

December 3, 1936

[Montevideo]

For Speech File

1024

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

MONTEVIDEO

December 3, 1936

Your excellency President Terra, and Senora

de Terra, it is a privilege today to be the guest of the Government of the Republic of Uruguay and it is a great personal pleasure to which I have looked forward for many years.

Here three years ago in this beautiful city of Montevideo there was born a new era of friendship and confidence among the Americas. No one is entitled to more credit for this new day than Your Excellency; for you labored unceasingly and generously both as host and as statesman for the success of that conference.

I believe that when history comes to be written the origin of the new American era will be placed here in the memorable year 1933. Truly, it is an inspiration for the average citizen of all our republics that that conference is giving back its fruits in terms of achievement for the people of the world. During the past week I have become certain of this because I have seen in the faces of the men, women and children in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and, today, in Montevideo a joyful expression of hope and faith which can and will inspire us, their chosen representatives, to even

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.

strong base, and I emphasize much
and to develop and add of what is still a great
strength and it has turned to advantage in our
war and brought about even if only a temporary
success.

In this situation this is the only way and
this administration to see men carried over from the
army of soldiers to men of business and government
because they not only need men who can think and
not just subjects as has been the case frequently that I have seen
the administration needs to concern and
especially so of whom you will now understand I
say all these because of the pre-industrial war and the right and
and not necessarily as of it. What I mean is that
of course into fact that soldiers are fit to receive
allegiance and not subordination to any of their and now
obligations and I mean just add further. Now add to
now and to meet and of these and I consider that is
in labor, the social welfare, extend it and in particular the
now holds itself has had to administer in fact a considerable
share of government's money and as original will be

greater activity in the common cause.

You, Mr. President, have used a term in speaking of that great patriot, General Artigas, which can well be the inspiration of us all. You have spoken of his "serene and noble spirit of applied justice". It is because of this spirit which actuated the founding fathers of the American Republics that we their followers are inspired to maintain the democratic principles for which they fought.

I am particularly grateful for the kind words which you, Mr. President, have spoken concerning our policies in the United States of America. We fully join with you in the thought that the first battlefield of peace is that of securing well-being at home. It has been of special interest to me to know that you in the Republic of Uruguay have made such great advances in behalf of the well-being of your citizens.

In the days of General Artigas and of his friend President Monroe, human society had, of course, little conception of the economic and social problems which we face today. None of the fathers of any of our republics had even heard of an eight-hour day, of minimum wages, of protection for women and children, of collective bargaining between employers and employees, of old-age security, of modern sanitation, of concrete highways, of railroads or steel buildings. The fathers had not thought of the telegraph, the radio, the automobile, or of travel by fast steamships

and by air. They knew little of the problems of modern science, of modern finance.

And yet, you and I are very certain that if they were alive today the founders of our Governments would look with approval on what we are seeking to do to use the processes of democratic government in solving the new problems.

I recognize as you do that these new problems are common to all our nations. I am glad that you have said that we have been compelled to abandon the comfortable attitude of statesmen of the old school. Every nation in all the world has been compelled to recognize the fact of new conditions. It is of the utmost importance that the nations of the new world have found it possible under vigorous leadership to find the answer within the spirit and the framework of constitutional government and democratic processes.

We have not completed our task. In accordance with the objectives and theory of democratic government, that task is a continuing one. We seek new remedies for new conditions; new conditions will continue to arise: Sometimes the remedies succeed, and sometimes they must be altered or improved. But the net result is that we move forward. We learn, and ought to learn, much from each other -- much that is good and some things which, from experience, we must avoid.

In the case of agriculture, for example, you are familiar with the fact that in the United States we did many

things in the past which ran counter to the laws of nature and of sensible economics. In many parts of my country we have used land in such a way as to diminish its productiveness, we have harmed our supply of water and we have lost our top soil. Today our Government seeks to work with our farming population in correcting these mistakes and in bringing back a greater prosperity and a more permanent use of the land. I cite this as an example, which you undoubtedly know of, to show the need among all our Republics of keeping in close touch with each other, for many of our problems are similar.

On this delightful visit to Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay I have been impressed with the immediate need for better and quicker services of travel and communication between North and South America. I look forward to the day when instead of its being a long and unusual journey, visits between the nations of South America and those of Central America and of North America will be so usual and simple that tens of thousands of our citizens will meet each other in friendly intercourse every year.

And, may I add, that I hope that we shall have a much greater familiarity with each other's languages. It is a great regret of my life that while with some difficulty I can read a little Spanish, I cannot yet converse in it. These visits which I am making on this voyage are so enjoyable in every way that I look forward to an opportunity to return in the future. When that day comes I hope that I shall be

able to speak with all of you in your native tongue.

And may I also express the hope that it will be possible for you, Mr. President and Senora de Terra, to be the guests of Mrs. Roosevelt and myself in Washington while we are still in the White House. Nothing would give us and the people of the United States more pleasure.

It has touched me deeply that you have proposed a toast to Mrs. Roosevelt. She was deeply disappointed that she could not come with me and she will be happy to know of your courtesy and your thought of her.

I lift my glass to the good health and happiness of you and Senora de Terra, and to the continued prosperity, happiness, and progress of the people of the Republic of Uruguay.

Speech of the President at Montevideo - December 3, 1936

Your Excellency President Terra, and Senora de Terra, it is a privilege to-day to be the guest of the Government of the Republic of Uruguay and it is a great personal pleasure to which I have looked forward for many years.

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Suggested draft by

Will H. T. Marshall

J. L.

MEMORANDUM FOR MONTEVIDEO

I count it a privilege today to be the guest of
the Government of Uruguay.

It was here, three years ago in this same beautiful
city of Montevideo that there was born a new era of

friendship, understanding, and confidence among the
*World is entitled to more credit for that even day than your Excellency; your
eloquent, unceasingly tactful host and statesman for the success of that meeting
in Americas.* I still regret that I was not present at that

Conference in 1933. There the ground of distrust and
suspicion was broken; there seeds of confidence were sown
whose fruits are now being harvested. I wish it had been
possible for every man, woman, and child of the twenty-
one American Republics to have seen that harvest in the
capital of your great neighbor across the river. That
Conference, drawing its inspiration from the common
peoples of the Continent, is giving back its fruits in
terms of achievement for the peace of the world.

I am particularly grateful for the kind words which
your President has spoken concerning our policy in the
United States of America. We have a firm confidence in
the processes of constitutional democratic government;
and we are aware that no single group of people
will enough permanently to serve any country or any
community of countries. Our mandate must come from the
people;

people; and our inspiration from their faith.

We fully join with you in
the idea that the first battlefield
of peace is that of securing well-being at home. Con-
tent nations need not make war. Their public opinion
and the efforts made by their officials, as has always
proved the case in your own country, can be counted as in
accord with the great tide of feeling among the people of
the American Republics that peace must be maintained;
must be made permanent; that war as an instrument of
international policy must disappear. A government which
has solved its problems at home as your President has
suggested, may then enter the lists for peace serene in
the consciousness that its people will approve whatever
it says or does. Peace and justice are related concepts.
Justice must be internal as well as external; its
criterion must be the moral judgment of the common people
as well as the judgment of the world.

I am particularly happy today because the suggestions
made by the Government of Uruguay when the agenda for
the Buenos Aires Conference was under study were evidence
of enlightened interest in the cause of peace. Your
interests were in developing facilities for communication

and

and travel; for improvement in the system for commercial interchange; for procedure for investigation, conciliation and arbitration. All of these are factors of importance in our common and unconquerable campaign for peace. His Excellency, Dr. Terra, wisely observed concerning the Conference in progress:

"For my part, I have no fear of inconsistent solutions; neither do I fear the dispersion of ideas and dissipation of energy produced by lack of guidance and confusion. The purpose will be the same, namely, the preservation of the supreme good, peace, and the means of action will never conflict among themselves."

Differences of opinion no doubt can arise regarding the means to be adopted to obtain our object, but as your President has observed, with a common will these differences cannot defeat our purpose.

The purpose of the United States of America is the same as your own; and I am firm in my belief that conferences such as these can be made to serve a useful end. They can teach us to agree upon the means; they can teach us that no individual nation gains anything for itself or for the world by insisting on its own solution as the only one. In lesser degree we have found this true when specific problems had to be solved. Your Government and my own are represented today at the Chaco Peace Conference

now in session in Buenos Aires, which is making steady progress in its efforts to help two sister republics

I am sure the statement of these countries can be depended upon to meet the pecuniary responsibilities resting upon them as speedily as possible.

piece towards a peaceful and definitive end of their differences. Delegations representing two other sister American republics are at present negotiating in the capital of my country to settle a boundary issue. In proportion to what must be accomplished on a world scale these results may be small. But each is a victory for peace; each is important in itself in the cause of assuring friendly international relations. By solving such differences we can produce a cumulative effect; we shall show to ourselves and to the world that there is a means of solving difficulties in accordance with justice and reason; and progress towards world peace becomes increasingly more rapid.

It is perhaps permissible here to discuss what we may expect from conferences such as that of Montevideo in 1933 and of Buenos Aires in 1936.

There has been much criticism of the conference methods in conducting international relations. Perhaps the record will show more failures than successes. There are disadvantages and difficulties, of course, but these

must

must be weighed against the advantages and the constructive factors. We need not be afraid to face the facts.

To begin with, any group of nations meeting in conference must have sufficient unity of purpose and enough interests in common to offer a fair chance for agreement upon matters under consideration. It is too natural and too obvious a fact to ignore that the twenty-one American republics must have many conflicting interests. That is one of the principal reasons why we should meet in conference. We want to reconcile those conflicting interests in a tolerant spirit of give and take.

The American republics do not claim to be free from the weaknesses of humanity. We make many of the same mistakes made by other nations. We have our share of the failures, of the shortcomings, that exist in the family of nations. We know as do other nations the meaning of national jealousies, of selfishness, of personal ambition, of appeals to force. But we have in our hearts a great vision: the vision of a hemisphere ruled by a great consciousness of justice. We hope to make

this

this conception so strong that it will be a beacon light in the old world as well as in the new. Based on the solid foundation that our twenty-one governments represent the interests and will and ideals of our peoples rather than of ambitious groups, it is possible to appeal to the deepest moral forces. And in that underlying sense of morality which is the possession of every man, we find our greatest rampart against war.

The appeal to moral force carries with it an equal obligation. No one can justifiably ask that right be done unless he is prepared to do right himself. This places all of us under an inescapable duty to consider the economic welfare of all the peoples and nations of the western hemisphere as a whole. We need each other. We need each other's products, trade, and resources for our economic development. We need each other's culture for the enrichment of our civilization. We need a continuous contact to bring about a broader and more sympathetic understanding of each other's lives and points of view.

I am happy in the knowledge that these things are gradually coming to pass; and that all of us are prepared to take measures to extend the increase of exchange which has

increased so rapidly in the last few years.

Let me develop my ideas with regard to a single topic in that field. Economic welfare offers a splendid opportunity both for individual accomplishment on the part of each country and for broad collective action on the part of all. I expressed my belief in Buenos Aires that individual security, individual national welfare, the opportunity of every man and woman to work and to live, lay at the root of peace. Yet we know that this can be accomplished best if many countries agree upon these principles; and it is gratifying to me to hear your President today announce his own belief in that same point of view.

You are familiar with the policy of my Government in this respect. You know that the Government of the United States is throwing its active support in favor of liberal policies in international trade the world over. You know that it is seeking to break down barriers and overcome obstacles in the way of the free and natural flow as the only practical method of avoiding war of trade. I am convinced, and I believe that a fair estimate of the results obtained will bear out my conviction, that this policy is a sound and effective one.

Sustained revival of international trade is of first importance in the solution of world problems. From it would flow more employment and the utilization of each country's natural resources. If this policy succeeds we shall avoid the terrible spectacle of peoples condemned to misery and want, who regard violence as a lesser evil than that of slow and continued suffering.

The problems that we face today are not the result of sudden or isolated actions on the part of any one nation or any group of nations. They are due to a changing world, to the injection of new factors into individual and international relationships, to an increasingly complex civilization, and to mistakes of omission and commission. No nation can escape a part of the responsibility and to make its contribution toward a solution. Perhaps the remedy will not be found immediately, but great improvement is possible at once. To build for the future, and to build well, requires time. Before the permanent edifice can be completed, there will be need for temporary structures. We must not discard the merely workable because it is not the ideal.

If I have stressed today my belief in economic liberalism and democratic government, it is merely because I am keenly aware of the duty which rests upon us to see that justice is done nationally and internationally. Yet I realize that justice is no mere matter of economics and politics. It flows from the spirit; and from that great devotion to higher ideals which is the birthright of humanity. When all else fails those forces can be appealed to; and not in vain. It is a privilege for me and my country to have a small part in realizing the great unity of the Americas. As my knowledge of the peoples of the continent grows my confidence becomes unbounded in the ultimate success of our efforts for peace and good will.

12-3-36
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0002 FOR MR BUCKNELL STATE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO A SPEECH OF WELCOME BY PRESIDENT TERRA OF URUGUAY AT MONTEVIDEO URUGUAY THREE DECEMBER PUBLICATION RESTRICTED UNTIL TWELVE NOON EASTERN STANDARD TIME AND TWO PM MONTEVIDEO TIME THREE DECEMBER QUOTE PARAGRAPH YOUR EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT TERRA COMMA AND SENORA DE TERRA COMMA IT IS A PRIVILEGE TODAY TO BE THE GUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY AND IT IS A GREAT PERSONAL PLEASURE TO WHICH I HAVE LOOKED FORWARD FOR MANY YEARS PERIOD PARAGRAPH HERE THREE YEARS AGO IN THIS BEAUTIFUL CITY OF MONTEVIDEO THERE WAS BORN (100)

A NEW ERA OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONFIDENCE AMONG THE AMERICAS PERIOD NO ONE IS ENTITLED TO MORE CREDIT FOR THIS NEW DAY THAN YOUR EXCELLENCY SEMICOLON FOR YOU LABORED UNCEASINGLY AND GENEROUSLY BOTH AS ~~XXXXX~~ HOSTESS STATESMAN FOR THE SUCCESS OF THAT CONFERENCE PERIOD PARAGRAPH I BELIEVE THAT WHEN HISTORY COMES TO BE WRITTEN THE ORIGIN OF THE NEW AMERICAN ERA WILL BE PLACED HERE IN THE MEMORABLE YEAR NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE PERIOD TRULY COMMA IT IS AN INSPIRATION FOR THE AVERAGE CITIZEN OF ALL OUR REPUBLICS THAT THAT CONFERENCE IS GIVING BACK ITS FRUITS IN TERMS OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR \$200)

THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD PERIOD DURING THE PAST WEEK I HAVE BECOME CERTAIN OF THIS BECAUSE I HAVE SEEN IN THE FACES OF THE MEN COMMA WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN RIO DE JANEIRO COMMA BUENOSAIRES AND COMMA TODAY COMMA IN MONTEVIDEO A JOYFUL EXPRESSION OF HOPE AND FAITH WHICH CAN AND WILL INSPIRE US COMMA THEIR CHOSEN REPRESENTATIVES COMMA TO EVEN GREATER ACTIVITY IN THE COMMON CAUSE PERIOD PARAGRAPH YOU COMMA MR PRESIDENT COMMA HAVE USED A TERM IN SPEAKING OF THAT GREAT PATRIOT COMMA GENERAL ARTIGAS WHICH CAN WELL BE THE INSPIRATION OF US ALL PERIOD YOU HAVE (300)

SPOKEN OF HIS QUOTE SERENE AND NOBLE SPIRIT OF APPLIED JUSTICE UNQUOTE PERIOD IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS SPIRIT WHICH ACTUATED THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS THAT WE THEIR FOLLOWERS ARE INSPIRED TO MAINTAIN THE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH THEY FOUGHT PERIOD PARAGRAPH I AM PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR THE KIND WORDS WHICH YOU COMMA MR PRESIDENT COMMA HAVE SPOKEN CONCERNING OUR POLICIES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PERIOD WE FULLY JOIN WITH YOU IN THE THOUGHT THAT THE FIRST BATTLEFIELD OF PEACE IS THAT OF SECURING WELL BEING AT SOME PERIOD IT HAS BEEN OF SPECIAL INTEREST (400)

TO ME TO KNOW THAT YOU IN THE REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY HAVE MADE SUCH GREAT ADVANCES IN BEHALF OF THE WELL BEING OF YOUR CITIZENS PERIOD PARAGRAPH IN THE DAYS OF GENERAL ARTIGAS AND OF HIS FRIEND PRESIDENT MONROE COMMA HUMAN SOCIETY HAD COMMA OF COURSE COMMA LITTLE CONCERNION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS WHICH WE FACE TODAY PERIOD NONE OF THE FATHERS OF ANY OF OUR REPUBLICS HAD EVEN HEARD OF AN EIGHT HOUR DAY COMMA OF MINIMUM WAGES COMMA OF PROTECTION FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMA OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES COMMA OF OLD AGE (500)

SECURITY COMMA OF MODERN SANITATION COMMA OF CONCRETE HIGHWAYS COMMA OF RAILROADS OR STEEL BUILDINGS PERIOD THE FATHERS HAD NO THOUGHT OF THE TELEGRAPH COMMA THE RADIO COMMA THE AUTOMOBILE COMMA OR OF TRAVEL BY FAST STEAMSHIPS AND BY AIR PERIOD THEY KNEW LITTLE OF THE PROBLEMS OF MODERN SCIENCE COMMA OF MODERN FINANCE PERIOD PARAGRAPH AND YET COMMA YOU AND I ARE VERY CERTAIN THAT IF THEY WERE ALIVE TODAY THE FOUNDERS OF OUR GOVERNMENTS WOULD LOOK WITH APPROVAL ON WHAT WE ARE SEEKING TO DO TO USE THE PROCESSES OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN SOLVING THE NEW PROBLEMS PERIOD (600)

SHEET 2.

PARAGRAPH I RECOGNIZE AS YOU DO THAT THESE NEW PROBLEMS ARE COMMON TO ALL OUR NATIONS PERIOD I AM GLAD THAT YOU HAVE SAID THAT WE HAVE BEEN COMPELLED TO ABANDON THE COMFORTABLE ATTITUDE OF STATESMEN OF THE OLD SCHOOL PERIOD EVERY NATION IN ALL THE WORLD HAS BEEN COMPELLED TO RECOGNIZE THE FACT OF NEW CONDITIONS PERIOD IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT THE NATIONS OF THE NEW WORLD HAVE FOUND IT POSSIBLE UNDER VIGOROUS LEADERSHIP TO FIND THE ANSWER WITHIN THE SPIRIT AND THE FRAMEWORK OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES PERIOD PARAGRAPH WE HAVE NOT COMPLETED

OUR TASK PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBJECTIVES AND THEORY XR OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT COMMA THAT TASK IS A CONTINUING ONE PERIOD WE SEEK NEW REMEDIES FOR NEW CONDITIONS SEMICOLON NEW CONDITIONS WILL CONTINUE TO ARISE COLON SOMETIMES THE REMEDIES SUCCEED COMMA AND SOMETIMES THEY MUST BE ALTERED OR IMPROVED PERIOD BUT THE NET RESULT IS THAT WE MOVE FORWARD PERIOD WE LEARN COMMA AND OUGHT TO LEARN COMMA MUCH FROM EACH OTHER DASH MUCH THAT IS GOOD AND SOME THINGS WHICH COMMA FROM EXPERIENCE COMMA WE MUST AVOID PERIOD PARAGRAPH IN THE CASE OF AGRICULTURE FOR EXAMPLE COMMA YOU ARE (800)

FAMILIAR WITH THE FACT THAT IN THE UNITED STATES WE DID MANY THINGS IN THE PAST WHICH RAN COUNTER TO THE LAWS OF NATURE AND OF SENSIBLE ECONOMICS PERIOD IN MANY PARTS OF MY COUNTRY WE HAVE USED LAND IN SUCH A WAY AS TO DIMINISH ITS PRODUCTIVENESS COMMA WE HAVE HARMED OUR SUPPLY OF WATER AND WE HAVE LOST OUR TOP SOIL PERIOD TODAY OUR GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO WORK WITH OUR FARMING POPULATION IN CORRECTING THESE MISTAKES AND IN BRINGING BACK A GREATER PROSPERITY AND A MORE PERMANENT USE OF THE LAND PERIOD I CITE THIS AS AN EXAMPLE (900)

COMMA WHICH YOU UNDOUBTEDLY KNOW OF TO SHOW THE NEED AMONG ALL OUR REPUBLICS OF KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER COMMA FOR MANY OF OUR PROBLEMS ARE SIMILAR PERIOD PARAGRAPH ON THIS DELIGHTFUL VISIT TO BRAZIL COMMA ARGENTINA AND URUGUAY I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR BETTER AND QUICKER SERVICES OF TRAVEL AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA PERIOD I LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN INSTEAD OF ITS BEING A LONG AND UNUSUAL JOURNEY COMMA VISITS BETWEEN THE NATIONS OF SOUTH AMERICA AND THOSE OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND OF NORTH AMERICA WILL BE (1000)

SO USUAL AND SIMPLE THAT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF OUR CITIZENS WILL MEET EACH OTHER IN FRIENDLY INTERCOURSE EVERY YEAR PERIOD PARAGRAPH AND COMMA MAY I ADD COMMA THAT I HOPE THAT WE SHALL HAVE A MUCH GREATER FAMILIARITY WITH EACH OTHERS LANGUAGES PERIOD IT IS A GREAT REGRET OF MY LIFE THAT WHILE WITH SOME DIFFICULTY I CAN READ A LITTLE SPANISH COMMA I CANNOT YET CONVERSE IN IT PERIOD THESE VISITS WHICH I AM MAKING ON THIS VOYAGE ARE SO ENJOYABLE IN EVERY WAY THAT I LOOK FORWARD TO AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN IN THE FUTURE PERIOD WHEN (1100)

THAT DAY COMES I HOPE THAT I SHALL BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH ALL OF YOU IN YOUR NATIVE TONGUE PERIOD PARAGRAPH AND MAY I ALSO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU COMMA MR PRESIDENT AND SEÑORA DE TERRA COMMA TO BE THE GUESTS OF MRS ROOSEVELT AND MYSELF IN WASHINGTON WHILE WE ARE STILL IN THE WHITE HOUSE PERIOD NOTHING WOULD GIVE US AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES MORE PLEASURE PERIOD PARAGRAPH IT HAS TOUCHED ME DEEPLY THAT YOU HAVE PROPOSED A TOAST TO MRS ROOSEVELT PERIOD SHE WAS DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED THAT SHE (1200)

SHEET THREE.

COULD NOT COME WITH ME AND SHE WILL BE HAPPY
TO KNOW OF YOUR COURTESY AND OF YOUR THOUGHT OF
HER PERIOD PARAGRAPH I LIFT MY GLASS TO THE GOOD
HEALTH AND HAPPINESS OF YOU AND SENORA DE TERRA COMMA
AND TO THE CONTINUED PROSPERITY COMMA HAPPINESS COMMA AND PROGRESS
OF THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY PERIOD UNQUOTE

2355

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0338 SI 355 P1A 3 DEC.

a spanish translation of FDR's speech at
Montevideo, Uruguay as it appeared in the
Spanish press. Sent to FDR by Julius G.
Lay, Minister to Uruguay. (Speech of
Dec 3, 1936. Removed from OF 200-JJ)

RL Jacoby

[12-3-36]

Vuestra Excelencia, Señor Presidente Terra y Señora de Terra.

Es un privilegio para mí ser hoy huésped del Gobierno de la República del Uruguay y es un gran placer personal que he estado esperando por muchos años.-

Hace tres años, aquí, en esta hermosa Ciudad de Montevideo, se inició una nueva era de amistad y de confianza entre las Américas. Nadie tiene mayores derechos a este nuevo día que Vuestra Excelencia; por cuan largos habéis trabajado incesante y generosamente, tanto en vuestra capacidad de invitante como de estadista, por el éxito de esa ^(c) conferencia.-

Creo que cuando se escriba la historia al origen de la nueva era americana será fijado aquí en el año memorable de 1933.- En verdad, es una inspiración para los ciudadanos de todas nuestras repúblicas que esa conferencia está dando frutos en términos de realizaciones para todo el mundo. Durante la última semana me he afirmado en esta creencia por cuanto he visto en los semblantes de los hombres, mujeres y niños en Río de Janeiro, Buenos Aires y, hoy, en Montevideo una alegría expresión de confianza y fe que debe inspirarnos, a nosotros, sus representantes elegidos, a esforzarnos a una actividad mayor por la causa común.-

Al hablar de ese gran patriota, el General Artigas, ^(haber) habéis usado, Señor Presidente, una expresión que puede muy bien ser inspiración para todos nosotros. "Habéis hablado de su espíritu sereno y noble de justicia aplicada". Es debido a ese mismo espíritu, que movió a los fundadores de las Repúblicas Americanas que nosotros, ^(sus) discípulos, estamos inspirados para mantener los principios democráticos por los cuales ellos lucharon.-

Estoy particularmente agradecido, Señor Presidente, por vuestras amables palabras con respecto a nuestras directivas en los Estados Unidos de América. ~~Estamos~~ Estamos en perfecto acuerdo con Vuestra Excelencia que el primer paso en la lucha por la Paz es el de asegurar el bienestar de los pueblos. Me ha sido de especial interés saber que en la República del Uruguay habéis hecho tan grandes

progresos por el bienestar de vuestros ciudadanos.-

(P.A.S)

En los días del General Artigas y de su amigo el Presidente Monroe, la sociedad humana tenía, por supuesto, una muy pequeña concepción de los problemas económicos y sociales que nosotros debemos encarar hoy. Ninguno de los precursores de nuestras repúblicas oyó jamás de un día de ocho horas, de salario mínimo, de protección a la mujer y al niño, de negociaciones colectivas entre patronos y obreros, de jubilaciones, de sanidad moderna, de carreteras deshormigón, de ferrocarriles o de edificios de acero. Nuestros precursores no tenían idea alguna del telégrafo, la radio, el automóvil, o de los viajes por rápidos vapores y por aire. Conocían muy poco de los problemas de la ciencia moderna, de finanzas modernas.-

(ESTADOS)

Y, sin embargo, Vuestra Excelencia y yo estamos muy ciertos que si ~~existen~~ estuvieren viviendo hoy, los fundadores de nuestros Gobiernos aprobarían lo que estamos haciendo con el fin de aplicar los procedimiento de gobierno democrático para resolver los nuevos problemas. -

Reconozco, como lo reconocéis, que estos nuevos problemas son comunes para todas nuestras naciones. Me complazo en haberos oido decir que nos hemos visto obligados a ~~abandonar~~ la actitud cómoda de los estadistas de la vieja escuela. Todas las naciones, en todas las partes del mundo, se han visto obligadas a reconocer el hecho de las nuevas condiciones. Es de la mayor importancia que ~~los~~ naciones del nuevo mundo hayan podido ~~encontrarse~~, dirigidos por guías vigorosos, la respuesta dentro del espíritu y de la estructura de un ^(A) gobierno constitucional y de procedimientos democráticos.-

No hemos terminado nuestra tarea. De acuerdo con los objetivos y la teoría de los gobiernos democráticos, esa tarea es continua. Buscamos nuevos remedios para las nuevas condiciones. A veces los remedios tienen éxito, otras ^(L) deben ser cambiados o mejorados. Pero el resultado final es que adelantamos. Aprendemos y debemos aprender uno del otro, mucho que es bueno y algunas cosas que, por experiencia, debemos evitar.-

Por ejemplo, tomando el caso de la agricultura, sabéis que en

los Estados Unidos hicimos muchas cosas en el pasado contrarias a las leyes de la naturaleza y de la economía. - En muchas partes de mi país hemos usado la tierra de tal manera que hemos disminuido su productividad, hemos dañado nuestras fuentes de agua y hemos perdido nuestras tierras de cultivo. Hoy nuestro Gobierno trata de corregir, con la ayuda de nuestra población agraria, estos errores y de obtener una más grande prosperidad y un uso más permanente de la tierra. Cito esto como ejemplo, de lo que no dudo tieneis conocimiento, para indicar la necesidad en todas nuestras repúblicas, de mantenernos en contacto estrecho, debido a que mucho de nuestros problemas son similares.

En esta deliciosa visita al Brasil, Argentina y Uruguay me ha impresionado la necesidad inmediata de un mejor y más rápido servicio de pasajeros y de comunicaciones entre la América del Norte y la del Sud. Aguardo el día que las visitas entre las naciones de Sud América, Centro América y Norte América, que hoy requieren ^{(m) (y) (a) (s)} viajes tan largos y tan poco comunes, serán tan comunes y fáciles que decenas de miles de nuestros ciudadanos se encontrarán en amistoso intercambio todos los años.

Y, me permito agregar que confío que tendremos una mayor familiaridad con nuestros idiomas. Es el gran pesar de mi vida que, aún cuando con alguna dificultad puedo leer el español, no puedo aún hablarlo. Las visitas que hago en este viaje son tan agradables en todo sentido que espero ^(m) tener una nueva oportunidad para repetirlas en el futuro. En ese día confío poder hablar con todos Vds. en vuestro propio idioma.

Y me permito expresar también la esperanza que os será posible, Señor Presidente y Señora de Terra, ser huéspedes de la Señora de Roosevelt y mios en Washington mientras estemos en la Casa Blanca.

Nada nos dará tanto a nosotros como al pueblo de los Estados Unidos,

un mayor placer. Me ha afectado profundamente el brindis que habíais pronunciado para mí ^{(m) (y) (a) (s)} Mi Señora lamentó profundamente no haber podido acompañarme en este viaje y ^(m) se sentirá feliz al saber de vuestra cortesía y de vuestro pensamiento hacia ella.

Levanto mi copa por la salud y felicidad de Vuestra Excelencia
y ^{su} ~~maestra~~ ^(*) Señora ~~Señor~~ ^{Esposa} y por la continua prosperidad, felicidad y
progreso del pueblo de la República del Uruguay.-