

October 16, 1936

[Dayton, Ohio - Train Platform]

FDR Speech File

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INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
DAYTON, OHIO (Rear Platform of Special Train)
October 16, 1936, 1.40 P.M.

(The President was introduced by Governor Davey)

My friends, it is good to come back to Dayton, but it is even better to be standing here beside my old friend and associate, James M. Cox. (Applause)

You know, I have many memories of Dayton. I remember that day in the 20's when Jim Cox and I paraded up the street, side by side, at the beginning of that campaign. And I go back even further, in the year 1913, when I was a very young Assistant Secretary of the Navy. A great flood came to Dayton and I got to know about Dayton then because we sent some of our Navy boys and some of our Navy boats out here to this Valley to help rescue the people who lived in the Valley.

In these later days there has been a big change that has come over this Valley. What you did to stop floods was really the beginning of that great program of conservation and flood control which we have been carrying on during the last few years. You might even say that this Conservancy District is the Godfather of the Tennessee Valley Authority. You have taught us great lessons.

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.

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lessons.

Four years ago, when I came through here, it was a different looking Dayton from what it is today. You had been hard hit. Your building and loan associations and your banks were in a bad way -- and they were not the only ones in the United States that were in a bad way in 1932 -- but today, as I come here, I see the same kind of a smile on the faces of you good people that I have seen in every part of the Nation.

The reason behind it all, one of the principal reasons, is that we have striven for three and a half years to raise the purchasing power of the American people and we are succeeding in that objective. (Applause)

And so, my friends, -- I won't keep you longer -- I want to thank you for coming out here today. I hope that during the next four years I will be able to come here from the White House and see you again.

Goodbye; good luck. (Prolonged applause)

STATEMENTS FILE

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From the Rear Platform of his Special Train,
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