

January 30, 1936

[FDR's 54th Birthday]

FDR Speech File

- J843

Carbon copy of President's
Radio Address--White House--
Jan. 30, 1936.

Reading copy given to Ginger
Rogers (Moving Picture actress)

January 30, 1936.

PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY REMARKS

Today, on my fifty-fourth anniversary, I am very happy because ~~because~~ reports indicate that this year's celebration, in the interest of continued efforts against Infantile Paralysis, will exceed ~~even~~ their fondest hopes of success. Tonight in every state and in every outlying territory of our Nation many millions of people are enjoying themselves at all kinds of local parties. They have ^{absolutely} (definitely) aligned themselves to carry ~~on~~ on the fight against Infantile Paralysis until this dreaded and costly disease is brought under definite and final control.

Ten years ago it was made possible for me, with the support of many personal friends, to start the work of the Warm Springs Foundation in Georgia and I dedicated it to one sole purpose -- to apply itself to the task and to keep everlasting on the job, not by *it* self alone but with the cooperation of the Doctors, the

Orthopedic Hospitals and those thousands of individuals on whose shoulders falls the brunt of caring for several hundred thousands of the afflicted.

No single agency, whether it be the Doctor, the hospital or the research laboratory can cope individually with this great problem — we can do it only by joining our efforts.

Without your local committees^S the National Committee could not function. You tonight who are attending these celebrations, and you who are in your homes, have greatly helped to make a reality of what was once a hope.
In nearly seven thousand communities you are helping to produce concrete results by making it possible for large numbers of those who suffer from physical handicap caused by Infantile Paralysis to receive aid and assistance. The lives of these people, young and old, will be made easier. Through rehabilitation by far the greater part of them will become more mobile and ^C take their places once again with their heads lifted high and their courage unabated.
^A

I am confident that each local committee will work out, with the best medical advice, ~~commence~~ plans for the wise administering of the seventy per cent of the funds which, as a result of this year's Birthday parties, will remain in your hands for expenditure.

The thirty per cent of the funds which you will send to the National Committee will be used by the Foundation to intensify the national part which it is playing in building up the national fight. I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Jeremiah Milbank, Dr. Paul de Kruif and the other members of the Research Commission, and all those who with them are administering the research activities in connection with ~~conducting~~ the work.

With full confidence and ~~confidence~~ in the success we are already attaining, I re-dedicate the Foundation to the task which lies ahead.

I wish I could look into your faces tonight. You have made me very happy -- more happy than I can express in words. Though I cannot be with you, I want each and every one of you to know and feel that I deeply and sincerely appreciate all that you have done for the

cause -- all of the inspiration which you have applied to it.

I am especially grateful not only to the National Committee but to the local Chairmen of the local committees who have worked so hard, and also to the Press, to the Radio, and to the Newsreels who have visualized for the whole country the need and the reasons for this great national campaign.

To several hundred thousand victims of Infantile Paralysis, I send very personal greetings, especially to the youngsters among them whose lives lie ahead of them. In ~~it is~~ ^{that} their behalf I thank once more, ~~you who tonight are helping~~ to remind us in this Twentieth Century of the words of the ~~writer~~ ^{writer} - "a little child shall lead them."



INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FIFTY-FOURTH
BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

January 30, 1936

Tonight, on my fifty-fourth anniversary, I am very happy because Colonel Doherty, Carl Byoir and Keith Morgan tell me that their reports indicate that this year's celebration, in the interest of continued efforts against Infantile Paralysis, will exceed our fondest hopes of success. Tonight in every state and in every outlying territory of our Nation many millions of people are enjoying themselves at all kinds of local parties. They have resolutely aligned themselves to carry on the fight against Infantile Paralysis until this dread and costly disease is brought under definite and final control.

Ten years ago it was made possible for me, with the support of many personal friends, to start the work of the Warm Springs Foundation in Georgia and I dedicated it to one sole purpose -- to apply itself to the task and to keep everlastingly on the job, not by itself alone but with the cooperation of the Doctors, the Orthopedic Hospitals and those thousands of individuals on whose shoulders falls the brunt of caring for several hundred thousands of the afflicted.

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. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

No single agency, whether it be the Doctor, the hospital or the research laboratory can cope individually with this great problem -- we can do it only by joining our efforts.

Without your local committees the National Committee could not function. You tonight who are attending these celebrations, and you who are in your homes, have greatly helped to make a reality of what was once only a hope. In nearly seven thousand communities you are helping to produce concrete results by making it possible for large numbers of those who suffer from physical handicap caused by Infantile Paralysis to receive aid and assistance. The lives of these people, young and old, will be made easier. Through rehabilitation by far the greater part of them will become more mobile and will take their places in active life once again with their heads lifted high and their courage unabated.

I am confident that each local committee will work out, with the best medical advice, plans for the wise administering of the seventy per cent of the funds which, as a result of this year's Birthday parties, will remain in your community for expenditure.

The thirty per cent of the funds which you will send to the National Committee will be used by the Foundation to intensify the national part which it is playing in building up the national fight. I take this opportunity

to thank Mr. Jeremiah Milbank, Dr. Paul de Kruif and the other members of the Research Commission, and all those who with them are administering the research activities in connection with the work.

With full confidence and faith in the success we are already attaining, I re-dedicate the Foundation to the task which lies ahead.

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To several hundred thousand victims of Infantile Paralysis I send very personal greetings, especially to the youngsters among them whose lives lie ahead of them. It is in their behalf that I thank you once more.

THE GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS
FOUNDATION

50 EAST 42 STREET · NEW YORK

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT

KEITH MORGAN, VICE PRESIDENT

BASIL O'CONNOR, TREASURER

January twenty-eighth

1936

Dear Missy:

Here's the baby and here's hoping it will be
adopted as it comes from the cradle.

Have also mailed a copy to Steve.

This has been read over the telephone to Dr.
A. Griswold Mitchell in Cincinnati and to Dr.
Philip Wilson in New York City, who is a
member of the Executive Council of the Ortho-
pedic Advisory Committee to the Foundation.
It meets with their unanimous approval.

As ever,

Miss Marguerite LeHand
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Keith

Jill

Today is my fifty-fourth Birthday, and tonight I am very happy -- happy because the reports which have been given to me personally by Colonel Henry L. Doherty, Carl Byoir and Keith Morgan, Chairman, General Director and Treasurer of the National Committee respectively, based on reports rendered to them by many local chairmen, indicate that this year's celebration for which I loaned my birthday in the interest of Infantile Paralysis will exceed even their fondest hopes of success.

There are tonight throughout the forty-eight states and the possessions, many millions of people who are not only enjoying themselves at the local parties, but who definitely have aligned themselves with the fight against Infantile Paralysis which will be carried on until this dreaded and costly disease is brought under control and eventually eradicated.

I have always liked birthdays -- a birthday to me is really the New Year, for an individual a time to pause and look over that which has gone before, that which has been accomplished and to form new plans of progress for the year which lies ahead of us. Throughout the land and throughout the world New Year's Eve means checking on the old and planning the new, but a birthday is something particularly close to each and everyone's heart.

^{M.M.L}
Eight years ago, when it was made possible for me, through the support of many friends, to establish the Warm Springs Foundation at Georgia, I dedicated the ~~numerous~~ Foundation to one sole purpose and objective-- to work hard to apply itself to the task and to keep everlastingly on the job to develop and coordinate, with the cooperation of the doctors, the orthopedic hospitals and those people on whose shoulders falls the brunt of caring for the many thousands of afflicted, so that, they, together with the general public could march side by side in a unified attack on Infantile Paralysis, which is a threat over every home in the country.

No one single doctor, no one single hospital, no one single research laboratory, no one single agency can cope ~~single-handedly~~ with the problems -- we can only do it through joint effort.

The National Committee has worked diligently in the organization of this campaign, as has each and every local committee. Without your local Committee the National Committee could not function. You tonight who are attending these celebrations and you who have been unable to go to your local party but who have helped in other ways, have made my early dream come true. You have enabled it to blossom forth in a direct attack which is everywhere producing concrete results and making it possible for large numbers of those who are suffering physical handicaps cause by Infantile Paralysis, to receive aid and assistance so that the lives of these people, young and old, may be made easier and through rehabilitation made able to become ~~make~~ themselves more mobile and take their places once again with their heads lifted high and their courage unabated.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Jeremiah Milbank, Dr. Paul de Kruif and the other members of the Research Commission who have labored so diligently for the past year in the administration of the funds which the Research Commission received from last year's Birthday Ball. In this they have been ably assisted by Dr. George McCoy and the other members of the Medical Advisory Committee. The work of this Commission and that of the Research Laboratories in the country is going a long way toward one day bearing rich results.

May I also take this opportunity of again urging each local committee, either in your own communities, in your adjacent communities, or in your sections, to work out with the doctors, with the hospitals and with other established agencies on whom you must depend, concrete plans for the wise administering of your seventy per cent funds, which, as a result of this year's birthday parties will remain in your hands for expenditure. These

doctors, these hospitals stand ready to counsel with you in bringing about constructive programs.

The thirty per cent fund which you will send to the National Committee will be used by the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation to intensify the part which it is playing in building up the national fight.

I have said that ~~nine~~ years ago I dedicated the Foundation to this purpose -- may I again say tonight that with full belief and full confidence I again re-dedicate the Foundation to the task which lies ahead.

You have made me very happy, more happy than I can express in words. Let us go on with renewed vigor and renewed determination, - each and every one. Thank you all, from the bottom of my heart. Since, because of the large distances which lie between us, ^D ~~this~~ cannot be done individually,

but I want you to know and feel that I deeply and sincerely appreciate the hard work which you have devoted to the cause and for the inspiration and the intensity which you have applied to it. With this, and with the magnificent aid of the publishers, the radio committee, the news reels, and these others responsible for the dissemination of public information -- the cause cannot fail. Your participation is the finest birthday present which you could possibly give me. I again thank you ~~all~~ -- Good-night and God bless you!

Colonel Doherty, National Committee
and Local Committees

HOLD FOR RELEASE

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FOR THE PRESS

January 20, 1936

CAPTION: These remarks of the President on the occasion of his fifty-fourth birthday anniversary are for release in editions of newspapers appearing on the streets not earlier than 11:30 P. M., E. S. T.

Care must be exercised to prevent premature publication.

STEPHEN EARLY
Assistant Secretary to the President

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Ten years ago it was made possible for me, with the support of many personal friends, to start the work of the Warm Springs Foundation in Georgia and I dedicated it to one sole purpose -- to apply itself to the task and to keep everlastingly on the job, not by itself alone but with the cooperation of the Doctors, the Orthopedic Hospitals and those thousands of individuals on whose shoulders falls the brunt of caring for several hundred thousands of the afflicted.

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"Without your local committees the National Committee could not function. You tonight who are attending these celebrations, and you who are in your homes, have greatly helped to make a reality of what was once only a hope. In nearly seven thousand communities you are helping to produce concrete results by making it possible for large numbers of those who suffer from physical handicap caused by Infantile Paralysis to receive aid and assistance. The lives of these people, young and old, will be made easier. Through rehabilitation by far the greater part of them will become more mobile and will take their places in active life once again with their heads lifted high and their courage unabated.

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With full confidence and faith in the success we are already attaining, I re-dedicate the Foundation to the task which lies ahead.

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To several hundred thousand victims of Infantile Paralysis I send very personal greetings, especially to the youngsters among them whose lives lie ahead of them. It is in their behalf that I thank you once more.
