor again this year. The fight is being headed by Joseph Walker, who ran for Governor as a Republican two years ago, but is now a full-fledged Progressive.

Col. Roosevelt asked Massachusetts to take the lead again in the movement for reform, just as it had on former occasions. He was glad to find the party so ready to carry on the fight, he said, because he found that here both of the old parties were still wedded to their idols. He continued his attack on William Barnes, Jr., by name, placing him side by side with Penrose of Pennsylvania.

Achievements of His Party.

Col. Roosevelt began his speech with the assertion that the Progressive movement had been gradually taking shape for fifteen years, and that the Progressive Party had focussed this movement. He said:

"Instantly it was recognized as a militant menace to the stagnation and conservatism. The standpatters and reactionaries of both the old parties were keenly conscious of this new development. They awoke to sudden realization that their only hope lay in a change of attitude and the profession of progressivism. All over the country the effect was immediate and far-reaching. State legislation that had been urgently demanded for years, but which the forces of reaction had successfully resisted, was at last put on the statute books. More direct advance, more practical improvement in conditions of living have been achieved in the last two years than in the preceding quarter of a century; and this advance has been the practical result, the immediate effect of the organization of the Progressive Party.

"The wonderful record of Hiram Johnson and his Progressive colleagues in California is proof positive of the sincerity of purpose and honesty of promise of the Progressive Party. In no other State has there been such a record. But elsewhere in the country, in States where the Progressive Party had either small representation in the legislative councils or even no practical voice at all, here and there some measure of real advance has been made.

"Heretofore in this country, since the early years of the Republican Party, political organizations have had but one real purpose—the holding of office and the exercise of administrative power. Only as incidental to this purpose and as the means to secure power have they made promises of action in the interest of the people. Power and place were always first with them, principle and service always subordinate. But with the Progressive Party principle and service are always first, power and place always subordinate—incidental means to the recognition of the principle and the accomplishment

of the service. So in compelling the other parties, sometimes one, sometimes the other, reluctantly to move forward for the service of humankind and the betterment of conditions of life and of government, the Progressive Party, without office and without power, has yet fulfilled the highest mission a political organization can have.

"Square Deal" the Platform.

"In sum and substance, what this party is trying to do is to give a square deal to all our people. We want to do justice to the business man and to the farmer no less than to the laboring man.

We realize that business men, wage-workers, and farmers have special interests common to the individuals of each class that are not shared by those of the other classes. But we no less strongly insist that the most important interests are those common to all parties concerned, and that no permanent solution of our difficulties will be obtained until we can get a larger and juster social outlook from all parties in interest. I do not in the least mean that this shall be merely sentimental.

To exalt mushy amiability and sentimentality at the expense of hard-headed desire both to do and to exact justice is to do wrong in industrial as well as in international matters.

"For example, in this great industrial State the permanent problem must be, so far as concerns the great industries in which the immense majority of wageworkers are engaged, to combine efficiency with the proper sharing of the rewards of that efficiency. There will be no rewards for anybody, no adequate wage for the workman, no proper service to the public, unless the business pays. A business run at a loss will have to shut its doors. No prosperity can be passed around until the prosperity exists.

"So in every great business it must be recognized that there are those three interests, and each one of those interests must receive justice. Public opinion must recognize this fact; and Government, which in this country is based on public opinion, must also recognize it and endeavor to secure its practical realization."

Meets Progressive Leaders.

The Colonel left Brattleboro at 10:10 o'clock this morning. He had luncheon at Palmer at 12:30, and was given a fair reception there and shook hands with several admirers. The rest of the trip proved uneventful. He was met at Palmer by Lauriston Ward, Chairman of the Boston Progressive Committee, and other leaders, who talked over the situation.

It began to rain shortly before the Colonel and his party reached Boston, and there was only a handful of people at the Huntington Avenue station to greet him. He was escorted to an automobile and taken to the home of W. Surgis Bigelow, in Beacon Street, where he rested for a few minutes before going to Fenway Park. It was not until Col. Roosevelt was met on the train by Ward that he knew he was scheduled for an address at the Park, and that there was no night meeting. He flatly refused to talk at the Park, and thus at the eleventh hour plans had to be altered and arrangements made to take him to the Arena at 5 o'clock.

At the Park Roosevelt met a number of the leaders and watched a baseball game. Right in front of him was a banner on which were the words, "Our President in 1916," and it almost fluttered in his face. He received a hearty ovation, but the crowd was pretty well scattered in the great grandstand, built for five times as big a throng. They did not know that the Colonel was going to the Arena to talk until it was announced by a megaphone man. The heavy rainfall kept the crowd away from the streets about the Arena, and the Colonel's entrance until those inside saw him was unostentatious.

After the Arena meeting Col. Roosevelt visited the Franklin Square Settlement House and talked for a few minutes to the girls there. He then went to Mr. Bigelow's home for the night. Tomorrow morning he will leave for Lewiston, Me., where he will make an address at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. At 6:30 o'clock he will be in Portland for a reception by the Progressives. After that he goes to Beverly, Mass., for the night. He will spend Wednesday and Thursday motoring back to Oyster Bay.

A report reached here tonight that Harvey D. Hinman had collapsed at Saratoga and would not be able to run for Governor. Col. Roosevelt refused to make any comment on it.