
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 89

1919 April 24

Washington, D.C.

April 24, 1919

(Washington, D.C.)

- - 0089

FDR Speech File

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VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN RALLY

held in
lectors' bark,

VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN RALLY

At The

Thursday, April 24, 1919,
at 1 P.M.
NAVY YARD, WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 24, 1919.

The Victory Liberty Loan Rally at the Washington Navy Yard, held in Lectors' Bark at twelve-thirty o'clock p.m.,

Thursday, April 24, 1919, by nearly nine thousand persons—officers, sailors, men and women at the station

HON. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT,
Acting Secretary of the Navy.

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, Honorable Franklin D.
ADMIRAL T. J. COWIE, U. S. NAVY, and his wife, Mrs.

HON. WILLIAM MATHER LEWIS,
United States Treasury Department,

CAPTAIN A. L. WILLARD, U. S. NAVY, Captain A. L.
Commandant and Superintendent of the Naval Gun Factory, Washington, D. C.

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VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN RALLY

held in

Leutze' Park,

NAVY YARD, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

on

Thursday, April 24, 1919,
at 12:30 o'clock p.m.

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The Victory Liberty Loan Rally at the Washington Navy Yard, held in Leutze' Park at twelve-thirty o'clock p.m. Thursday, April 24, 1919, was attended by nearly nine thousand persons--officers, enlisted men of the vessels at the station including the classes under instruction, the marines of the Yard, the yeowomen and the entire employed force.

The speakers of the day were the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, Acting Secretary of the Navy, and his wife, Mrs. Roosevelt; Admiral T. J. Cowie, U. S. Navy; Hon. William Mather Lewis, of the Treasury Department; and Captain A. L. Willard, U. S. Navy, Commandant and Superintendent of the Naval Gun Factory.

Captain Willard presided during the exercises, and made the opening address, as follows:

CAPTAIN A. L. WILLARD, U. S. Navy, Commandant and Superintendent, Naval Gun Factory, made the opening address, as follows:

Fellow-workmen of the Naval Gun Factory, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.:

The Navy, in this war, has done great things. The greatest thing it has done was to put the Army across. Now we have to bring them back. To bring them back we must have a Victory Loan. It must be a success. The Navy Yard has put over every other undertaking.

You have made the fourteen-inch guns and mounts that were a potent factor in ending the war; you developed the gun tractor mount which is the best mobile piece of artillery that has been developed by any nation during the war.

I would be derelict if I did not, upon this occasion, which is perhaps the last that we shall be gathered together under my command, express to you my sincere thanks and hearty appreciation of all each and every one of you have done. No executive has ever had more loyal or more generous or more faithful support than the supervisory force and the men of the Navy Yard have given the executive during this war.

You worked day in and day out without loss of time, you worked overtime uncomplainingly and many of you sacrificed leave. It has all helped to win the war, and without that spirit in the production of material the war could never have been won. As far as the Naval Gun Factory is concerned, I can recall no instance where any ship has been kept waiting a single minute for ordnance equipment.

I want to thank you all for this support, not only personally, but in the name of the Navy.

The Assistant Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, now acting Secretary of the Navy, needs no introduction from me to this audience. He has been such a friend of the Washington Navy Yard and its expansion and its various interests, and has taken such a keen personal interest in all of our problems, that I feel that each and every one here looks upon him not only as the Secretary of the Navy but as a personal friend.

I have the honor of introducing to you the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt. (Applause)

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HONORABLE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, Acting Secretary of the Navy:

My Friends: I suppose we are here for the fifth and last time for the purpose of seeing through the finances of the war. It looks to me as if this crowd contains just about as many millionaires as it did in the last loan rally.
(Applause)

We know, not only in the Department, but throughout the entire Naval service, what the record of the Washington Navy Yard has been on the former four occasions. We don't have to make any appeal now on this fifth occasion because we know from past performances how this loan is going to go 'Over the Top'.

I am very proud of the Naval Gun Factory. I think

everybody in the Department is proud of its record. You know, in the Navy, on ship-board, a ship is known as a 'Happy Ship' or an 'Unhappy Ship'. There is a certain undefinable something on board ship by which you can tell right away the class of it as happy or not and nine times out of ten the 'Happy Ship' is the effective ship. And one thing that has seemed to me more true than anything else is that under the command of Captain Willard the Washington Navy Yard has been a happy yard. (Applause)

I wish, very much, that we could keep Captain Willard indefinitely. (Applause)

Every undertaking of the Washington Navy Yard has been a success. I don't mean merely the carrying out of the work--of the work on the guns and torpedoes and all the other essentials that you have been doing during this war--but outside of that, you have had success as an organization of American citizens working shoulder to shoulder for the even bigger problems before the nation.

In your responses to the appeals that have been made by the Government for the loans, for the Red Cross, for the War Camp Community service, and so on, you have lived up to the very best traditions of citizenship and, may I say especially, in one of those fields in which I am very much interested, namely, the Naval Auxiliary of the American Red Cross. You have given the Naval Auxiliary of the American Red Cross more money and more actual personal assistance than any other branch of the Government in Washington. (Applause)

I take it that this organization is going to maintain the same spirit. I don't mean merely in this loan. That

almost speaks for itself already. I mean in the times to come, because I think we all believe that no matter what is decided on in Paris or between the Powers the American Navy is going to continue to live. (Applause) And in living it means that this Yard is going to maintain itself on the same high level of effectiveness and service as it has done in the past. It means that you men are going to continue to give the same cooperation not only to the government, but to yourselves. We are going to keep a 'Happy Ship' at Washington. (Applause)

Of course, on the other side, the fighting work of the Navy is over. The work still remains of bringing the troops back and the Navy isn't going to stop until there isn't a single American soldier on the soil of Europe. (Applause) They have the spectacular end of the game--the men over-seas; they appreciate, I think, even more than we do back home, the service of the people back home.

There isn't any question about what the Navy did in this war. There was one episode up in the North Sea that describes it better than any other. On that day, towards the close of November, when the most ignominious surrender in history took place, and the German fleet came across with its tail between its legs--I believe I am mixing my metaphors--and gave itself up; (Laughter) they removed the German crews, and when they were taking some of these Germans home, there was a scuffle on the deck of one of the ships taking them back and presently a rather battered German lieutenant was brought before the Commanding Officer by a

British and an American bluejacket. The Commanding Officer wanted to know what had happened to this Hun with the black eye. (laughter) The American blue-jacket piped up and said: "Well, this is the way it was. This German was standing at the rail next to us and pretty soon he turns to us and he said 'I care that for the British and American navies' and he spat in the sea. We kept perfectly quiet and pretty soon he looked at us and said : 'I care that for Admiral Beatty and Admiral Sims' and he again spat in the sea, and then I turned to him and I said 'Look here. I don't care personally what you think of the American Navy or the British Navy and I don't care particularly what you think about the Admiral, but I'll be Blank-Blank' if you can spit in our ocean."(Laughter) And then they had their inning. There wasn't any question about who controlled the ocean, as there isn't any question either that the work of the people back home was just as important in controlling that ocean as the work of the men who are actually on it.

Of all the plants in this country that did work to turn out guns and munitions this Navy Yard I would put at one hundred percent. (Applause)

And I want merely to give you my very simple thanks as one American to a lot of others , but do your share and now keep it up, and preserving it, grow. Thank you.
(Applause)

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CAPTAIN WILLARD; I have the pleasure of introducing to you the Honorable William Mather Lewis, of the Treasury Department, who will address you on the Victory Loan.

HONORABLE WILLIAM MATHER LEWIS:

I am here to speak to you for just a very few minutes about a subject that is very dear to all of us and that is "Getting our money's worth." The United States, as you know, has made a tremendous investment in the last two or three years, as has France and England and all the others who set about doing a big job. We, with our allies, have made an investment of one hundred and ninety-seven billion dollars. One hundred and ninety-seven billion dollars. I expect, Captain Willard, that there is not a man here who has had one hundred and ninety-seven billion dollars (Laughter) -- at one time. (Laughter and applause).

That is what that means. That amount of money is so great that if, from the birth of Christ, down to the present day, one hundred and eighty dollars every minute had been dropped into a receptacle, that receptacle now would just contain the amount that the war has cost; and I say to you that this war is going to be the greatest tragedy that the world has ever seen, the most useless tragedy, if we do not get out of it enough to make that war worth while in money. But more than that, My Friends, the war cost in precious human lives nine million among the soldiers and sailors alone, to say nothing of the civilians. Nine millions.

I am told that there are approximately nine thousand men and women in this great organization. If every man and woman came every morning into this place and were shot down and killed, and then the next morning an equal group came in to their death, that slaughter would keep up for three years of working days before the number that were killed in the war had been reached.

That is what this war cost us in human lives and the question that you and I have got to answer as American

citizens is "Are we going to get our moneys-worth out of those human lives or are those boys who died for us to have died in vain?" And the question can only be answered by these men who fought back in America, as well as those who fought "Over There", that "Liberty shall not perish from the earth". This is your job from now on. It is your job of perpetuating and keeping fresh this victory, and the first thing we have got to do in perpetuating this victory is to give the boys who fought over there a square deal when they come home. (Applause)

On the eleventh of November last you and I threw up our hats and said that the war was over. But the war was not over then and the war is not over now, it is not over as long as our boys are standing along the Rhine, marching through the muddy flats of Flanders or are laying with white and uncomplaining lips in a thousand hospitals. The war cannot be over for you and me until those boys are brought back to this country and are placed again in productive industry under the best conditions that we can offer them here. (Applause)

You remember the story of the club of people who had a banquet at twenty dollars a plate, and after they had eaten enough and drunk too much champagne, the toastmaster got up and said "We have had a wonderful time tonight. We must not forget the poor. We must give something for the poor. I suggest that we give three lusty cheers for the poor." (Applause)

My Friends, that is what our patriotism too often consists of--we give three lusty cheers for that Flag and for the boys "Over There" and let it go at that, and I am

telling you now that this Victory Loan will not be completed, that Our Country will not be safe from anarchy and all the other things that the other nations are going through, unless our Army and our Navy, when they come home, have the backing of the men of America and when they have been rewarded for all they have done for us.

The second thing, My Friends, is that we must pay the debt of honor in money that we gave our word that we would pay if the war were won or lost, but certainly our obligation is greater because the war is won and won so quickly. I have had men say to me that they will not subscribe for the present Liberty Loan because money was wasted in Washington, because our Government wasted hundreds of millions of dollars, in order to win the war; that there was extravagance and that there were mistakes. I stand here to say that there was extravagance, that there were mistakes, that our cantonments cost more than they should, that we paid more money to riveters than they were getting at other private plants, that there are now on the docks in France millions and millions of rounds of ammunition that will never be fired--that are wasted.

I am likewise here to say to you that if it hadn't been for that extravagance of the American people, if it hadn't been for our willingness to throw every cent in and get the job done quickly, that Germany would be fighting us today, and I am here to say to you that the way we spent our money, the way we hired men, the way we built ships and carried across, by the Grace of God and our Navy, that wonderful force of two million men--that was what broke the

heart of Germany a year before anybody thought her heart could be broken. (Applause)

If you call that extravagance, My Friends, you better go back to school and learn arithmetic. Extravagance! We may have wasted five hundred millions, but the war in nineteen-nineteen would have cost us thirty billions at least and ten million American lives. On which side are we today?-- The losing or the winning side financially: We are on the winning side and thank God and thank the men who knew how to run this Government and run it quickly for results.

(Applause)

Now you and I have got to meet that great cost and we have got to bring those boys back. We have got to pay for this ammunition and for this preparation that practically broke the heart of Germany; and you and I have got to do our share and the man who does not subscribe to this loan today cannot call himself tomorrow a one-hundred-percent American.

I want to say to you that from now on we have got to keep and perpetuate the victory by backing up our Government in every-day patriotism. We have got to see that the American dollar stays in America. Do you know that whenever an Austrian emigrant lands in New York he is approached by a representative of an Austrian bank with a branch in New York and is induced to put his savings in that bank. And that they did put their savings in to the extent of seventy-four millions of dollars in the last two or three years is a fact. And that money, earned in America, went over to Germany and Austria and came back and fought you. The money made in the United States fought us, and I say before God that you and I as American citizens have got to see that

the bunch that will do this, that the bunch which will not become citizens of this country and conform to its laws--as two hundred and sixty thousand Germans will not do--we have got to say to them today "Get the hell out of here."

(Applause)

This war will not be worth while until we make America safe for Americans; until we make this country safe for the mothers and sisters of those boys who died in Flanders fields. We cannot do that as long as the German army of America, which is still operating in America at its rotten poison gas game, is allowed to get away with it. It is up to you and me in perpetuating this victory to talk and preach and live pure patriotism from this time on.

There is one thing more I want to say to you in perpetuating this victory and that is that you and I want to learn a lesson from those Austrian and German emigrants who came here to save because those people hold on to some part of their income which they save while we really spend all. We are to learn to save for no country is free whose citizens are not free and no citizen is free who is bound by the chains and shackles of debt and financial worry. The way to get away from debt and financial worry, My Friends, is by saving and intelligently spending wisely, and putting what little we can save in gilt investments and not into gold bricks. We have had plenty of that kind of investments and now your government comes to you seeking to keep you happy citizens and free citizens and to help you to strength and prosperity, and you would at the same time be subscribing to

the last Liberty Loan and paying for it in small installments-- I beg of you to consider that phase of it. I beg of you to think of freedom--the freedom of educating your children and the freedom to go where the best jobs are--that freedom only comes to the man who is thrifty, who has put his money in the right investment, and so I say to you that the United States Government needn't appeal to you alone on patriotic and self-sacrificing motives, but from the opportunity it affords you for enterprise and advancement in the world and in the perpetuating and keeping up of this victory you bring personal advancement for yourself. I beg of you to subscribe to the Victory Liberty Loan. (Applause)

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CAPTAIN WILLARD: Admiral Cowie, who has on so many previous occasions steered the Navy Liberty Loan Ship to a safe anchorage, needs no introduction to this audience. He has a message for you which I will ask him to deliver.
(Applause)

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ADMIRAL T. J. COWIE, U. S. NAVY:

Ladies and Gentlemen and Co-workers of the Washington Navy Yard. I am not here for the purpose of urging you to subscribe to this Victory Loan. Our Country is calling and I know what the people of the Washington Navy Yard are going to do and you are going to subscribe. They have gone over the top before and they will go over the top again. We have

started out to lead the country in this loan as we did in the last and we are going to do it.

I have here a message from Secretary Daniels which came from Germany. (Laughter)

During the last loan I urged that we wanted to send Secretary Daniels over to Germany to go with General Pershing into Berlin. They are over there now. We have had a great many of our boys killed there. Those boys won't come home and we are going to bring them home. Now, we launched on the twenty-first a Victory Ship on the other side, to start from San Francisco to come down the coast and we are matching that every day by the money put up by the country. She will not come into New York until the four and one-half billions is subscribed and it is up to this country to bring this ship safe into shore and not let the officers and men on board drown.

Will we bring her in? (Aye, aye, sir)

The following is the message received by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy from Secretary Daniels at Coblenz, Germany: "The world recognizes that the Navy was not only the first line of defense in this great war but in convoying and transporting troops it made possible the coming to Europe of the two million Americans whose valor was one of the large contributions in winning the war. I feel sure that every man who had the honor of wearing the Naval uniform sooner or later will wish to have the privilege of being in the first line defense also in subscribing to the utmost of their ability to the Victory Loan. War is a

"ecstly and grim business. The Navy made its sacrifice at sea. It will now increase the public gratitude by leading in paying the cost of war and the caring for the dependents of those who gave their lives and in caring for those who were disabled in the great struggle. I, therefore, appeal to every man in the service to subscribe for at least one bond that when the roll of honor is printed the names of Navy men will be among the foremost. Let us by actions say to all America "Match the Navy." Signed JOSEPHUS DANIELS."

Now, if we are going to ask the people to "Match the Navy", let us give them something to match and carry this Victory Loan so far "Over the Top" that the Treasury Department will not be able to give up more than half the notes that are subscribed for. Let us show Germany that we are still alive to the situation and that anything that this Country calls for is going to be given.

We say that the Navy fights. We love to fight for anything that this Country calls on us to fight for, and we are going to fight and we are going to win every time.
(Applause)

I will read you a message that came yesterday afternoon from the USS MARBLEHEAD, then at San Diego, which message is as follows:

"Victory Ship Pennant will be transferred from the MARBLEHEAD to Mystery Ship", which is the USS CRANE, "tomorrow afternoon at five with appropriate ceremonies chief of which will be hauling down of Victory Pennant by Mayor of San Diego. Pennant will then be entrusted by Captain of Navy Victory Ship to Captain Gresham of the Navy Mystery Ship," the USS CRANE, "Never in annals of history has such an impressive national incident occurred. Girdling the entire continent in this race of ships to keep up the world's greatest and final subscriptions goes a steamer of white carrying a message of hope and faith to a long suffering world. America has and is doing her part to finish last chapter of world's historic events as only America knows how for the future welfare of all humanity." Signed "Commanding Officer of the MARBLEHEAD." (Applause)

Here is another telegram from the USS KENTUCKY. It started down the coast from Portland, Maine. By the way I just had a message from there yesterday saying that they had gone over the top, all but Aroostook and that Aroostook, on account of the non-sale of her potatoes, was unable to subscribe. Two hours later I got a telegram from the Commanding Officer of the Kentucky saying that the officers and men of the Kentucky had bought forty-eight thousand dollars worth of "spuds" and that Aroostook had gone "Over the Top". Now this is the message from the Commanding Officer of the USS KENTUCKY:

"In Victory Loan contest New Hampshire jumped forward today to nearly nine hundred thousand. Enthusiasm throughout the state will be greatly heightened by visit of the Victory Loan Ship KENTUCKY. Governor John Bartlett welcomed the

"KENTUCKY in a stirring speech, thanking publicly Naval Victory
Loan Officer Admiral T. J. Cowie for sending the KENTUCKY.
Meeting in public square after parade of Blue Jackets from
the KENTUCKY and PITTSBURG and Marines from SOUTH DAKOTA.
Major William K. Carter of Portsmouth made a speech thanking
the KENTUCKY and its Captain Wells. Admirals Caperton and
Bousch with Captain Bradshaw of the PITTSBURG helped the
naval enthusiasm along. PORTSMOUTH NAVY YARD increased its
subscription by forty thousand dollars at banks and citizens
of PORTSMOUTH came forward with one hundred twenty-five
thousand. From the same public square where the governor
reviewed the KENTUCKY'S men, George Washington, first president,
made one of his notable addresses to the people of New
England. Signed Fuller."

These Navy ships, as will be shown by this, are going to
create such enthusiasm in the different ports they visit that
they will bring the people of the entire country to the front
and we will get the subscriptions we need. I have no
doubt whatever but that every place where a Navy ship enters
will go over the top, over and over again. And for that
reason you people of the Navy must feel that the Navy is
leading and do your utmost to help it along.

I don't want to detain you here, but I will give you
some of the figures that I got at the office just before
I came here. Navy Yard subscriptions to date are as follows:

Portsmouth, New Hampshire,	\$286,300.00
Boston,	166,250.00
New York,	26,400.00
Philadelphia,	348,550.00
Washington, second,	321,750.00
Norfolk,	32,450.00
New Orleans,	55,550.00
Mare Island,	205,150.00
Puget Sound,	14,850.00
Total	<u>\$1,487,250.00</u>

The statistics are hardly worth mentioning this time because the returns are so meager, but the above figures are those at the last account. Among other statistics which I have received are the following:

Navy Yards,	\$1,467,250.00
Districts,	750,400.00
Bureaus and Offices,	259,870.00
Ships,	200,000.00
Marine Corps,	190,750.00
Coast Guard,	23,500.00
Total	<u>\$2,591,770.00</u>

But it is much more than that that we need. We want a million dollars a day to move that Ship a mile, (Applause) and there are five thousand two hundred and fifty miles. That is all the Navy need give this time. It will cost the country much more. Now, when I say "Much more" I want you to know that it won't cost you people one cent. This is the best investment in the world, and many of you people who bought bonds before have them now and are richer than you ever were in your life. A few days after payday I never had a dollar--until I got a Victory Bond. I went in debt for it and I had to pay for it. That is what we all should do if we want to get wealthy. Now then, I want to tell you something of the ships that subscribe. You all know of that

German ship the Vaterland, now the Leviathan, manned by our officers and men, bringing our boys home. Mind you the old German ship comes in with a telegram this morning with twenty-six thousand three hundred and fifty dollars. How is that for Germany? (Laughter)

Now there are a few things I could say but you know all about it. I say I know the Washington Navy Yard is going to go "Over the Top" because I know you will do even what you think Captain Willard will suggest. I will not hammer you. You know what he wants and you are going to do it. Thank you very much. (Applause)

CAPTAIN WILLARD: The men of the Naval Gun Factory have done loyally and not spared themselves in making sacrifices, but no less so than the women of the Naval Gun Factory. (Applause) The women have made and maintained comfortable homes for you and administered to your physical well-being. In addition they have sacrificed their time and their labor in making garments for those over-seas and given entertainments which helped keep up your good spirits and your morale.

At the same time, with over twenty thousand dollars that the Navy Yard has contributed to the Navy Auxiliary of the American Red Cross, they have earned in addition, through their labors, a very substantial sum. Part of this sum is made up of your subscriptions and out of the earnings from the Saturday evening dances given by the Navy Yard Auxiliary of the Navy Department Auxiliary of the American Red Cross.

It gives me great pleasure today to present on behalf of the Navy Yard Unit of the Navy Department Auxiliary, to Mrs. Roosevelt, acting president of the Navy Department

Auxiliary of the American Red Cross this check for seven thousand dollars. (Hands check to Mrs. Roosevelt).

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT: I want to thank you for this and for the money and work which you previously gave to the Navy Department Auxiliary of the American Red Cross. I cannot begin to tell you how much good you have done and I wish though that I could tell you some of the things your money has done, because your money has done a great deal for the men in the Navy hospitals and now we are trying to give things for the men in St. Elizabeth's and in other hospitals all over the country where men are taken. I hope you will all feel that we are trying to do the very best we can with the money and the work which you so kindly put in our hands to use. I thank you very much. (Applause)

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CAPTAIN WILLARD: I propose three cheers for the Acting Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Roosevelt. (Hip, hip, hurrah, hurrah, hurrah)

I now propose three cheers for Mrs. Roosevelt and I want them bigger than those you just gave. (HIP, HIP, HURRAH, HURRAH, HURRAH).

ACTING SECRETARY ROOSEVELT: Let us give three cheers of farewell for Captain Willard, and hope he will come back soon again. (Hip, hip, hurrah, hurrah, hurrah).

Finis.