

October 21, 1936

[Morseboro, Md.]

For Speech File

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
FROM HIS AUTOMOBILE  
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
October 21, 1936

(There were about 30,000 people in the audience. Dr. MacDonald, the Mayor, introduced the President. Miss Winifred Carrie Cotter, on behalf of the City, presented a watch to the President.)

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen:

I have been very much interested in hearing from the Mayor that I am the first President to come to Waltham in over a century, in fact since President Monroe was in the White House.

President Monroe was a Virginian who came to Waltham in those days for the first and only time in his life. But, because I have had the privilege of spending eight very happy years in Massachusetts, getting educated, I have been here lots of times before. And also, because I am in very large part of Massachusetts stock, I imagine I am going to come back here many times again.

I am deeply grateful, and I know Mrs. Roosevelt is too, for those delightful tokens, those two watches. I have an idea that a Waltham watch brings good luck. (Applause)

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.

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen:  
I have been very much interested in hearing from the Mayor that I am the first President to come to Madison in over a century, in fact since President Monroe was in the White House.  
President Monroe was a Virginian who came to Madison in those days for the first and only time in his life. But because I have had the privilege of spending eight very happy years in Massachusetts, getting educated. I have been here lots of times before. And also, because as in very large part of Massachusetts stock, I imagine I am going to come back here many times again.  
I am deeply grateful, and I thank Mrs. Roosevelt is too, for these delightful remarks, those few remarks. I have an idea that a Madison watch brings good luck.

(Please)

That is why, one week from next Tuesday, on the third of November, this watch is going to be in my pocket and it is going to bring us all very good luck. (Applause)

And I am grateful, too, for this scroll, because I can remember four years ago the formation of this original Roosevelt-for-President Club. I wish I could meet all the members of it individually and shake them by the hand.

So, my friends, let me tell you how grateful I am for this reception and to wish you all the good luck in the world. Good night. (Prolonged applause)

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
FROM HIS AUTOMOBILE  
MARLBORO, MASSACHUSETTS  
October 21, 1936, 7.30 P.M.

Mr. Chairman, Governor Curley, my friends:

I am glad to come back to Marlboro. I have been here, as you know, many, many times before because I spent about four years at school not so many miles from here.

I am glad, also, to come back to the home town of old General Artemas Ward. We know something about him where I live, down on the Hudson River, because he helped us there against the forays of the Red Coats.

I have had a very wonderful day coming through this State, and I am glad to find that, taking it by and large, it is a much happier looking State than it was four years ago. I believe that during the coming four years it is going to be even more prosperous and happy than it is now.

So, my friends, let me thank you for this splendid welcome you have given me. I am going to come back to Marlboro in the days to come. Good night. (Prolonged applause)

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