Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945
Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

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1916 October 7

Walden, NY - Tilden Memorial
Address by P*D delivered upon
unveiling of Samuel J. Tilden memorial at
BigeLOW homestead, Malden on Hudson,
October 14, 1816.

Frank Freidel, Professor of History,
Yale University, 1918-19

See N. Times - Oct 14, 1916. I., 6:3

see "Calendar of Speeches, 1913-20"

RLJ
Article

The Preparedness of Service

On a day when we look back to the memory of a great leader of our nation's life it is perhaps fitting that we should give a moment's thought to the problems that confronted him in a struggle fraught as no one as an American today. Many of you knew Mr. Tilden, many of you saw his battles, but most of us of the younger generation know his name as a name that belongs to history.

To us who came after him I think Mr. Tilden's name stands first for an ideal, the idea of a return to the principles of the fathers—a return to the basic principles of the American system of government. Call it democracy or call it republicanism. For we must admit that the decade after the close of the Civil War saw many strange things happen to the ship of State. If it was a period of reconstruction that it was also a period of...
construction of work done in hot temper, of retaliation of prejudice - some of it good work, much of it work that lead to the Tom
Drown and small men - for with the leadership of Lincoln
gone the whole temper of our public life changed, and
there was no great man in his own party to take his
place. For many years the people of the nation were
proving, crying out here and there, running after strange
Gods, now sympathetic, now blind with fury. It was a
period of corruption, of the rule of anarchy of drift.
And in the midst of it came a breath of fresh air - a
man simple but of strong clean vision - a man who thought
back to the ideals of the Fathers - a man who more
than any other made the American people see The Struggle
road through the mists — for Mr. Tilden performed not only a service to his own party, he performed a service to every citizen. For he made the issues so fundamental that every citizen could understand — he restored the democratic form of government — he gave leadership in place of rule, he restored the will of the people. And to him, more than to any other leader of his day, must he secure the credit for bringing back the conscience of the nation, of developing the thought in every man that he individually as a citizen must bear his share in the nation's work.
Today we are confronted with a development of the same fundamental question, the responsibility of the individual citizen to the State. It is broader than it was in Mr. Teddy's day, it concerns not only our own political union of States, it concerns the World. Some people are going around the country proclaiming loudly, "What I would have done" and others are going around trying to dodge "What I would have done", and refusing to say in clear voice "What I will do.

But is it not true that most of them are overlooking the fact that it is not the individual in the White House or the individual who has reached the top in the White House who shapes the destiny of the country but it is rather the aggregate of the average of the mass of the...
citizens who live in the long run care about the future. Do we have today a real sense of the world problem. First we must decide not whether we want war or prefer arbitration and peace. But whether in fact we should come upon means we shall conclude to resist attack. A right to maintain our national existence is whether we shall open our doors. A physically stronger nation or aggregation of nations.

Of course there is no question in my mind or others here as to maintaining our nation. We cannot all agree to resist. Here we come squarely at the issue. Before the deadly greater than any other. We have talked of the
rights of American for
generations – is it not time
that we talk of the
Netherlands citizenship too.

We all know what modern
war means in Europe – we
ought to know what modern
war would mean here.

Needs of Navy or War
Army

Duty of individual to
"pull his own weight in
the boat."

Necessary to know where to
go, what to do and how
to do it.

Hoyde George
TO COURT-MARTIAL AIRMEN.
Germans see British Barony in the Use of "Texas" Bullets.

THE FULL STORY.

The British government has demanded an explanation from the United States on the alleged use of "Texas" bullets by American soldiers in the course of the war. The demand was made following reports that the new type of ammunition, known as "Texas" bullets, had been used in recent battles.

The British government maintains that the use of "Texas" bullets is a violation of international law and that it will take appropriate action if the United States does not withdraw the ammunition from the battlefield.

A TILDEN MEMORIAL UNVEILED BY FRIEND.
Others Who Knew and Admired Him Speak at Ceremony at Malden on Hudson.

POULTNEY BIGelow Host.
Old-Time Politican Discussed and the Ex-Gov. Eulogized at his 70th Birthday.


The Tilden Memorial house, which housed the Tilden Museum from 1854 to 1875, has been restored and is now open to the public as a museum. The museum houses a collection of Tilden family papers and personal effects.

PARKER RAPS OLD PARTIES.
And in Opening Campaign on Democrats, Man Who "Betrayed" Progressive
Program, "Betrayed" Progressive Candidate for the Presidency.

Mr. Parker, a prominent Progressive, has announced his candidacy for the presidency.

He accused the Democratic Party of being too conservative and of having abandoned the principles of progressivism.

STOPS EXPORTS TO BRITAIN.

Government Paroles Ship to France to Prevent War Material in Time of Peace.

The government has ordered the parole of a ship to France to prevent the exportation of war material.

The ship is carrying armaments which are of considerable importance to the Allied forces.

SAVE TWO WOMEN AT FIRE.

Passengers Aided by Policeman.

Two women were rescued from a burning train by a policeman before the fire could spread.

The lines were saved, and the women were taken to safety.

HENRY FINCH COMING HOME.

The Foreign Office has announced that Henry Finch, the British ambassador to the United States, will be coming home.

The ambassador has been in Washington for several months, working on various diplomatic matters.

MEXICO CITY.

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The Mexican government has announced that it will not renew the agreement for the permanent delivery of timber to the United States.

The agreement had been in effect for several years, but the Mexican government has now decided to terminate it.

EYES CARRANZA WON'T RUN.

The Mexican government has announced that it will not run for the presidency.

The decision was announced by the government after consultation with the Mexican people.

The government has also announced that it will not run for any other office.