

Roosevelt Organizations and
Memorials

LORD GREENWOOD Let

BRITAIN'S MEMORIAL TO FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT



*Sketch model of
the proposed statue*

THIS SOUVENIR BOOK is given to you in grateful acknowledgment of your donation of five shillings to the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial Fund. It has been produced and distributed without cost to the

Fund. It is hoped that as many persons as possible will contribute five shillings in order that the memorial may be thoroughly representative of the British people's wish to commemorate Mr. Roosevelt.



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

1882—1945

LETTER FROM THE EARL OF DERBY READ BY LORD GREENWOOD
AT THE PILGRIMS' DINNER TO MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT ON
FEBRUARY 4, 1946, IN WHICH HE SUGGESTED A MEMORIAL STATUE
IN LONDON TO HER LATE HUSBAND, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

My dear Hamar,

It is a particular sorrow to me that I cannot be present with my fellow Pilgrims when you are doing honour to an American lady who has proved herself great, not only as the helpmate of her great husband, but in her own right as a woman. Please greet Mrs. Roosevelt from me. Tell her how much we respect her, and how deeply we cherish our memories of the late President as one of the truest friends Britain has ever had.

Thinking about this occasion, and all that lies behind it, thinking - as I am bound to think here, in the twilight of my own life - of the shed blood that now seals for ever our blood relationship with the American people, it seems to me that the figure of President Roosevelt typifies in an altogether striking way those qualities of courage, resourcefulness and generosity, which through the testing years we learnt to admire in his people.

Ralph Waldo Emerson might well have said of Franklin Roosevelt what he said in other years of his illustrious predecessor Abraham Lincoln. This is what Emerson then wrote:

"In four years, - four years of battle days - his endurance, his fertility of resources, his magnanimity, were sorely tried and never found wanting. There by his courage, his justice, his even temper, his fertile counsel, his humanity, he stood an heroic figure in the centre of an heroic epoch."

I believe that in voicing these thoughts I am speaking not only for the Pilgrims, but for the peoples of this land.

Why then should we Pilgrims not give a lead and make this occasion historic by launching a project for the erection of a national memorial here in our own capital to Franklin Delano Roosevelt? I do not see that there could be any more fitting way of showing to the lady who is with you to-night the feeling that is in all our hearts, and I do not think there could be any better way of ensuring that she come back to us soon than by asking her to unveil such a monument. I am satisfied that London, as always, will rise to the occasion and place an appropriate site at our disposition.

It may not be given to me to write many more letters to the Pilgrims but if I have done nothing else in my long association with them, I shall be glad to have been able to make this proposal to remember one of our greatest Pilgrims. I am confident that you will give sympathetic thought to this idea of mine. I hope you will all have a very happy evening. Please let me hear about it.

*John Am
July*

The Right Hon. The Viscount Greenwood.

2nd February, 1946.



EXCERPTS FROM
A SPEECH BY MRS. ROOSEVELT

On the occasion of the Pilgrims' dinner in her honour on February 4, 1948, Mrs. Roosevelt spoke in the following terms of the late President:—

HAD he lived he would have been here at some time, and he would have said to you the things which you would have wanted to hear, for they would have meant to you the history of the relationship which had been carried on during the war between us, and they would have perhaps pointed the way to future history.

I think very often that my husband's life was a preparation for the work which he had to do from the time that he was first

elected President. He had, of course, spent a great deal of his childhood and early youth travelling in Europe, including Great Britain. His father had many friends here, and his father and mother came frequently to the Continent and stayed for long periods of time. I have often heard my husband tell of the things that he learnt when as a little boy he went to school in Germany. He may have told to some of the men here to-night the story of how he began to study

with the little German boys "Heimatskunde," and how it developed from being a study of the neighbourhood and of the little roads round about to a knowledge of the fact that all the roads ran to Paris. My husband learnt that as a little boy in school in Germany.

Then he took bicycle trips, and he got to know the people of this Continent. That was useful, because it led him to study history with the feeling that he knew the people; he could understand them better if he knew their background. He also came as a young man to know his own country very well. He travelled a great deal in his own country. He had a great interest in many things which later proved useful. He loved trees. He studied trees; he planted trees on his own place. Later, that knowledge of trees was to help to solve one of the big problems in our country, the fact that during the first world war we had been led to cut down a great many trees in the central part of our country. The winds blew without anything to stop them, and we began to develop a desert. My husband suggested the planting of a shelter belt of trees. Everybody, including the foresters laughed; they said it was ludicrous to think of planting a staggered line of trees that would go almost from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico. However, it was done, and to-day our desert is changing into fields that bear their crops.

Perhaps the most difficult experience that my husband had—it was tragic in one way—and the one which gave him his greatest discipline was when he had infantile paralysis. For many months he had to decide what to do and then wait to find out whether the decision had been good or bad. That was hard discipline, but perhaps that was one of the reasons why he could bear the burden

of decisions during the years of our depression and during the years of the war and still sleep at night and wait for the results of the decisions and go on from day to day.

I have an idea that men appear when they are needed by their countries. There is no question in my mind that both your country and mine had the men that they needed when war came. We used eagerly to read Mr. Churchill's speeches in the United States. I think that few of us missed his war speeches, because they did for us what they did for you; they expressed the spirit of the British people better than the people could express it themselves, and they left all of us with a sense that we could go on and meet whatever lay before us. Both my husband and Mr. Churchill could do that.

My husband had the gift of really caring about people, people of every kind from every part of the world. I think that that is perhaps what more of us have to learn, because that is the only way in which to create an atmosphere in which we can try to go forward to a peaceful world. My husband cared for his own people above everything else in the world. He cared for his own home and his own country, but he cared too, and deeply, for Great Britain, for the people of Great Britain, and that is why the people at home feel as they do, and why they feel as they do here. But it did not stop just with our two nations; he genuinely wanted the nations of the world to come together, and he believed that just as our nations worked together and fought together in the war, so it would be possible, if the same spirit could exist, for all the nations to work together, and, through working together, to learn how to live together and to build peace in the world. May we do that! God grant we have the courage and the patience and the will to do it!

A TRIBUTE BY

The Right Honourable CLEMENT ATTLEE, C.H., M.P.,
The Prime Minister

In moving the second reading of the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial Bill in the House of Commons on October 11, Mr. Attlee spoke as follows:—

Early in 1945, soon after the grievous news of the death of President Roosevelt was received, the present Leader of the Opposition proposed the erection of a memorial in this country. He did so not only as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, but as one who had been the close friend of the President for many years, and everybody knows what inestimable advantage accrued to this country and to the Allied cause from the intimate comradeship of these two leaders of their peoples.

Here, in London, we already have statues in honour of the memories of two great American Presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. It is altogether fitting that we should pay a similar tribute to Franklin Roosevelt. He whom we desire to honour was, first and foremost, a great American. In peace, he was the man who, in the dark days of trade depression and unemployment, initiated and carried through bold and original policies of reconstruction. In war, he was the leader and inspirer of a great nation fighting in defence of the principles on which it was founded.

But he was also a great international statesman who saw his own country, not in isolation, but as a leading actor on the stage of world affairs. He recognized that the great position obtained by the United States among the nations brought with it great responsibilities. In August, 1941, while America was still at peace, he and the right hon. Gentleman opposite drew up the Atlantic Charter, the text of which I had the privilege of reading in the people of Britain on the wireless. Perhaps the greatest example of his foresight and wisdom were the arrangements that he made to ensure that the representatives of the United Nations should meet at San Francisco while the war was still raging in order to lay the foundations of a new organization for the prevention of war in the future. This action illustrates two of his outstanding qualities, courage and faith. He combined the qualities of the fearless idealist with those of the far-seeing and prudent man of affairs. That same courage which had enabled

him to overcome the crippling effects of serious illness, enabled him to reach bold decisions in world affairs, while his practical appreciation of what was possible never hampered the breadth of vision which showed him what was desirable.

His political philosophy was simple and straightforward, based on the principles of liberty and social justice which are the foundations of our civilization. He opposed with unflinching tenacity aggression whether of individuals or States in any guise and devoted himself to serving the common man. He died at his post before final victory had been achieved, but not before he had the certitude that the cause for which he worked would be triumphant.

Here, in this House to-day, we think of him mainly as a great upholder of freedom and democracy, and as the loyal and true friend of this country. No one saw

more clearly than did he that our fight against Hitlerism was a fight for freedom all over the world, and he recognized that in the dark days of 1940, Britain was holding the outpost line of liberty before that realization had come to many of his countrymen. We may recall to-day how in 1939 he established the Cash-and-Carry plan in order to admit the sale of armaments to the Allies, how, early in 1941, when we were in mortal peril and when many doubted the possibility of our survival, he secured the passage of the generous Lend-Lease Act and pushed the American patrols further and further east into the Atlantic Ocean. They were the acts of a faith that demanded that we should not fail, and we did not fail. Any one of these would surely be enough to earn the undying gratitude of our people. Yet they were only the prelude to many similar deeds.

I did not myself meet the President often, but I well recall when I visited him in 1941 only a few weeks before Pearl Harbour, how much he impressed me with his broad human outlook, his practical sagacity and his strategic insight. He stood emphatically for the common man in all countries, and it is, therefore, very fitting that this memorial to be erected in London should be derived from the contributions of the ordinary men and women of this country.



A TRIBUTE BY

The Right Honourable WINSTON CHURCHILL, O.M., C.H., M.P.

Mr. Churchill, on the same occasion in the House of Commons, supported the Bill. This is what he said:—

I rise to support the Second Reading of the Measure which the Prime Minister has proposed to us in felicitous terms and with so much feeling. It was my duty, 18 months ago, to address the House on the sad occasion of President Roosevelt's death, and I am sure I did not go beyond historical fact and general conviction in describing him as the greatest American friend we have ever known, and the greatest champion of freedom who had ever brought help and comfort from the new world to the old. It is indeed fitting that a memorial should be raised to him in this island, and that old, mighty, war-scarred London should be the chosen place. I could have wished that the House had taken upon it the charges to erect this monument, as I am sure it would have been most willing to do, but the method chosen of raising money by a great number of small subscriptions has the important advantage that it permits so many people to give effect, by an individual act, to their heartfelt feelings, and it is, I think, in accordance with what President Roosevelt himself would have wished.

I am obliged to the Prime Minister for the reference which he made to the comradeship which grew between the late President and me during the war, and to the fact that this was of service to the interests of the people of our countries and to the cause for which all the Allies fought so hard and so long. This comradeship in great affairs was founded upon friendship, and roused in my heart a sentiment of sincere affection for this noble, august and charming personality. I received from him so many marks of kindness and good will that I felt buoyed up in the ordeal of the war by the fact of walking hand in hand

with this outstanding chief of the American people.

The Prime Minister has spoken of Washington and Lincoln, and who can doubt that Franklin Roosevelt will take his place with them in the history, not only of the United States, but of the world? We are so much nearer to him in point of time that we cannot see his life's work in the perspective and setting which belong to the famous figures of the past, but already none can doubt his rank and stature. There are many tests by which we may try to measure the greatness of the men who have served high causes, but I shall select only one of them this morning, namely, the favourable influence exerted upon the fortunes of mankind. In this, Roosevelt's name

gains pre-eminence even over those of the illustrious figures we have mentioned. Reflecting on the past, one has the feeling that the changes associated with Washington would probably have come to pass in due course by the irresistible movement and evolution of events. Nor can we doubt that slavery would have been abolished, even apart from Abraham Lincoln, in the vast spread of the humanities which lighted the 19th century. Of Roosevelt, however, it must be said that had he not acted when he did, in the way he did, had he not felt the generous surge of freedom in his heart, had he not resolved to give aid to Britain and to Europe in the supreme crisis through which we have passed, a hideous fate might well have overwhelmed mankind and made its whole future for centuries sink into shame and ruin. It may well be that the man who we honour to-day not only anticipated history but altered its course, and altered it in a manner which has saved the freedom and earned the gratitude of the human race for generations to come.



EXCERPTS FROM SPEECHES BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

We have nothing to fear but fear itself.

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The only real capital of a nation is its natural resources and its human beings.

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Freedom to learn is the first necessity of guaranteeing that man himself shall be self-reliant enough to be free.

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Men are not prisoners of fate, but only prisoners of their own minds. They have within themselves the power to become free at any moment.

• • •

The arts cannot thrive except where men are free to be themselves and to be in charge of the discipline of their own energies and ardours. The conditions of democracy and for art are one and the same.

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Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely.

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The whole structure of democracy rests upon public opinion. Only through the full and free expression of public opinion can the springs of democracy be renewed and its institutions kept alive and capable of functioning.

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There can be no true national life in our democracy unless we give unqualified

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recognition to freedom of religious worship and freedom of education.

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We have learned that freedom itself is not enough.

Freedom of speech is of no use to a man who has nothing to say.

Freedom of worship is of no use to a man who has lost his God.

Democracy, to be dynamic, must provide for its citizens opportunity as well as freedom.

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Use of power by any group, however situated to force its interest or to use its strategic position in order to receive more from the common fund than its contribution to the common fund justifies, is an attack against, and not an aid to, our national life.

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Perhaps somewhere down in my heart, I am a little bit more interested in the ten men who have a hundred head of cattle apiece, than I am in the one man who has a thousand head of cattle. And perhaps I am a little more interested in the ten men who have a hundred acres of beets than I am in the one man who has a thousand acres of beets. It seems to me that that is one of the orders—one of the necessary things that goes with the Presidency.

• • •

The value of truth and sincerity is always stronger than the value of lies and cynicism. No progress has yet been invented which can permanently separate men from their

own hearts and consciences or prevent them from seeing the results of their own false ideas as time rolls by. You cannot make men believe that a way of life is good when it spreads poverty, misery, disease and death. Men cannot be everlastingly loyal unless they are free.

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It is our pride that in our country men are free to differ with each other and with their Government and to follow their own thoughts and express them. We believe that the only whole man is a free man.

No dictator in history has ever dared to run the gauntlet of a really free election.

Eternal truths will be neither true nor eternal unless they have fresh meaning for every new social situation.

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.

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If the fires of freedom and civil liberties burn low in other lands, they must be made brighter in our own.

If in other lands the Press and books and literature of all kinds are censored, we must redouble our efforts here to keep them free.

If in other lands the eternal truths of the past are threatened by intolerance we must provide a safe place for their perpetuation.

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Nations, like individuals, make mistakes. We must be big enough to acknowledge our mistakes of the past and to correct them.

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No nation which refuses to exercise the forbearance and to respect the freedom and the rights of others can long remain strong

and retain the confidence and respect of other nations. No nation ever loses its dignity or its good standing by conciliating its differences, and by exercising great patience with, and consideration for, the rights of other nations.

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I encourage all of my compatriots to learn all that they can at first hand about other nations and to make friends there, but I wish that more of the citizens of other nations would visit us and make friends.

• • •

Recently our nation has had the pleasure of a visit from King George VI, as a courteous recognition of the cordiality and the good will that prevail between two great nations. Its significance lay in the fact that friendship could exist between the two countries because both nations were without fear of any act of aggression of the one against the other. To achieve that result, strength is needed; strength which comes, not from arms alone, but from restraint, from understanding and from co-operation, which, in turn, are the products of trained and disciplined minds.

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The four freedoms of common humanity are as much elements of man's needs as air and sunlight, bread and salt. Deprive him of all these freedoms and he dies—deprive him of a part of them and a part of him withers. Give them to him in full and abundant measure and he will cross the threshold of a new age, the greatest age of man.

These freedoms are the rights of men of every creed and every race, wherever they live. This is their heritage, long withheld. We of the United Nations have the power and the men and the will at last to assure man's heritage.

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The present great struggle has taught us increasingly that freedom of person and security of property anywhere in the world depend upon the security of rights and obligations of liberty and justice everywhere in the world.

We of the United Nations are agreed on certain broad principles in the kind of peace we seek. The Atlantic Charter applies not only to the parts of the world that border the Atlantic but to the whole world; disarmament of aggressors, self-determination of nations and peoples, and the four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

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We must guard against divisions among ourselves and among all the other United Nations. We must be particularly vigilant against racial discrimination in any of its ugly forms.

Our own objectives are clear: the objective of smashing the militarism imposed by war lords upon their enslaved peoples—the objective of liberating the subjugated nations—the objective of establishing and securing freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear everywhere in the world.

* * *

We of the United Nations are not making all this sacrifice of human effort and human lives to return to the kind of world we had after the last world war.

We are fighting to-day for security, for progress and for peace, not only for ourselves, but for all men, not only for one generation, but for all generations. We are fighting to cleanse the world of ancient evils, ancient ills.

Our enemies are guided by brutal cynicism, by unholy contempt for the human race. We are inspired by a faith which goes back through all the years to the first chapter of

Eight

the Book of Genesis: "God created man in His own image."

We on our side are striving to be true to that divine heritage. We are fighting, as our fathers have fought, to uphold the doctrine that all men are equal in the sight of God. Those on the other side are striving to destroy this deep belief and to create a world in their own image—a world of tyranny and cruelty and serfdom.

This is the conflict that day and night now pervades our lives. No compromise can end that conflict. There never has been—there never can be—successful compromise between good and evil. Only total victory can reward the champions of tolerance, and decency, and freedom, and faith.

* * *

I am everlastingly angry only at those who assert vociferously that the four freedoms and the Atlantic Charter are nonsense because they are unattainable. If those people had lived a century and a half ago they would have sneered and said that the Declaration of Independence was utter piffle. If they had lived nearly a thousand years ago they would have laughed uproariously at the ideas of Magna Carta. And if they had lived several thousand years ago they would have derided Moses when he came from the mountain with the Ten Commandments.

We concede that these great teachings are not perfectly lived up to to-day, but I would rather be a builder than a wrecker, hoping always that the structure of life is growing—not dying.

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The cause of the United Nations is the cause of youth itself. It is the hope of the new generation—and the generations that are to come—hope for a new life that can be lived in freedom, and justice, and decency.

* * *

We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. "Necessitous men are not free men." People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.

Our young men and young women are fighting not only for their existence, and their homes and their families. They also are fighting for a country and a world where men and women of all races, colours, and creeds can live, work, speak and worship—in peace, freedom, and security.

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We have taught our youth how to wage war; we must also teach them how to live useful and happy lives in freedom, justice, and decency.

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Our ultimate objective can be simply stated: It is to build for ourselves, for all men a world in which each individual human being shall have the opportunity to

live out his life in peace; to work productively, earning at least enough for his actual needs and those of his family; to associate with the friends of his choice, to think and worship freely; and to die secure in the knowledge that his children, and their children, shall have the same opportunities.

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As in most of the difficult and complex things in life, nations will learn to work together only by actually working together.

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This generation has a rendezvous with destiny.

If we are to measure up to the task of peace with the same stature as we have measured up to the task of war, we must see that the institutions of peace rest firmly on the solid foundations of international political and economic co-operation.

Peace can endure only so long as humanity really insists upon it, and is willing to work for it—and sacrifice for it.

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MR. ROOSEVELT'S LAST SPEECH

On April 11, 1945, the night before he died, Mr. Roosevelt wrote a speech, which, had he lived, he was to have given on the following day as a tribute to President Jefferson the third President of the United States.

The following are passages from it:—

We seek peace—enduring peace. More than an end to war, we want an end to the beginnings of all wars—yes, an end to this brutal, inhuman and thoroughly impractical method of settling the differences between governments.

But the mere conquest of our enemies is

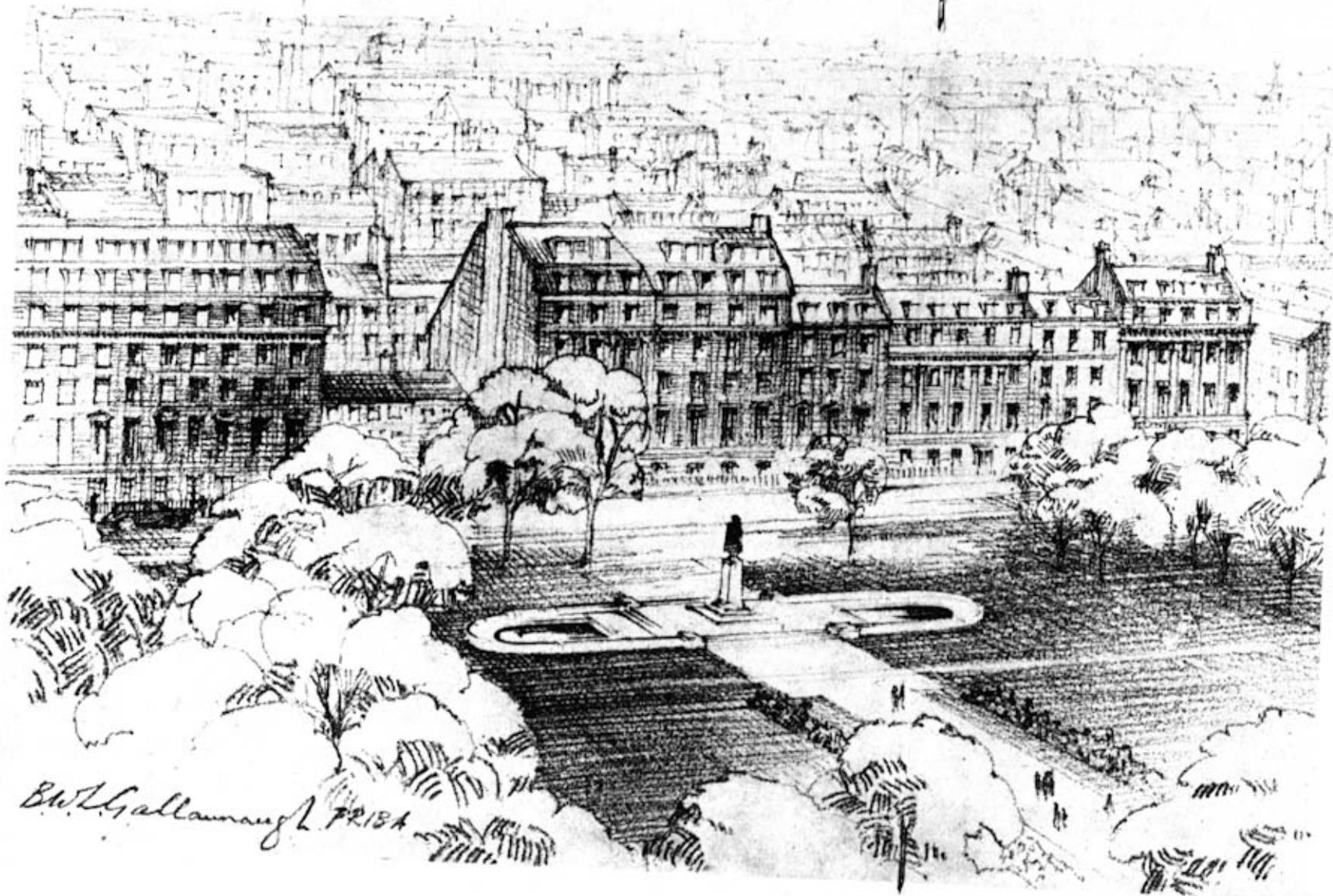
not enough. We must go on to do all in our power to conquer the doubts and the fears, the ignorance and the greed which made this horror possible.

The only limit to our realization of to-morrow will be our doubts of to-day. Let us move forward with strong and active faith.

To-day we are faced with the pre-eminent fact that, if civilization is to survive we must cultivate the science of human relationships—the ability of all peoples, of all kinds to live together and work together in the same world, at peace.

Certain of the above excerpts are published by the courtesy of Macmillan & Co.

Nine



B. W. Gallaugher L. 72184

GROSVENOR SQUARE

(Grosvenor Square was laid out in the early days of Queen Anne on land belonging to Sir Richard Grosvenor, 4th Baronet. The site was a field called Fursey Close.)

DURING the war Grosvenor Square became the nerve centre of the American armed forces in Britain. This, combined with the fact that the United States Embassy was located there, gave what is one of the most famous and historic of London squares a real American atmosphere. American officers, from generals and admirals to second lieutenants, were arriving and departing all day long, and at night it was American voices that passed one in the black-out. All through the neighbouring streets, moreover, G.I.s were quartered in what had once been the houses of the London rich, and during their leisure hours they observed as much of our national life as they were able to from the windows, speculating, no doubt, on the characteristics and peculiarities of the ally in whose midst they found themselves. Small wonder that the district came to be known as "Little America" and the Square itself, with a brand of humour which the enemy would never have appreciated, as "Eisenhowerplatz."

Yet the association between America and Grosvenor Square did not begin with the war any more than it has ended with it. Indeed, it may be said to date from the middle of the 18th century, for Lord North, after George III perhaps the Englishman best known of all to Americans of his day—and certainly to all Bostonians—lived there for 30 years. He it was who as Prime Minister retained the tea duty and imposed the Boston Port Act which were the immediate causes of the American War of Independence. It has sometimes been forgotten that a very large measure of English sympathy lay with the Americans in that conflict, and that many of the best speeches in support of their point of view were made on this side of the Atlantic. Even Lord North was unenthusiastic about it, but he nevertheless

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held on to the premiership until the British surrender at Yorktown in 1781, and continued to live affluently in Grosvenor Square for 10 years after that until his death in 1792. For two of these years, from 1786 to 1788, he had as his near neighbour John Adams, first Minister from the United States of America to be accredited to the Court of St. James's. The house in which Lord North lived and where in his day so much that was vital in Anglo-American history must have been enacted, now no longer exists and its place has been taken by a block of modern flats. The new American Minister came to live at Number 9, the corner house where Duke Street and Brook Street join. This is at present unoccupied. It suffered some war damage, but in outward appearance remains what it always was—a solid red brick Georgian mansion of pleasant proportions. Yet its proportions, however pleasant, cannot have contributed much to Mr. Adams's enjoyment of his



NO. 9 GROSVENOR SQUARE

stay. He was received on the whole with decorum though scarcely with rapture, and on the occasion of his going to Court accompanied by Benjamin Franklin, even decorum came close to breaking down. These two years may be accounted no more than an incident in a remarkable career, which culminated when in 1797 he became second President of the United States. Yet it was an important incident and perhaps only three times in subsequent history has an American envoy to Great Britain been faced with a task of comparable delicacy and difficulty.

The first of these was when Charles Francis Adams, grandson of the second President, John Adams, and son of John Quincy Adams, who was sixth President, from 1825 to 1829 (the Adams dynasty, down to this day, has an extraordinary record of distinction in American national life), became Minister here during the American Civil War, or war between the States, of 1861-1865 and British opinion was sharply divided in its sympathies towards North and South. The second time was during the years of Mr. Walter Hines Page's service from 1913 to 1918. The third, of course, which every Briton of this generation remembers with pride and affection, was that of Mr. Winant's great ambassadorship.

Mr. Page and Mr. Winant both lived in Grosvenor Square; Mr. Page at Number 6, a house at the moment empty and much damaged, Mr. Winant in a flat in the present Embassy buildings, Numbers 1 to 3. (Mrs. Roosevelt occupied this flat during her visit in 1942.)

Mr. Page came to Britain at a time when old animosities between the two countries had died down and the fact that they shared what was basically a common approach to life had begun to be generally understood. How much and how sincerely Mr. Page contributed to the growth of that understanding may be judged from the published volumes of his letters. How heavy were his duties, both before and after America's entry into the war, was proved by the fact that he literally killed himself in the discharge of them. On his last journey home he had to be carried from the ship at New York, and he died a few months later.

Mr. Page made his London home in a Grosvenor Square which still reflected the lustre of Edwardian days. The great houses were still identified with great names. All was solid and secure behind their placid facades as it had been for the best part of a couple of hundred years. The Ambassador had to gauge the realities underlying these appearances and, when the war came, to keep the ever-changing picture in its true perspective before President Wilson's eyes. The Grosvenor Square of Mr. Winant's time was an altogether different place; it was part of a besieged fortress, in which people had frequently to make their way to work through the broken glass and rubble of the previous night's destruction. Gone were the awnings for summer parties and the window boxes. Gone were many of the windows too, for that matter. The pleasant lawns



NO. 6 GROSVENOR SQUARE

Thirteen

inside the railings had become a parking place for trucks, and a barrage balloon, as ungainly as a hippopotamus and very much larger, occupied the centre when it was off duty. This was the background against which Mr. Winant had to do his work. He adapted himself to it with complete serenity and when the time came for him to leave, Mr. Anthony Eden, at a Pilgrims' dinner given to bid him farewell, said that he honoured him for three reasons: "First, because as ambassador he was and is truly representative of his great country, and never forgot it. Secondly, because he believed in our cause, and in our will and ability to defend that cause, in the hour when we stood alone. Thirdly, because no fairer, straighter man has ever walked this earth."

London has always possessed one of the attributes of true greatness in cities—the will to rise phoenix-like from its own ashes. The plan to commemorate President Roosevelt in Grosvenor Square and to make the surrounding garden a place of beauty and refreshment for ever is part of that larger process. That it should have been made possible in the first instance by the generosity of the Duke of Westminster, who has given the land, and by the public spirit of the occupiers and ratepayers of the surrounding houses, who have renounced their special rights in it which they had enjoyed for more than a hundred years, is in keeping with the importance of the objective. For the names which have been associated with these houses, since they were built in the first half of the 18th century, are part of the pattern of British national life—Rockinghams, Fitz-

Fourteen



THE AMERICAN EMBASSY

williams, Buccleuchs, Portlands and Chesterfields; Chancellor Townshend, William Beckford, Sir William and Lady Hamilton (Nelson stayed there with them in 1800); Arthur Balfour, Lord Beatty, Sir Thomas Beecham. It is a glittering roll and to it must be added a host of embassies and legations which have been located there at different times, as well as many private families distinguished in their own generation. In seeking to commemorate President Roosevelt, the British people could have found no patch of soil which was more truly British than Grosvenor Square—nor yet one on which Americans might feel more at home.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

FRANKLIN Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of the United States of America, died at his cottage at Warm Springs, Georgia, on April 12, 1945, from haemorrhage of the brain, soon after returning from his meeting with Winston Churchill and Generalissimo Stalin at Yalta in the Crimea.

Mr. Roosevelt was born on January 30, 1882, at Hyde Park, the family home in Dutchess County in the State of New York. He went first to Groton School and afterwards to Harvard University, where he graduated in 1904. From Harvard he went to the Columbia Law School and in 1907 he was admitted to the New York Bar. From 1907 to 1910 he practised with the well-known law firm of Carter, Ledyard and Milburn, in New York. In 1910 he stood as Democratic candidate for the Senate for the State of New York. Both in the election campaign, in which he was

successful, and subsequently in the Senate, he showed a full grasp of politics and great width of vision. In 1913 he was appointed to the post of Assistant Secretary to the Navy in the Cabinet of President Woodrow Wilson, whom he greatly admired. This post he held until 1920, when he was the Democratic Party nominee for the Vice-Presidency. On this occasion, however, he was not successful as the election was won by the Republican Party and it was in the

following year that he fell a victim to infantile paralysis which left its mark upon him for the remainder of his life.

From 1921 until 1924 he was mastering the disabilities of this disease, a task to which he brought such strength of character that in 1924 he was able to return to the practise of the law. He joined the firm of Roosevelt and O'Connor, with which he remained connected until 1933. During these years he continued to rise in the Democratic Party and in 1928 was elected Governor of the State of New York.

He was re-elected for a further term in 1930.

Such was his record and his stature in the counsels of the Democratic Party that in 1932 he was nominated for the Presidency, and was elected by an overwhelming majority. America was at that time in the trough of the great depression, and Mr. Hoover, the outgoing President, took the unusual step of inviting his counsel immedi-

ately, without waiting for the inauguration. Franklin Roosevelt was re-elected in 1936, 1940 and 1944, thus disregarding a precedent set by Washington that no President should serve for more than two terms. During the years before the war, he sponsored the social programme commonly known as "the New Deal" and was responsible for such large-scale projects as the Tennessee Valley Authority. At the same time he was profoundly aware of the threat to democracy



FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT AT THE AGE OF SEVEN

Fifteen

from Fascist and Nazi ideologies and did all in his power to make the people of the United States aware of it too. With the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939, he was fully alive to all that was at stake, and, while anxious to avoid, if humanly possible, the shedding of American blood, he threw his great energy and resourcefulness into preparing America against that eventuality, while at the same time assisting Britain by every means within his power, short of war. It was in August, 1941, four months before Pearl Harbour, that he formulated with Winston Churchill the Atlantic Charter.

With the entry of the United States into the War in December, 1941, Franklin Roosevelt, as President and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, became responsible for its direction, a burden to which he tirelessly devoted his strength. In spite of his partial paralysis, he travelled to Casablanca, Cairo, Teheran and Yalta in order to meet and to concert plans with the other allied leaders. No less than with questions of strategy he concerned himself earnestly with the many

problems which he knew would confront the world once victory had been achieved.

It was tragic indeed that he should not live to witness that achievement, but the unflagging devotion with which he went about his work, in all its many aspects, had taken toll of his strength, and those who saw him after his return from Yalta realized that he was a very tired man.

Throughout his life, Mr. Roosevelt maintained the greatest interest in education and especially in Harvard University, where he had studied as a boy, and of which he was for many years an "overseer" or governor. He had faith in the youth of his country and whenever possible paid visits to the many universities and colleges throughout the 48 States. He also found time for writing and was the author of several very widely read books on politics, in which he outlined his own programme and beliefs. The best known of these were "Looking Forward" and "On Our Way," which appeared during his first term as President.



President Roosevelt with his arm in that of his son, together with the Governor-General of Canada and Lady Tweedmuir, and the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King



President Roosevelt and H.M. King George VI
in Washington, 1939



President Roosevelt with the King and Queen before the tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon

Eighteen



Franklin Roosevelt in 1917. He was then Assistant Secretary to the Navy

Nineteen



Hyde Park, New York State, the home of President Roosevelt

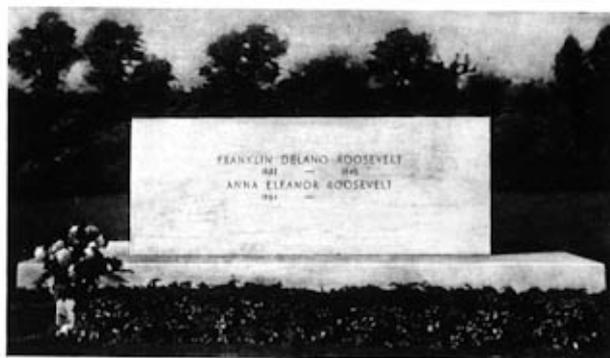


The library at Hyde Park

Twenty



"The Little White House" at Warm Springs, Georgia, where President Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945



The resting place of the late President Roosevelt at Hyde Park

Twenty-one

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WITHIN ten seconds the sad news of the passing of President Roosevelt was flashed all over the U.S. People were astounded by such an unexpected blow. They ran from their houses to inform the passers-by and to discuss the tragic news. Business, and even the War itself, were forgotten, for America had lost her trusted and beloved President. A sense of grief and loss was felt by the nation and a great stillness fell upon the larger gatherings throughout the country. Many a tear was shed, for Roosevelt had won not only the respect, but the affections of his people.

Admiral Ross Macintyre, the President's personal physician, addressing 100 reporters at Washington, gave the final details. He was in touch with Dr. Bruen, at Warm Springs, Georgia, who, while 'phoning the White House, was suddenly called away. "A few minutes later," the Admiral continued, "he came back to tell me that at 3.55 . . ." and here he broke down. The veteran correspondents who had faced the President so often at his regular Press conferences could not restrain their feelings and stood weeping. And so the flag over the White House was lowered.

It seemed such a tragic irony of fate that the passing of President Roosevelt should take place at a time when the whole free world is getting ready to celebrate that victory of which he was one of the chief architects. Like Moses, he had led his people out, but did not live to lead them into the land of promise and rest, though he saw it from Mount Pisgah.

President Roosevelt stood as a symbol for all that men hold dear and all that makes life precious. He was a wise statesman, a courageous leader, an indefatigable worker, and above all a man of invincible faith. Not even in the dark days when Britain stood utterly alone did his confidence fail. He pointed on to the day when tyranny would be put down and oppression cease.

Perhaps we can best summarize his life into four expressions—his far-sightedness, his love of freedom, his sacrificial service, and his inspiring leadership.

Far-sightedness.—The President was far ahead of any of his countrymen in this most vital quality. He could see the avalanche of evil long before it reached his people. He saw the ravages of the oppressor in the Far East and in Europe, and knew that it would inevitably spread until it engulfed the entire world—unless something were done in time. He stood like a watchman on his tower, and when the danger appeared, he blew the trumpet with no uncertain sound.

The wisest man wrote: "Where there is no vision the people perish" (Prov. 29. 18). What we require to-day is to be made aware of our danger. Sin has swept in like a mighty flood. It has mastered us and will carry us down to the lake of fire unless we are awakened in time to see our terrible peril and, thus awakened, we grasp the life-line of God's salyation.

Freedom.—In July, 1940, Mr. Roosevelt defined in that memorable dictum the Four Freedoms—freedom of

faith, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. Wherever his name is mentioned this blessed word is immediately associated with him. For freedom he strove, planned and spent himself. Millions of free people the world over will bless God for him and his life work.



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

In our pride and self-sufficiency we are slow to admit that sin has put its shackles upon us, body and soul, and we are as helpless to free ourselves as the captives in a concentration camp. "Whoever committeth sin is the slave of sin," the Lord declared. How, then, can we be freed? It certainly has to come from without since in ourselves we are helpless. We read in Eph. 1. 7: "In whom we have redemption (or setting free) through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." He had declared in His manifesto that He had come to preach deliverance to the captive, to set at liberty them that are bruised (Luke 4. 18). Whenever one feels the bondage of sin and looks to Christ as the One Who paid sin's fearful price for him, he can know instantly the joy of God's perfect freedom. His blood has settled the debt and broken the enemy's power. The moment we rest upon His finished work for salvation, then God sets us free—eternally free.

Sacrifice.—It has been frequently said that the strenuous efforts and the untiring service of this great man, both

at home and abroad, practically cut his life short. Burdened with a fearful responsibility, he counted nothing too much of a sacrifice so that his work might be successful and blessing brought to mankind the world over. A thing is only as much worth as we pay for it. If we can assess the cost we know the value. Such, indeed, is true of God's great salvation. It is *not* our tears, our prayers, our good works, or our money which gives one little bit of value to it. All the sacrifice was His, and His alone. Alone He fought the fight. Alone He paid the fearful cost. Alone He did the work. His the sacrifice, ours the salvation the moment we put out the empty hand and accept it as a free gift from a loving God. Never shall it be known how very much He sacrificed to make it possible. It is no cheap salvation, though to us it is free "for the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6. 23).

Is it not remarkable that at the end of such a sacrificial life we should read that, just forty-eight hours before his death, Mr. Roosevelt went to a wind-swept mountain top in Georgia to commune with God. His four secret-service guards accompanied him up the mountain road, then withdrew. It was two hours later when the horn sounded for the return journey.

Leadership.—The best proof of this is in the fact that, breaking all precedent, the U.S. nation elected him for a fourth term of office. What a proof of their confidence in his ability to lead them through these most difficult times!

I thought this might interest you it is what we think of him.