
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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FDR Speech File

FDR's speech at a memorial service at
the United States Soldiers' Home,
Washington, D.C., May 25, 1919.

RLJ - 4/19/51

MEMORIAL SUNDAY OBSERVED IN CITY

Special Exercises by Patriotic Societies Honor Members of Wars Dead.

Patriotically to Memorial Day, Friday, memorial Sunday was observed throughout the country with services and special exercises under the auspices of patriotic societies and agencies in the various cities. In Washington, Mass., opened the day at the United States Naval Academy, where a service was preached by Rev. G. Fingerman, Chaplain of the Navy. At the American Legion Hall, 14th and C Streets, Franklyn D. Roosevelt, chairman of the Legion's Memorial Committee, spoke on "The War in Europe," and in which the world had been changed.

At St. Elizabeth Hospital.

Gen. William E. Harvey, exponent of the American Legion, now formed and organized the Legion of Ex-Servicemen and all the other branches of our armed forces, addressed the members of the Veterans' Association of the Legion, in memory of Gen. John Representative of the House, who was a member and a leader of the Legion, when he was a young man.

Hospital delivered the address of Representative Edward H. Keay, made by Dr. J. French, rear admiral, U.S.N.R., and Dr. W. H. Snyder, department commander, U.S.A.A.F., who read it in full. The address was read by J. Patterson.

Exercises at Capitol Rotunda.

Memorial exercises were participated by Representative Andrews, president of the House, and other prominent men. The exercises were held at the Lincoln Circle, the Lodge of the Representative Shaword of Ohio City, May 25, and were presided over by the officers of Lincoln and Green, and the members of the Order of the Sons of the American Revolution.

At Douglas Memorial Church.

Anglo-American services were held at the Douglas Memorial Church, No. 1000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., on Sunday evening, the 25th. Tributes to the dead of all wars of the United States were paid by the Rev. Edward Harvey, Chaplain of the Legion, and the Rev. G. Fingerman, Chaplain of the Navy. The Rev. G. A. H. Jones, former chaplain of the U.S. Army, and the Rev. George Vane Commander, C. E. Morris, rear admiral, U.S.N.R., and Dr. W. H. Snyder, department commander, U.S.A.A.F., were present. Other members of the Legion, Green, and the Lodge of the Sons of the American Revolution, and the wives and girlfriends of the boys

ARMY ENGINEERS' LABORS DID MUCH TO CONQUER HUN

Men Fought and Worked Behind and in
Front Line Giving Indis-
pensable Aid.

While tribute has been given, and will be given, to the valor of the men of the infantry, cavalry, air service and artillery in bringing Germany to her knees, there has been little recognition of the unheralded task which fell to the engineers, on which hinged the fate of the war.

On the line and back in the rear, the engineers fought as well as the rest, fighting and the rifles which the enemy had captured.

Especially the means of making a good road, which is the chief factor in

the success of war, and all the time

of the war, the engineers did their

work, and the tanks, which were

so much a factor in the war,

were built by the engineers.

Built 600 Miles of Barracks

Capt. C. Beard, U. S. A. of the 8th Engineers, who recently returned from France, has recently shown that the engineers built 600 miles of barracks, having a total length of 1,200 miles, and that in this work, the men were compelled to live in mud holes, in which they slept, each capable of accommodating 100 men, with the French army, in the Argonne forest, in 1918.

The first of the American engineers took that duty until the present time.

The medical department gave to the engineers the task of building hospitals.

In the attack sector, particularly

in the Argonne forest, the engineers

built 100 miles of roads, and the water systems were developed for some

of the stations reached by the first

motorized units of the field

military institutions which entered

the battle area, and the engineers

and the engineer area gave the

army a supply of food, clothing,

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Committee.

The soldiers' settlement bill, introduced by House Leader Mondell, after conferences with Secretary Lane of the Interior Department, is going to be put through the House just as soon as possible. Hearings will be started this week before the public lands committee. Chairman Sinnott of Oregon said today that he expects to be able to report this bill to the House within two weeks.

The public lands committee had a conference this morning and expressed its desire to expedite the passage of this bill as much as possible and to present it to the House in phraseology that will be acceptable to the entire membership.

The members of the committee and leaders on both sides of the House are being flooded with letters and telegrams from all over the country urging the prompt passage of this measure. They say that they have received no adverse criticisms or opposition from any quarter. Chairman Sinnott and House Leader Mondell are going to ask that 100,000 extra copies of the bill may be printed in order to supply the requests that are coming from trade organizations and communities throughout the country.