

July 9, 1938

[Pawnee, Oklahoma]

115

FDR Speech File

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

Purcell, Oklahoma

July 9, 1938, 7:30 P.M.

(The President spoke from the rear platform of his Special Train.)

I am glad to see you all. I think there was a conspiracy to carry me right through to where Elliott lives without stopping.

We have had a wonderful day. I don't think I have ever seen so many human beings in one spot, together, as I saw in Oklahoma City. Of course you can get various estimates of crowds and they ran anywhere today from 175,000 to 250,000 people, and that is quite a lot of them. And I have never had such a good day as I have had today in this State. (Applause)

I did not know this part of the State before; I had never been down on this road from Oklahoma City to Fort Worth but, ever since my small boy, Elliott, came down to the Southwest, I have been coming here at every opportunity because I like your country, and also because I like to see conditions at first hand. I think they are a lot better than they were back in 1932, don't you? (Applause)

Of course, there is still a lot to be done. I think it is terribly important that all of the people who are trying to run the National Government in Washington should get around the country and see things with their own eyes. That is why I encourage members of the Cabinet and the heads of the different Government agencies to travel around the country and see how the work they are doing is panning out, such as city public works, water canals and everything else. We are trying to give you a National Government that is really

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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.

...the purpose of basis we I  
...believe justice world wide needs or against right or wrong or  
...now even I believe stand I...right knowledge a had even all  
...also al who I am, yesterday, took up al applied names you in case  
...but obvious to ourselves anything say you may mention to...right stand  
...that has, always been one of our, our labor standards and just  
...and when both a more had forced even I had...want to tell a sitting al  
(unintelligible) ...wished said al you have had even I  
...never had I...written state out to find said when you did I  
...now, the situation that at this moment don't seem said no much need  
...need even I...transferred out of much same...trouble, you item the stable  
...but, because that will I caused...trouble there is said problem  
...you didn't I...had until in enclose see or ask I caused only  
(unintelligible) now it's not, still al said area gets more related for a one  
at it didn't I...said ed of for a little al went, because to  
...ed out of part was one always ed to its first natural visitors  
...one problem out always say bloods organism al functioned function  
to problem, especially I like al said...say one clear side against one  
of ourselves community functioned ed to shared ed has results ed  
...al which was said when said sea has got into ed human...human  
activity have always before, when offing rate as low, the following  
effect of said functioned functioned a very early of spring was the...also

national in its outlook, trying to help every part of the country  
equally and fairly.

It is a privilege to me to have had this ride today.

It is good to see you. Good night.