

June 14, 15, 1936

[Hodgenville, Kentucky]

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FDR Speech File

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

Hodgenville, Kentucky

June 14, 1936

I have visited the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born. I have come here individually, as one of many millions of Americans whose lives have been influenced for the good by Abraham Lincoln.

I live, temporarily, in the same house and the same rooms once occupied by him. The very window from which he gazed in the dark days is the same.

But this cabin is even more personal than the scenes of his official life; for here was born and lived the child. Here is the promise, later to be so splendidly fulfilled.

I have taken from this cabin a renewed confidence that the spirit of America is not dead, that men and means will be found to explore and conquer the problems of a new time with no less humanity and no less fortitude than his.

Here we can renew our pledge of fidelity to the faith which Lincoln held in the common man -- the faith so simply expressed when he said:

"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of Democracy."

Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy."

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.

The year is now an approaching and busy period, a period of
and not longer than now when civil service members to assist

local material of some

shape and has been used up, although evil

of public work which may yet will help and assist

comes and at such small cost of time
expenses and small losses of time

which are never too much time until definite and no
objection arises for us to do so, although we at first
hesitated because it will cost us time

the longer the time taken the less time to fulfill our task

and the less time to accomplish our purpose of health and
well and efficient use on the part of our

effort of getting to work the more time we have

and the more time we have to do the same thing

unaccustomed to such an enormous effort, however,

and to realize out of sight most difficult

undertaken on all occasions

Hodgenville, Kentucky,
June 14, 1936.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

STATEMENTS FILE

I have visited the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born. To each of us this cabin must bring its own message.

I personally could not but think as I stood before this shrine of the great memorial that stands on the

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Potomac. It seems to me that this cabin is even more
personal than the others in his official life; for
noble and more touching than the Memorial, because here
he is born and lived the child. Here is the promise,
to be fulfilled, if filled,
unpromising; where the fulfilment, after the event, not
so difficult to comprehend. I have taken from this
cabin a renewed confidence that the pioneer spirit is
not dead, that men and means will be found to explore
of America

and conquer the problems of a new time with no less
fortitude and no less self-reliance than those
possessed who first came across the mountains, with
their wagons, their goods, their families and their
hopes.

Here we can renew our pledge of fidelity to the
faith which Lincoln held in the common man - - the faith
so simply and so beautifully expressed by him when he
said:

"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be
a master. This expresses my idea of Democracy.
Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the
difference is no democracy."

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I have come down ^{individually} as one of many millions

of Americans whose time has been sacrificed
for the good by Abraham Lincoln.

At Warrenton Hospital

He lies, temporarily, in the same house
and the same rooms were occupied by
him. ~~the~~ The very window from which he
gazed in the dark days of the winter

STATEMENTS FILE
Shorthand By Kannee
Hodgenville, Kentucky,

June 14, 1936.

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But this cabin is even more personal than the scenes of his official life; for here was born and lived the child. Here is the promise, later to be so splendidly fulfilled.

I have taken from this cabin a renewed confidence that the spirit of America is not dead, that men and means will be found to explore and conquer the problems of a new time with no less humanity and no less fortitude than his.

Here we can renew our pledge of fidelity to the faith which Lincoln held in the common man -- the faith so simply expressed when he said:

"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of Democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy."

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