
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”

The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 244

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Outline by F.D.R. for a Speech for Cox

Every four years the nation is called
upon to elect its Chief Magistrate, and under
a judicial and development of its political
system the very great majority of the voters
have given adherence to one or the other of
the great political parties. The multiplication
of parties has been attempted from time to
time and failed. Part of are as I see
time the present method of securing in-
terest that ^{the} ^{best} party shall be a clear
line of demarcation.

Generously -

Was more by
humor being smart or clever

Hardy has spoken of
Americanism - No man
can talk about it but
must -

~~He said~~ It has been
suggested that Sen Hardy
has added to label
himself as a good American
Nothing could be further
from the truth - I
like to think that we
are so far advanced
in patriotism that
every candidate of
the great party is
without question
American patriot

400,000 out of
500,000 could
not read the draft

Why didn't Congress
pass the Americanization
curbing of illiteracy
bill?

There is where Repub
licans are failing

Frank -

~~Second~~ It has been
suggested that Sen Harding
has added to label
himself as a good American
Nothing could be further
from the truth - I
like to think that we
are so far advanced
in patriotism that
every candidate of
the great party is
without question
American patriot

400,000 out of
500,000 could
not read the draft

Why didn't Congress
pass the Amendment
curbing of illiteracy
bill?

There is where Repub
party has fallen
down -

National Problem -

Development of American

Whole speech
on Americanism

Man's life on
farm attractive
to returned soldiers

cleaning up of the
country in 6 years

White country life
so attractive

~~Develop~~

Appreciation of
Hoover -

A genius whose
services were not
by the Pres.

Made internat. reputation
Pres. timber
Regret not having
given the nomination

Appreciation of
Republicans & all
in war.

Select an unpopular
enemy -

Don't answer that

Reaming up of the
country in 6 years

Make country life
so attractive

~~Develop~~

Appreciation of
Hoover -

A genius whose
services were got
by the Pres.

Made interest. reputation
Pres. timber
Regret not having
given the nomination

Appreciation of
Republicans & all
in war.

Select an impopular
enemy -

Don't answer attacks
& make the observers

Appreciation of the
pioneer.

But then we can't

It may think it is
poss. to go back
to days of McKinley
but we know that is
imposs.

We can't ignore the
list made in the
last 25 years
year

Men then were shot
down ~~before~~ ^{when} they
struck —

Corporations gave
~~\$5~~ millions to
control an electorate
& that electorate
could be long but

Can't give up electing
or go back to McKinley

But steps have taken

3 days of McKinley
but we know that is
imposs.

We must ignore the
list made in the
last 25 pregnant
year

When they were shot
down ~~before~~ ^{when} they
struck —

Corporations gave
~~25~~ millions to
control an electorate
& that electorate
could be long but
can't give up electing
or go back to candles

A step once taken
cannot be retraced

A conception that a
chosen class who
make others amenable
to them. Labor

only a commodity
controlled only by
law of supply &
demand -

irrespective of fact
that that commodity
came out of human
hearts & human
hands -

Ab. Lincoln would
not have said
"Go back 25 years"

I am a follower
of Lincoln -

He went surely
about remedying
the injustices of
the day - ~~that~~

He had a passion
for justice, not
a passion for any
particular sudden
method of trying
to cure all -

His calm eyes

that that command
came out of human
hearts & human
hands —

Ab. Lincoln would
not have said
"Go back, 25 years"

I am a follower
of Lincoln —

He went surely
about remedying
the injustices of
the day — ~~that~~

He had a passion
for justice, not
a passion for any
particular sudden
method of trying
to cure all —

His calm eyes

Questions of relationships

1. Relation of American
nation to other nations
so that we can
work towards a
community of nations
so that we can
get peace & order
& not war & brutality
cannot be got
at once

2. Relation ~~of~~
among ourselves
Men have relationships
to each other in the
community

Employer & employee
this the most vital
social problems

Political relationships
which will realize
the future

work towards a
community of nations
so that we can
get peace & order
& not war & brutality
cannot be got
at once

2. Relation ~~of~~
among ourselves
Men have relations
to each other in the
community
Employer & employee
this the most vital
social problems

Political relations
fairly well realized
We have a real
Political Democracy

Not yet a social
democracy
where all men are
judged by their
merit - Haven't

reached it yet
but stepping towards
it - e.g.
Community Councils.

3 Economically we are
leaving what kind
of relationships should
exist between partners
in business -

All interdependencies
Capitalist not the
master -

Manager not 1st
master

Workman not the
master because he
handles the machine

All are dependent on
on the other

Like the pyramids
of acrobats

At bottom is the
masses of
the people
for the other pyramids

Learning what kind
of relationship should
exist between partners
in business -

All interdependencies
Capitalist not the
master -

Manager not the
master

Workman not the
master because he
handles the machine

All are dependent on
the other

Like the pyramids
of acrobats

At bottom is the
masses of
the people
for the whole purchase

We are coming to
realize this -
Workman not a
slave -

This econ. relat is
gradually being

Established. This
was not known
in Dick's day.

Now we have 110,000
have marched across
the continent?

We have dammed our
rivers - we have skinned
our prairies -

Are we going to
stop now -

We want men of
use in the West.

Not useless authorities.

We want no idle
men or idle
fields or idle
waters. -

Electricity for the
farmer wife

We want means of
communication -

Roads - How was
the war won?

He contained?
We have dammed our
river - we have skinned
our prairies -
Are we going to
stop now -

We want men of
use in the West.
Not useless authorities

We want no idle
men, or idle
fields or idle
waters. -

Electricity for the
farmer's wife

We want means of
communications -

Roads - How was
the war won?

Verdun - 1st Marne
2nd Marne - Roads
did it. But Verdun
was the key - Roads
built by Napoleon
100 years before

Any civilization

is judged by the
extent with which
people communicate
with themselves

That is judged by
their roads -

We have many millions
dependant on it

The keynote to this
is a greater Americanism

We want to raise
up men with
the spirit of Carthage
Mexico

You don't let by
going back to the
good old days

(We are an intensely
religious people
appeal to this)

We have a gospel
There is something
deep in us to
make the nation
round -

We have many millions
to spend out of the

The keynote to this
is a greater Americanism

We want to raise
up men with
the spirit of Carthage
Mexico

You don't let by
going back to the
good old days

(We are an intensely
religious people
appeal to this)

We have a gospel
There is something
deep in us to
make the nation
sound

A physical base or
a pyramid of
culture on it.

Disarmament

Used in every Western
Town - When place
was refused with
fear they said we
are going to stop
men from totting
guns. - This is
what the League will
do - It was stop
nations from totting
guns -

Geology on Cox -
Reason he appeals
is that he has been
an executive & no
one knows better
than I - must be
more than the kind
who makes an
occasional speech but
must be able to
give orders & work
with men in carrying
on the business of
the Gov -
Can work with Republic

are going to stop
men from totting
guns. - This is
what The League will
do - It was stop
nations from totting
guns -

Eulogy on Cox -
Reason he appeals
is that he has been
an executive or no
one knows better
than I - must be
more than the kind
who makes an
occasional speech but
must be able to
give orders & work
with men in carrying
on the business of
the Gov -

Can work with Repub
& Demo. (Legislation)

Can see difference
in standpoint
of men of other

This has made
him acceptable to
tens of thousands in
Ohio -

We don't know
what H. would do -
He has never been
tested - He might
be good -
Ohio - a nat. Republ.
State has elected
him because of his
capacity.

¹ If Gov. Cox is elected
Pres. He will have that
Treaty ratified inside
of 60 days -
& with the help of
Republican Senators

Restoration of Theodore Roosevelt's Birthplace For Centre of Americanism Endorsed as Living Memorial

From many letters of endorsement of the plan to restore Theodore Roosevelt's birthplace at 28 East 20th Street, New York City, that have come to national headquarters of the Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association, the following are selected to give the viewpoint of leading Americans.

Old Homestead Will Stand As Monument to American Patriotism.

Cardinal Gibbons, writing to Mrs. Henry A. Wise Wood, Vice-President and Chairman of the National Organization Committee, says:

"CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE,

408 No. Charles St., Baltimore, Md.

NOVEMBER 27, 1919.

MY DEAR MRS. WOOD:

The plans of the Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association to purchase and restore the birthplace of Mr. Roosevelt are worthy of praise. Once the object of the Association is accomplished, the old homestead will stand as a monument which will remind future generations of that man who was the living embodiment of the principles and ideals of American patriotism. I trust that the hopes of the Association will be speedily realized. I am,

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) J. CARD. GIBBONS,
Archbishop of Baltimore."

Mrs. Atherton Calls On Members of Authors' League to Contribute.

In an open letter to the women members of The Authors' League in the August, 1919 number of The Authors League Bulletin, Gertrude Atherton writes:

"DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS:

"I want to call your attention to a simple and practical way to honor the memory of one who was Vice-President of our League from the date of Incorporation until 1918, and was one of the Honorary Vice-Presidents from then until his death.

"The Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association (1 East 57th Street, New York, N. Y.), has undertaken to restore and perpetuate Theodore Roosevelt's birthplace and home of his childhood. The property at 28 East 20th Street has been purchased with the adjoining house, in order to carry on educational and patriotic work there and thus establish a living monument to the memory of one of America's greatest citizens.

"It is planned to have a circulating library not only of books written by Theodore Roosevelt and about him; but also biographies of American statesmen and of men and women whose lives have been an inspiration to the youth of our country. Classes will be formed and lectures will be given to teach foreigners and the children of foreigners the English language, the history of our City and of the Nation, the principles and ideals of American democracy, of which Theodore Roosevelt was so brilliant an exponent.

"The women of America purchased and restored Mount Vernon, Washington's home; they also helped to preserve the home of Lincoln. They are now offered the opportunity and privilege of helping to secure, free from mortgage, the home of the most widely known and admired leader of modern days. The plan has the unqualified endorsement of the Roosevelt family.

"All who contribute one dollar or more receive the emblem of the Association—a bronze pin which is the replica of the medallion modelled by Anna V. Hyatt, and they also have their names inscribed in the great Book of Donors which is to be kept at Roosevelt House.

"It would be a fitting testimonial to the memory of our distinguished fellow-member of the Authors' League for us to become one hundred per cent contributors.

(Signed) GERTRUDE ATHERTON."

A Great Man's Home is Fitting Memorial of His Life.

Dr. David Jayne Hill, diplomat, historian, and former Ambassador to Germany, writes:

"The Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association has undertaken a truly patriotic work in preserving the birthplace of Theodore Roosevelt as a permanent sanctuary of American life and character.

"We often and properly speak of American 'ideals' as something distinctive but it is far more important to recall the realization of them in actual persons. The dignity and devotion of Washington, the faith and fidelity of Lincoln, and the earnestness and courage of Roosevelt appeal to us as unembodied aspirations could not do. They belong to the realm of 'realities'. The homes where these men were born and bred are among the most fitting memorials of these great lives, and their simplicity and diversity teach us that every home, whether on the open prairie or in the crowded city, may be the birthplace of human greatness."

Make Roosevelt House A Shrine For Youthful Pilgrims To Visit.

Major General Leonard Wood, U. S. A., endorses the Roose-

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Make Roosevelt House A Shrine For Youthful Pilgrims To Visit.

Major General Leonard Wood, U. S. A., indorses the Roosevelt House memorial, as follows:

"The Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association is raising a fund for the re-establishment and re-equipment of the birthplace of Theodore Roosevelt, the most inspiring and consequently the most dominant figure in our national life since Lincoln. We want to build up in that house where he was born a shrine to which the youth of America will go as on a pilgrimage; go as they have gone to Mount Vernon and to Springfield. We want them to go to the birthplace of this man who has meant so much to this country and who has given us so much of inspiration. We want to assemble there the things with which he was surrounded as a youth and we want to enable our children to visualize something of the life which Colonel Roosevelt led in his early years. It is a fine work."

This is an all-American tribute—no contribution too small, none too large.

Contributions in cash, money order or cheque should be forwarded to the treasurer, Mrs. A. Barton Hepburn, 1 East 57th Street, New York City.

The Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association

National Headquarters, 1 East 57th Street,
Telephone Plaza 2020. New York City.