

September 2, 1936

[North Platte, Nebraska]

~0904

FOR Speech File

Franklin D. Roosevelt - October 2, 1936

INFORMAL EXTEMPORENEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA  
September 2, 1936

I wish very much that I could have arranged a schedule so that I could have driven out to see the second largest dirt dam in the United States.

I am very familiar with the blueprints of the Sutherland project and I saw some of the dirt further up the line where they are carrying the water under the waters of the South Platte. I am delighted to know that this project is 95% complete.

This project, with the other two large projects in this State, splendidly illustrates what can be accomplished by cooperation between different governmental agencies. As you know, most of its cost is being raised by you people who are interested in the project itself. I think I am right in saying that the contribution of the Federal Government is only 30% of the entire cost of the project. That 30% has meant giving work to somewhere around 3,000 people -- it served two good purposes.

When I was up in one of the New England states, where they have the somewhat different problem of flood control, I saw another great earth dam which was supposed

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.

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Our problem here is just the opposite, but I can say to you what I said to the Governor of Vermont when he was sitting beside me in the automobile on the top of that dam. I said, "Governor, it seems to me that this is a pretty good example of cooperative boondoggling between your State and the Federal Government."

This is another example of fine cooperative boondoggling which is going to make its influence felt not only to you who are here today but also to the coming generations who will inhabit this part of the United States.

You are doing a splendid piece of work. In this drought area trip I have been impressed, as some of you know, by the splendid attitude of the people in

all of those states. And we don't want to depopulate those states -- we want to make them a better and safer place in which to live.(Applause)

STATEMENTS FILE

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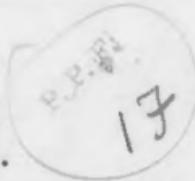
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End.

*Not released*

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Fwd.

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Rudie.

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