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**Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”**  
**The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945**

**Series 2: “ You have nothing to fear but fear itself:” FDR  
and the New Deal**

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**File No. 1082**

**1937 September 28**

**Timberline Lodge, OR - Dedication Ceremonies**

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

TIMBERLINE LODGE

October 28, 1937.

In the past few days I have inspected many great governmental activities - parks and soil protection sponsored by the Works Progress Administration; buildings erected with the assistance of the Public Works Administration; our oldest and best-known National Park under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service; great irrigation areas fathered by the Reclamation Service; and a few hours ago a huge navigation and power dam built by the Army engineers.

Now I find myself in one of our many national forests, here on the slopes of Mount Hood.

The people of the United States are singularly fortunate in having such great areas of the outdoors in the permanent possession of the people themselves - permanently available for many different forms of use.

In the total of this acreage the national forests already play an important part in our economy, and as the years go by their usefulness is bound to expand.

We think of them, perhaps, as having the primary function of saving our timber resources, but they do far more than that; much of the timber in them is cut and sold under scientific methods, and replaced on the system of rotation by new stands of many types of useful trees. Our National Forests in addition provide forage for live-stock and game, they husband our water at its source; they mitigate floods and prevent the erosion of our soil. Last but not least, our National Forests will provide constantly increasing opportunity for recreational use. This Timberline Lodge marks a venture made possible by Emergency Relief work, in order that we may test the workability of recreational facilities installed by the government itself and operated under its complete control.

Here, to Mount Hood, will come thousands of visitors in the coming years. Looking toward eastern Oregon with its great live-stock raising areas, they will visualize the relation between the cattle ranches and the

summer ranges in our forests. Looking westward and northward toward Portland and the Columbia River, with their great lumber and other wood using industries, they will understand the part which National Forest timber will play in the support of this important element of northwestern prosperity.

*ff* Those who will follow us to Timberline Lodge on their holidays and vacations will represent the enjoyment of new opportunities for play in every season of the year. Among them will be many from the uttermost parts of our nation, travellers from the Middle West and the East and the South - Americans who are fulfilling a very desirable objective of citizenship - getting to know their <sup>own</sup> country better.

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Speech File  
#1082

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT  
Timberline Lodge, Oregon  
September 28, 1937, 1.30 P.M..P.T.

GOVERNOR MARTIN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Here I am on the slopes of Mount Hood where I have always  
wanted to come.

I am here to dedicate the Timberline Lodge and I do so in  
the words of the bronze tablet directly in front of me on the coping  
of this wonderful building:

"Timberline Lodge, Mount Hood National Forest,  
dedicated September 28, 1937, by the President  
of the United States as a monument to the  
skill and faithful performance of workers on  
the rolls of the Works Progress Administration."

(Applause)

In the past few days I have inspected many great govern-  
mental activities - parks and soil protection sponsored by the W.P.A.  
(Works Progress Administration); buildings erected with the assist-  
ance of the Public Works Administration; our oldest and best-known  
National Park, the Yellowstone, under the jurisdiction of the National  
Park Service; great irrigation areas fathered by the Reclamation  
Service; and a few hours ago a huge navigation and power dam built  
by the Army engineers.

And now I find myself in one of our many national forests,  
here on the slopes of Mount Hood.

The people of the United States are singularly fortunate  
in having such great areas of the outdoors in the permanent possession

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.

It is my duty to announce to you that the  
Executive Order of June 25, 1938, which  
relates to the Federal Reserve Bank of  
Atlanta, is hereby amended so that  
the Board of Directors of that bank  
shall consist of seven members, to  
be appointed by the Board of Governors  
of the Federal Reserve System, and  
that the Board of Directors of that  
bank shall have the same powers and  
privileges as the Board of Directors  
of the Federal Reserve Bank of New  
York.

of the people themselves - permanently available for many different forms of use.

In the total of (this) the acreage of the national forests all of those many acres in many, many states of the Union already play an important part in our economy and as (the) years go by their usefulness is bound to expand.

(We think of them) A good many of us probably think of our forests, perhaps, as having the primary function of saving our timber resources, but they do far more than that; much of the timber in them is cut and sold under scientific methods, and replaced on the system of rotation by new stands of many types of useful trees. (Our) The National Forests, in addition, provide forage for livestock and game, they husband our water at (its) the source; they mitigate our floods and prevent the erosion of our soil. Last but not least, our National Forests will provide constantly increasing opportunity for recreational use. This Timberline Lodge marks a venture that was made possible by W.P.A. Emergency Relief work, in order that we may test the workability of recreational facilities installed by the Government itself and operated under its (complete) control.

Here, to Mount Hood, will come thousands and thousands of visitors in the coming years. Looking east toward eastern Oregon with its great livestock raising areas, (they will) these visitors are going to visualize the relationship between the cattle ranches and the summer ranges in (our) the forests. Looking westward and northward toward Portland and the Columbia River, with their great lumber and other wood using industries, (they) visitors will under-

stand the part which National Forest timber will play in the support of this important element of northwestern prosperity.

Those who (will) follow us to Timberline Lodge on their holidays and vacations will represent the enjoyment of new opportunities for play in every season of the year. (Applause) And I mention specially every season of the year because we, as a nation, I think, are coming to realize that the summer is not the only time for play. And I look forward to the day when many, many people from this region of the Nation are going to come here for skiing and tobogganing and various other forms of winter sports. Among them, all of those visitors, in winter and summer, spring and autumn, there will be many from the uttermost parts of our Nation, (travelers) from the Middle West, the South and the East, (and the South -- Americans who are fulfilling a very desirable objective of citizenship -- getting to know their country better) travelers from every one of the forty-eight states; travelers, in addition, from the Territories of Hawaii and Alaska and from Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

I am very keen about travel, not only personally -- you know that, but also travel for as many Americans as can possibly afford it because those Americans will be fulfilling a very desirable objective of our citizenship, that of getting to know their own country better and the more they see of it, the more they will realize the privileges which God and nature have given to the American people.

And so I take very great pleasure in dedicating this new adjunct, not only of our National Forests but also as a place to play for generations of Americans to come in the days to come. (Prolonged Applause)

STATEMENTS FILE  
Shorthand By Kannee

HOLD FOR RELEASE

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CAUTION: This address of the President, <sup>left.</sup> to be made at  
Timberline Lodge, Oregon, ~~October 28,~~  
1937, is to be held for release upon  
delivery, expected about 1:30 P. M.  
Pacific Time. PLEASE GUARD AGAINST  
PREMATURE RELEASE.

H. H. McIntyre  
Secretary to the President.

In the past few days I have inspected many great governmental activities - parks and soil protection sponsored by the Weeks Progress-Administration; buildings erected with the assistance of the Public Works Administration; our oldest and best-known National Park under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service; great irrigation areas fathered by the Reclamation Service; and a few hours ago a huge navigation and power dam built by the Army engineers.

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W. H. Kannee  
10/28/37



CAUTION: This address of the President, to be made at Timberline Lodge, Oregon, October 26, 1937, is to be held for release upon delivery, expected about 1:30 P. M. Pacific Time. PLEASE GUARD AGAINST PREMATURE RELEASE.

M. H. McIntyre  
Secretary to the President.

In the past few days I have inspected many great governmental activities - parks and soil protection sponsored by the Works Progress Administration; buildings erected with the assistance of the Public Works Administration; our oldest and best-known National Park under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service; great irrigation areas fostered by the Reclamation Service; and a few hours ago a huge navigation and power dam built by the Army engineers.

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