
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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1931 December 23

**Radio - Christmas Greetings to People of
New York (lgh.)**

MEMORANDUM

Yrs indeed
 I am grateful to W. C. Y. for
 the opportunity given me to give my
 Christmas Greetings to the people of
 our State -

I wish you could ^{all} have been here
 at the Executive Mansion this afternoon
 to see the happy faces of ~~the~~
 75 little girls who came in to see
 the Christmas Tree from the school
 next door - Though ^{most of them} ~~they~~ have
 no fathers or mothers, they are
 examples of the ~~fact~~ ^{fact} that very
 few of the millions of children
 of the State ^{at least} will lack some Christmas
 cheer and happiness - That
 is as it should be - and

MEMORANDUM

no matter how lacking in this
 world's goods we may be, we
 can at do some little thing
 to make the children remember
 that tomorrow is Xmas
 day; ~~with~~ that it is a
 day of ^{spiritual} ~~communion~~ and
 rejoicing; that it is a
 day of family ^{unity} ~~rejoicing~~ and
 family happiness; that its
 success is measured not by
 the costliness of the gifts
 we give and receive but by
 the spirit in which ~~they~~ ^{they} are

MEMORANDUM

Given —

Home - the linchpin of our civilization, is the keynote of Christmas - Have whether it be but a room, or a flat or a house or a palace - The home of rich and poor alike - the home of the big city or the village or the country ~~road~~ highway —

May the spirit of Christmas be ~~that~~ shine in all our homes tonight and tomorrow —

and many an older
people became young
again - young enough
to save again the
picture of old Santa
Claus himself -

Do you remember the
how the old verses of the
Night before Christmas
described him?

