

November 17, 1934

[Graft, Mississippi]

FDR Speech File

--0749

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO CORINTH, MISSISSIPPI
November 17, 1934 - 8.35 P.M.

(The President was introduced to the audience by Congressman Rankin. There were present on the rear platform from which the President made his address, Mrs. Roosevelt, Senator Harrison, Congressman Rankin, Mayor Candler, Mr. Adams, Dr. Morgan and Mr. Lillenthal.)

My friends:

I am glad to come into the district of my friend, John Rankin. I am glad to come back to Mississippi after an absence of six long years.

We have had a great day today. We started with a great friend of the people this morning -- Andrew Jackson. We are ending up the day with another friend of the people -- the Tennessee Valley Authority. As you all know, I have been tremendously interested in the work that you good people have been carrying on. You are carrying out the ideal of working out things for the benefit of the average man by meeting new problems with new methods, -- and I might add to that, the average woman too.

I want to say a special word of commendation for the way you people in Alcorn County have worked out an experiment that is going to succeed -- the Alcorn County Electric Power Association.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

My friends:

I am glad to come into the district of my friends.

John Franklin, I am glad to come back to Mississippi after an absence of six long years.

We have had a great day today. We started with a

great friend of the people this morning -- John Franklin.

We are ending up the day with another friend of the people --

the Tennessee Valley Authority. As you all know, I have

been tremendously interested in the work that you have people

have been carrying on. You are carrying out the ideal of work-

ing out ideas for the benefit of the average man by meeting

new problems with new methods, -- and I might add to that,

the average woman too.

I want to say a special word of commendation for

the way you people in Alcorn County have worked out an ex-

periment that is going to succeed -- the Alcorn County

Electric Power Association.

There are two points in regard to what you have done that ought to be known all over the United States -- north and south and east and west. The first is that you are treating your County as a unit and that in treating it that way you are giving an equal opportunity to the people who live on the farm with the people who live in the city. The other interesting fact, I am told, is that with cheaper rates of electricity than you ever had before, you are going to pay off the money you have borrowed in five and a half years -- and that is going some.

And so, my friends, you are doing something not only for yourselves but for the rest of the United States. You are proving something that some of us have believed to be true for a great many years. And, in proving it to the rest of the United States, you are going to make life easier for the average family in a great many other places and that is why I am very glad to stop here tonight. I wish I could come here by daylight and see more of you -- I will do that some time later on.

I want to congratulate you and tell you how happy I am in hearing about the fine public spirit that Corinth and Alcorn County are showing to the United States of America.

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Congressman Rankin then presented Mr. Lillienthal and Secretary of the Interior Ickes.

② STATEMENTS FILE

At Corinth - Nov. 17, 1934 - 8.35 PM

On the rear platform - The President, Mrs. Roosevelt, Sen. Harrison, Congr. Rankin, Mayor Candler, Mr. Adams. Dr. Morgan and Mr. Lilienthal.

Congr. Rankin: Ladies and gentlemen: I now take great pleasure in presenting to you the President of the United States.

~~The President:~~ My friends: I am glad to come into the district of my friend, John Rankin. I am glad to come back to Mississippi after an absence of six long years.

We have had a great day today. We started with a great friend of the people ~~at~~ this morning -- Andrew Jackson. We are ending up the day with another friend of the people -- the Tennessee Valley Authority. As you all know, I have been tremendously interested in the work that you good people have been carrying on. You are carrying out the ideal of working out things for the benefit of the average man by meeting new problems with new methods, -- and I might add to that, the average woman too.

I want to say a special word of commendation for the way you people in Alcorn County have worked out an experiment that is going to succeed -- the Alcorn County Electric Power Association.

There are two points in regard to what you have done that ought to be known all over the United States -- north and south and east and west. The first is that you are treating your County as a unit and that in treating it that way you are giving an equal opportunity to the people who live on the farm with the people who live in the city. The other interesting fact ~~xxxxxxx~~ I am told is that with cheaper rates of electricity than you have ever had before you are going to pay off the money you have borrowed in five and a half years -- and that is going some.

And so, my friends, you are doing something not only for yourselves but for the rest of the United States. You are proving something that some of us have believed ~~to~~ to be true for a great many years. And, in ~~bringing~~ proving it to the rest of the United States, you are going to make life easier for the average family in a great many other places and that is why I am very glad to stop here tonight.

I wish I could come here by daylight and see more of you
-- I will do that some time later on.

I want to congratulate you and tell you how happy
I am in hearing about the fine public spirit that
Corinth and Alcorn County are showing to the United
States of America.

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Congr. Rankin then presented Mr. Lillenthal and
Secretary of the Interior Ickes.