

November 16, 1936

[Conference of Mayers-Washington, DC]

FIR Speech File

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
TO CONFERENCE OF MAYORS  
AT THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 16, 1936

You have a lot of problems and I am glad that Fiorello (Mayor LaGuardia) mentioned the fact that there is sympathy for them in the White House -- that there is understanding of all of your individual problems. I want to keep in touch with what you do.

I will know in an hour whether I push off for Buenos Aires tomorrow night or not. I think I am going.

I see the Mayor of San Francisco looking at me, but this ship strike on the West Coast could go on for a week. It might go on for two weeks, or longer.

As between this particular strike and whatever effect my visit to South America may have on the peace of the world, the peace of the world is the more important of the two.

I hope the ship owners and the men out on strike will recognize that fact and come together.

I think I can say that the Federal government will take care of its full share of the burden of relief after you and the Governors of the states have done everything you fully and reasonably can be expected to do in this connection.

If I leave tomorrow night I will be gone until

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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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is sympathy for them in the White House -- that there is  
understanding of all of your individual problems. I want  
to keep in touch with what you do.

I will know in an hour whether I push off for  
business after tomorrow night or not. I think I am going.  
I see the Mayor of San Francisco looking at me,  
but this ship strike on the West Coast could go on for a  
week. It might go on for two weeks, or longer.

As between this particular strike and whatever  
effect of visit to South America may have on the peace of  
the world, the peace of the world is the more important of  
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will recognize that fact and come together.  
I think I can say that the Federal Government will  
take care of its fair share of the burden of relief after  
you and the Governors of the States have done everything you  
fairly and reasonably can be expected to do in this connection.  
If I leave tomorrow night I will be gone until

about the fourteenth of December. In the meantime, I am working out the Federal budget for the fiscal year 1938 and if your Conference will keep in touch with the Director of the Budget, with Harry Hopkins, Secretary Ickes and the other Federal agencies, we should have things in such shape so that when I get back in December, we will have a clear picture of what the coming fiscal year will be.

It is fine to see you. I thank you all for coming to see me.

The following is an excerpt of the President's very informal greeting to the Conference of Mayors, the members of which called today to pay their respects:

"You have a lot of problems and I am glad that Fiorello (Mayor LaGuardia) mentioned the fact that there is sympathy for them in the White House -- that there is understanding of all of your individual problems. I want to keep in touch with what you do.

"I will know in an hour whether I push off for Buenos Aires tomorrow night or not. I think I am going.

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