

# THE CLAN SPIRIT STILL CONQUERS ALL JEALOUSIES WITHIN THE FAMILY ROOSEVELT

(Continued from Page One.)

the navy and the ministry to Hungary. Full as many held less exalted offices, and in the White House as First Lady was a Roosevelt in her own right, Anna Eleanor, a niece of T. R.

These and many other facts about the genealogical line have attracted attention for years; but the focus now is being shifted to the wide assortment of newcomers being admitted to the political family.

"What about these 'progressive' Republicans—the La Follettes, the Norrises, the Ickes, and the Richbys? What about the new dictators, the Hugh Johnsons, the George Pecks, and the Harry Hopkinses? What about lining up with the Friends of Russia? What about ignoring and snubbing regular Democratic state organizations?"

Thus run the queries of those trying to peer into the future and the possibilities of a Roosevelt party in the next quadrennial election.

They began to be heard when the brain trust was born. They increased when two cabinet posts went to exponents of advanced thought and of independence in politics—Harold L. Ickes, old Bull Moose, to whom was given not only the secretaryship of the interior but the directorship of the public works administration, and Henry A. Wallace, a former Republican and an inflationist, who became secretary of agriculture and boss of that field under the recovery program.

Hiram Johnson of California, it was said, had been offered the interior secretaryship before it was given to the former manager of his brief presidential campaign of '24. But this was only the first of many instances in which the influence of the old "insurgents" was said to have been effective.

News of this character has come from the home states of many of the "progressive" senators. Taking one state alone, Wisconsin, the record shows two important appointments going to this element. John J. Blaine, former United States senator, was made a director of the RFC. Then it was reported that Philip La Follette, one-term governor, was slated for appointment on the federal trade commission, and the post did go to one of the old members of the group, George C. Matthews.

In Illinois all of the major federal appointments have been made over the head of the Democratic powers in the state. These included the naming of Ickes, of General Johnson, of Donald R. Peck, as counsel for the N.R.A., of George N. Peck, as industrial boss, and not the least of low importance, that of William H. Holly as judge of the District court.

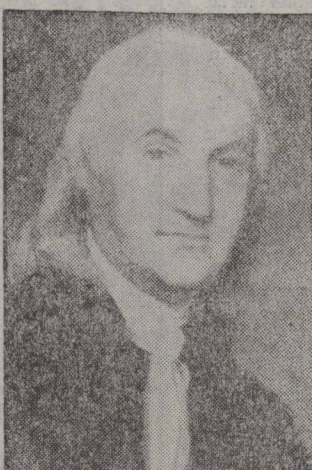
The Roosevelt political family is expanding, stretching out in many directions, directions different from what was indicated when a son of the first American Roosevelt, Claes, became an alderman of New Amsterdam in 1700.

Among the nine children of this member of the second generation, who was known both as Claes, like his father, and as Nicholas, were Johannes and Jacobus, founders of the two main branches of the Roosevelt family tree.

With Johannes whose line was to produce Theodore Roosevelt, and Jacobus, whose most famous descendant was destined to be President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the family tree divided. Later the branches were to be joined together again through the marriage of Franklin Delano to Anna Eleanor, daughter of Elliott Roosevelt, young brother of T. R. and also by the union of Helen, daughter of James Roosevelt, Franklin D.'s half-brother, with Theodore Douglas Robinson, son of Corinne Roosevelt Delano, sister of T. R. Johannes, ancestor of T. R., was himself assistant alderman, then full alderman of New York. His son, Jacobus, served as a revolutionary soldier, but held no public office; Jacobus' son, also Jacobus, a successful hardware merchant, was a prototype of the dollar-a-year men of the World war; as commissary to the Continental troops, it is recorded, he gave his services without pay.

Nicholas I., another son of the elder Jacobus, was a colleague of Fulton in the development of steam navigation and the great-grandfather of Col. Henry Latrobe Roosevelt, present holder under President Franklin D. of the office of assistant secretary of the navy, which seemingly has become one of the Roosevelt family's prerogatives. As an example of the alliances with other distinguished families which the Roosevelt family has made at frequent intervals down the line, this Nicholas I. married Lydia Latrobe, daughter of John Henry Latrobe, noted in his day as one of the architects of the capitol.

To return to the family tree and Jacobus, son of Jacobus. The younger Jacobus sired Cornelius van Schaack and James I. James I. served on the New York City council, then in the state assembly for five years. In 1841 he went as a Democrat to congress for a term, later became a justice of the New York State Supreme court then member of the Court of Appeals, and finished his public career as United States district attorney for the Southern district of New York. It was Cornelius van Schaack Roosevelt, however, who carried the line



James Roosevelt (left), father of F. D. R., and Theodore (right), father of T. R.

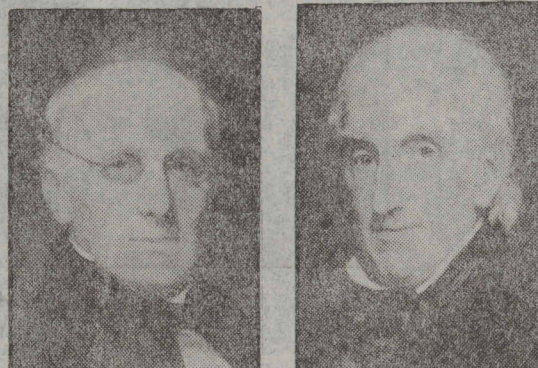
present President Roosevelt. There is the story that in a campaign speech on New York's east side he once reached back to the seventeenth century to borrow Ancestress Jamez's middle name. The name was a Dutch, not a Jewish, patronym, but it did not prevent the candidate from proclaiming to his appreciative audience, "One of my ancestors was a Samuels."

The incident may be apocryphal, but there is no secret about the fact that in some of the relatives appear in danger of becoming surcharged with their own blue blood, Franklin D. has a habit of remarking, "Remember, one of our ancestors was a Samuels."

Theodore, son of Cornelius and father of T. R., was originally a glass importer; he later turned to banking. He helped to raise and equip Union regiments in the Civil war, drafted a bill to establish "allotment commissions," and was appointed by President Lincoln as one of the New York commissioners. Under President Hayes he was appointed collector of the port of New York. He was one of the founders of the Union League club, of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, of the American Museum of Natural History, and of the Orthopedic hospital. His marriage, too, was important as a means of bringing into the Roosevelt family another strain of potent outside blood. For Theodore the elder's wife was Martha Bulloch, daughter of James Stephens Bulloch of Georgia, descendant of that Archibald Bulloch who was a member of the Continental congress, president and commander-in-chief of the colony of Georgia, and signer of the Georgia constitution.

T. R.'s fame needs no embellishment here. It is apt, however, to recall that he was the first of the five members of the Roosevelt family to hold the office of assistant secretary of the navy. Franklin D. was the next to occupy that post, and this parallel in the political histories of the two Roosevelt Presidents, and that other parallel of their both having been governor of New York, often have been pointed out. T. R. was appointed assistant secretary of the navy in 1897 by President McKinley. Franklin D. served from 1913 to 1920 under Woodrow Wilson. Then followed Republican Theodore Jr., son of T. R., and Theodore Douglas Robinson, appointed by Presidents Harding and Coolidge respectively. Last March, Democratic Henry Latrobe Roosevelt received the appointment from his fifth cousin, F. D.

Joseph Daniels has recalled the very human satisfaction President Wilson exhibited at the idea of putting a Democratic Roosevelt into the place from which Theodore Roosevelt had risen to the presidency—and then gone on to oppose him in the 1912 campaign. The war-time secretary of the navy, now ambassador to Mexico, also has recalled the eagerness with which Franklin Roosevelt accepted the offer, That trick, too, is said to be not unknown to the



Isaac Roosevelt, great-grandfather of F. D. R.

of Johannes toward the White House. A wealthy merchant, a founder of the Chemical National bank of New York, he was responsible for two characteristics which have distinguished his direct descendants. He established a home at Oyster Bay, L. I., and he changed his politics at the time of the Civil war. The other members of the Roosevelt tribe clung to their Democracy, aligning themselves with the party of Union Democrats. Cornelius went all the way and became a Republican.

Another step fated to have an important bearing on the destiny of his grandson-to-be was his choice as a wife of Margaret Barnhill of Pennsylvania. Cornelius' change of political faith made T. R. a Republican at a time when imperialism and sound money were to triumph over Bryanism. His marriage to a wife whose ancestors came to America with William Penn brought into the hitherto strictly Dutch blood of this Roosevelt branch a new stream drawn from Welsh, English, German, and Scotch-Irish ancestors. It enabled T. R. in later campaign years to greet the voting citizenry with "You know, I'm partly Welsh," or English, or German, or Scotch-Irish, as the circumstances might dictate.

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Grave at Oyster Bay, L. I., where the indomitable T. R. sleeps.

and has wondered whether the first thought which flashed through the mind of the younger man was not the thought that here was his chance at the very springboard from which "Uncle Ted" had leaped to fame.

But let us turn to the other main Roosevelt branch, going back to Jacobus, son of that "very common ancestor," Nicholas, and founder of the line that produced Franklin Delano. Jacobus seemed to be noted chiefly because in the records of the Dutch Reformed church, of which he was one of the founders, his name first appears with the prefix "van"; and because he invested in land in lower Manhattan, a fact still recorded by the name of Roosevelt street.

Isaac, son of Jacobus, was an importer of West Indian sugar, which he refined in the first sugar refinery constructed in America. He was a founder of the New York Chamber of Commerce. He was active in politics and philanthropy. He was a delegate to the provincial congress, served in the state senate, and in 1788 was a delegate to the state convention called to consider ratification of the federal



Always at his best before a crowd—T. R. speaking at Mineola in 1917.

constitution. He was instrumental in founding the New York hospital. And it was he who first established that connection with New York's Dutchess county, in which Hyde Park is located, that has distinguished the Franklin D. branch of the family. He went to Dutchess county for his bride, Cornelia Hoffman, and when the British drove him and his patriotism from New York in 1770 he sought refuge with his wife's family.

In the succeeding generation Isaac's son, James, definitely established a part-time home in Dutchess county by using some of a tidy profit made in New York real estate to purchase land on the outskirts of Poughkeepsie, a couple of miles south of the present Roosevelt estate. James, again, did not neglect the public office tradition. He served in the state assembly and later as alderman of New York.

James' son, another Isaac, preferred a less public life. He studied medicine, married Mary R. Aspinwall, and to them was born in 1828 James, father-to-be of Franklin Delano.

The President's father was a man of substance.



"Quentin—remained in France in an air hero's grave."

In New York City he led an active business life in Hyde Park he was the country squire. He was interested in the direction of several transportation corporations; he became vice president of the Delaware and Hudson railroad. He was a commissioner in 1893 of Chicago's Columbian exposition and a supervisor of Hyde Park. Returning from Europe one year with a bag of money, stocks and some balls, he became one of the early benefactors of the royal and ancient game by laying out, as a New York park commissioner, one of the country's earliest golf courses in Van Cortlandt park.

In 1853 James married Rebecca Howland. Their son was James Roosevelt Roosevelt, who later entered the diplomatic service, serving as secretary of legation in Austria-Hungary, as secretary of the American embassy at London, and as delegate to the international railroad conference at London in 1895; he died in 1927. Through this James Roosevelt

career as an engineer and railroad executive and a service in the World war which won him the D. S. M., he was appointed by President Hoover a chairman of Washington's park and planning commission, on which he had served for several years. He still holds the chairmanship in his Nephew Franklin's administration, and William A. Delano, New York architect, a distant cousin of the President, is a member of the commission—also Hoover appointment.

Through the Delano alliance another official cousinship enters in. Sara Delano's sister, Catherine, married Charles Albert Robbins. Their son, Warren Delano Robbins, first cousin of Franklin, entered the diplomatic service, serving as secretary of legation in Austria-Hungary, as secretary of the American embassy at London, and as delegate to the international railroad conference at London in 1895; he died in 1927. Through this James Roosevelt

his officer, and when his first cousin, Franklin, became President was appointed minister to Canada. His secretary is John Arthur Hinckley, husband of Helen Douglas Robinson, daughter of Theodore Douglas and Helen Roosevelt Robinson. To James and Sara Delano Roosevelt was born a son, January 30, 1892, at Hyde Park. According to the Roosevelt tradition, his name should have been Isaac. He was named instead after his father's favorite uncle and became Franklin Delano Roosevelt. His godfather was Elliott Roosevelt, his "Uncle Ted's" younger brother. When Franklin was between three and four years old he was visited one day by Anna Eleanor, Elliott's daughter, two years younger man himself. The story has it that the young man treated his little cousin to a pick-a-back ride. A few years later, it was Franklin who was visiting Eleanor—such persuasive effect that, on St. Patrick's day, 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt was giving his niece away in marriage and being delighted that the bride and bridegroom were "keeping the name in the family."

On the T. R. side of the family it has fallen to Theodore Jr. to carry on the tradition of public office. He resigned his post as assistant secretary of the navy to run unsuccessfully for governor of New York against Al Smith in 1924. His defeat thinned his chances of a political career for a time, but a new opportunity was given him when President Hoover appointed him governor of Porto Rico in 1929. In this pro-consular post he made record that won him advancement to the more important office of governor of the Philippines in 1932. But again, Democratic victory intervened. Cousin Franklin came into power, and Cousin Teddy came home.

As was to be expected of the offspring of Col. Roosevelt, the Rough Rider, the sons of T. R. all made distinguished records in the World war. Theodore, Kermit, and Archie returned home with wounds, honor and medals. Quentin, the youngest, remained in France in an air hero's grave.

Kermit is now in the steamship business as head of the Roosevelt Line and an executive of the International Mercantile Marine. Archie is associated with him. Both have been active in the National Economy league.

To write of T. R.'s sons is not to neglect T. R.'s daughters. Ethel, the younger, married Dr. Richard Butler. But it is Alice, the "Princess Alice," of White House days, daughter of T. R.'s first wife, who has always been surrounded by glamour. Her marriage to the late Nicholas Longworth, who died as speaker of the house, was the sentimental focus for a nation. Never in politics, she has ever been out of it. Her dinner table has heard whispers as significant as shouts in the senate; her salon has



Theodore Douglas Robinson and his daughter, Mrs. John A. Hinckley.

Harvard trying to get used to reporters, photographers, and the other annoyances to which a President's son is heir. John is at school at Groton. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt have four grandchildren. Anna Eleanor and Curtis Roosevelt Doll are familiar as "Satie" and "Buzzie." James is married to the daughter of Dr. Harvey Cushing, the noted brain surgeon, and they have one daughter, Sara.

Elliott's first wife, Elizabeth Donner, is a welcome guest at the White House, with their son, William Donner Roosevelt.

Nor have been listed all of the more noted members of the family. Left out, because they belonged to collateral branches, are Cornelius, alderman of New York City from 1785 to 1801; Cornelius C., state assemblyman in 1803; Clinton, assemblyman from 1827-1840.

Robert Bardwell Roosevelt, uncle of T. R., entered public life as a fish commissioner of New York, was a member of the committee of 70 which brought about one of the numerous exposures of



Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, widow of the first President Roosevelt; Mrs. Warren Delano, grandmother of President; and Warren Delano, grandfather of F. D. R.

Tammany; he went to congress as a Democrat; was appointed minister to Holland by President Cleveland in 1888; served as treasurer of the Democratic national committee in 1892; and completed his public career by serving on the New York board of aldermen.

From Weir, brother of Cornelius van Schaack Roosevelt, T. R.'s grandfather, is descended the present Nicholas Roosevelt, journalist and diplomat, former vice governor of the Philippines, until lately minister to Hungary by appointment of President Hoover, and an editorial writer and correspondent of The New York Times. His niece, Lucille Warren, by the way, recently married the son of Senator Robert J. Bulkley (Dem. Ohio), bringing still

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Mrs. Douglas Robinson, sister of T. R.

stick to his law in order to run for and win a seat in the New York state senate in 1910. From the moment he first tasted fame as leader in the assembly of an anti-Tammany bloc his path has lain straight before him. It has had its many arduous hills, its turnings into what seemed like bypaths.

But as he once said: "No one ever willingly gives up public life—no one who has ever tasted it."

As a boy and young man, visiting his "Uncle Ted" at the White House or staying in Washington at the home of T. R.'s sister, Anna Roosevelt Cowles, wife of Rear Admiral William Sheffield Cowles, he had plenty of opportunity to observe the zest of "Uncle Ted" for public life. He often heard T. R. preach the duty of young men of good family to choose public service as a career.

And one suspects that the progressive ideas of the elder Roosevelt fitted in rather well as an inspiration to the one who had already shown a fondness, unusual in so young a man, for all of prodding the aristocracy.

That that Democratic characteristic has persisted, the country and the world now know. Franklin Delano might have been a snob. He is aristocratically proud of his name and family. He has enjoyed studying the records of his family's achievements. He likes to remember that Anna Hutchinson was one of his non-Roosevelt ancestors. His upbringing emphasized family and good breeding. But instead of succumbing to his environment and heritage he reacted to them. He has stepped beyond being merely aristocratic.

Also proud of her family, but even more democratic is Mrs. Roosevelt. Prior to Nov. 8, 1932, the D. A. R. had not been interested in the liberal view of the governor of New York, and the sentiment had been heartily reciprocated. But Mrs. Roosevelt was finally persuaded by John Research, thereafter, provided her with no fewer than fourteen revolutionary ancestors on the strength of whom she was eligible for membership. On her mother's side, she is descended from the famous Livingston family, most noted member of which perhaps, was Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, one of the authors of the Declaration of Independence.

It was in her recent book, "It's Up to the Women," that Mrs. Roosevelt had this to say of the influence which she has in this country just as much as in Scotland.

"I am sure that that spirit (the clan spirit) is an essential thing to foster in this country just as much as in Scotland.

"A family which clings together can become a great force, not only in a community but in a country. We have seen it over and over again



Gretton school football team of 1878—Half Back F. D. Roosevelt, 2d from left, front.

T. R. sides of the family was really opened. Until then the F. D. side had been only those Democratic and distant cousins. But here was one of them campaigning up and down the land, seeking to attach again the title of Vice President to the name of Roosevelt. It was then that the Republican strategists hauled out Young Teddy to stump the country and let the voters know that Franklin Delano was but an unimportant offshoot of the great T. R. tribe. It was then that Col. Theodore uttered the famous assertion that the Franklin Delano side, with their Democracy, were only "Mavericks" and didn't carry "our brand."

Well developed as the Franklin Delano sense of humor is, it couldn't laugh at that attack. Still less could Mrs. Roosevelt, herself a member of the T. R. branch. It remained for her to set even four years' later in the 1924 New York state Democratic convention, when, in second Al Smith's nomination for governor, she remarked that, of course, Smith would win.

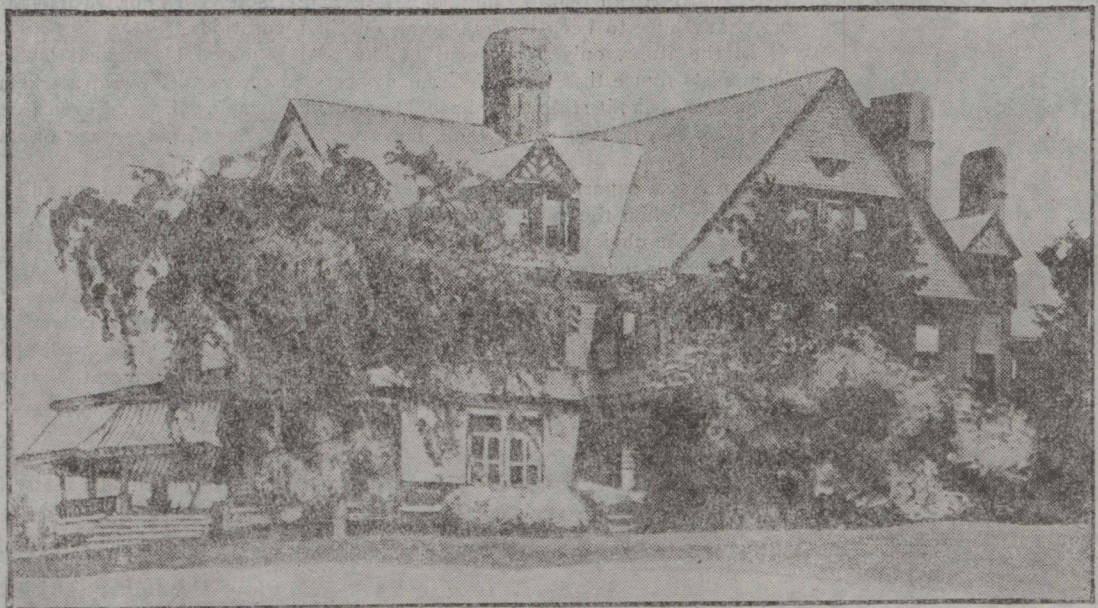
"How can he help it," she demanded, "when



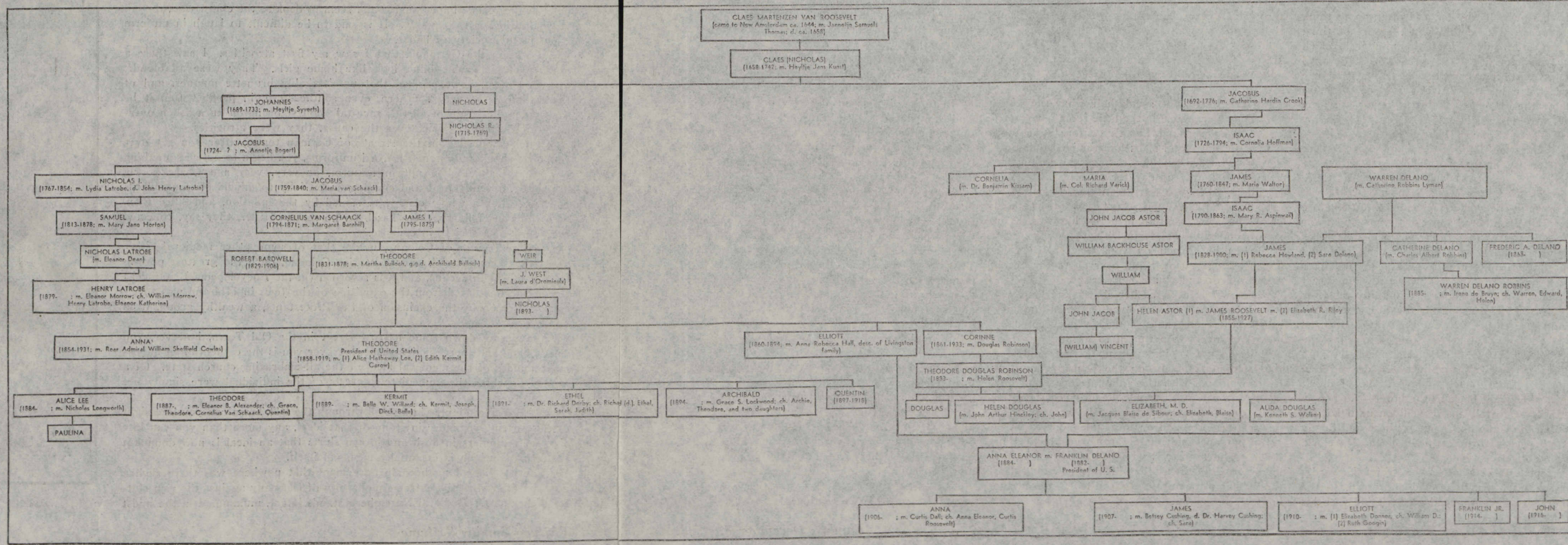
Warren Delano Robbins, one of the clan.

the Adams record no longer stands alone, as the foregoing lines point out. The Roosevelt line, perhaps, has produced fewer members noted for eminence in the arts and the humanities; it has produced as yet no "Education of Henry Adams"; its offspring have been of a more practical bent, doctors rather than philosophers, active in business, realistic philanthropists, influential in the British "county family" manner as county squires. But throughout they have been assertive in the field of government, from local to national. The Roosevelt tradition of office-holding was established early. Claes, or Nicholas, the son of Claes and Janette, was the last common ancestor of the two main Roosevelt branches. He may have been "a very common ancestor," as T. R. the progressive used to remark, and as Franklin D. has frequently repeated. But he pointed the way for his descendants.

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Sagamore Hill at Oyster Bay, seat of Theodore's branch of the Roosevelt clan.



Family tree of the Roosevelts, showing the positions of Johannes and Jacobus, founders of the family's two main branches.