

September 4, 5, 1938

[Morganthau, Salisbury, Belvoir, Sharpstown, Maryland]

1170

FDR Speech File

INFORMAL, EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

Morgantown, Maryland

September 4, 1938

(Representative Gambrill introduced the President.)

My friends, this is no new visit of mine to Southern Maryland. When I was in the Navy Department a great many years ago, I used to come down by water. In those days it was very difficult to get down here by land. Today things have changed very greatly.

I remember that more than ten years ago two old friends of mine became greatly interested in connecting Tidewater Virginia with Southern Maryland. One of them was Steve Gambrill and the other one was Walton Moore, who is now Counsellor of the State Department. I became interested when I came to Washington again in 1933. I came down here today, on a Sunday morning, because I think that Sunday is a good day to try to do something for one's neighbors. You are neighbors of us in the National Capital.

For a long time I have been looking at maps, as you know, and for a long time I have felt that there ought to be for the good not only of the people of Southern Maryland but also for the good of the people of the United States a through road from Baltimore to Richmond -- a cut-off if you like -- a road which, at the same time, would open up to the general traveling public -- and we are traveling more and more every year -- open up this very wonderful section of our country, a country that is good to look at, that is lived in by people who are good citizens. And so I have been very much interested in it, not only from the point of view of you good people who live down here but also because as President of the United States one of my duties is

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I say today your legacy is discontinued and it has I said it has  
of significance your use of which would be of extreme good sense if those  
efforts may succeed even against odds. Such a record would tend  
to eliminate the use of force and lead from self reliance to  
the straight path of international alliance based on  
our bonds and our liberal credit and ready to do whatever may be  
done. I say it might not be wise or even beneficial because  
of certain facts which I cannot mention publicly or in public view  
against you will. Considering these two possibilities either of you being a  
dictator I would say it is to avoid  
conflict as much as possible need avoid I said just a bit  
longer and yet not too long should such fact ever I said you'd better not have  
to do so but not before and business conducted to silence and to bring the  
whole of mankind into fact devoid of either political or religious  
differences, that there is no -- silent gathering leaving out of quicke  
and to political differences you said we must -- bring quiet order into  
silence and not have it last too long or else it will become a catastrophe  
if at necessary time you had even I say less clearly they can now  
stand much still one silence longer may be able to silence and not give too  
or nothing yet to one another period not to interfere as caused only and

to try to take care of things as far as I can that represent national needs.

There is one other phase of this proposed bridge across the Potomac and of the other bridges that are proposed further up the Chesapeake, and that is the phase of national defense.

I suppose there is no nation in the world whose people are more peace-loving than the people of the United States. I suppose there is no nation in the world that is more sincerely desirous of keeping out of war. At the same time, you and I know what world conditions are and we do have to think sometimes of national defense against some emergency that may come through no fault of our own in the days to come.

And it is very important in thinking of national defense to see to it that the borders of the United States, the portions of the United States that lie fairly close to the seaboard, shall have proper access in the event of war, access for the conduct of defensive operations. Therefore the whole Chesapeake Bay area is a very vital link in our national defense and the more that we can do to improve communications in this area in peace time the more insurance we are taking out in the event of some possible future invasion.

I am having a very wonderful day getting more acquainted with a portion of the country that I knew before. As you know, I very often go up and down the River on week ends -- week ends when I try not only to rest but also to think things over quietly. And today I am getting a thrill out of this morning's ride. I have been talking with your Representatives -- with the Governor of the State -- and I think we are all one in feeling that this proposed bridge is one of

the things that has got to be done just as fast as we can possibly do it.

And so I hope to come back, perhaps before I leave Washington, to talk at the inauguration, the starting of this bridge across the Potomac River in this neighborhood.

STATEMENTS FILE

FOR GUIDANCE OF THE PRESS

M. H. McINTYRE  
Secretary to the President.

(6)

Informal, extemporaneous remarks  
of the President,  
Morgantown, Md., September 4, 1938.

*Chairman [unclear]*  
(Rep. Gambrill introduced the President.)

My friends, this is no new visit of mine to Southern Maryland. When I was in the Navy Department a great many years ago, I used to come down by water. In those days it was very difficult to get down here by land. Today things have changed very greatly.

I remember that more than ten years ago two old friends of mine became greatly interested in connecting tidewater Virginia with southern ~~May~~ Maryland. One of them was Steve Gambrill and the other one was Walton Moore, who is now Counsellor of the State Department. I became interested when I came to Washington again in 1883. I came down here today, on a Sunday morning, because I think that Sunday is a good day to try to do something for one's neighbors. You are neighbors of us in the National Capital.

For a long time I have been looking at maps, as you know, and for a long time I have felt that there ought to be for the good not only of the people of southern Maryland but also for the good of the people of the United States a through road from Baltimore to Richmond -- a cut-off if you like -- a road which, at the same time, would open up to the general traveling public -- and we are traveling more and more every year -- open up this very wonderful section of our country, a country that is good to look at, that is lived in by people who are good citizens. And so I have been very much interested in it, not only from the point of view of you good people who live down here but also because as President of the United States one of my duties is to try to take care of things as far as I can that represent national needs.

There is one other phase of this proposed bridge across the Potomac and of the other bridges that are proposed further up the Chesapeake, and that is the phase of national defense.

I suppose there is no nation in the world ~~xxxxxx~~ whose people are more peace-loving than the people of the United States. I suppose there is no nation in the world that is more sincerely desirous of keeping out of war. At the same time, You and I know what world conditions are and we do have to think sometimes of national defense against some emergency that may come through no fault of our own in the days to come.

And it is very important in thinking of national defense to see to it that the borders of the United States, the portions of the United States that lie fairly close to the seaboard, shall have proper access in the event of war, access for the conduct of defensive operations. Therefore the whole Chesapeake Bay area is a very vital link in our national defense and the more than we can do to improve communications in this area in peace time the more insurance we are taking out in the event of some possible future invasion.

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And so I hope to come back, perhaps before I leave Washington, to talk at the inauguration, the starting of this bridge across the Potomac River in this neighborhood.

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These are the remarks that the  
President delivered.

INFORMAL, EXTEMPORENEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
SALISBURY, MARYLAND  
SEPTEMBER 5, 1938

MR. MAYOR, MY FRIENDS OF SALISBURY:

I am glad to come back here again. And you good people of the Eastern Shore have given me a wonderful reception this morning all the way up from Crisfield. I am glad to get to know this country better and to see the progress that it is making.

Coming up from Crisfield this morning there were three things that stand out in my memory. The first was on a country road, away from any house, by the side of the road, a little old lady standing there holding a big American flag. I said "Good morning" to her and she smiled back. A few miles further on there was a middle-aged gentleman standing beside the road. I said "Good morning" to him and I got no response. And somebody, knowing who he was, I suppose, told me about him. Apparently he is fond of sour pickles and believes what he reads in the Sun papers.

And the third thing that impressed me was the school children--school children turned out in front of every school because they wanted to see the President of the United States--not Franklin Roosevelt but the President of their country. And I am glad today that there are so many school children that it is a mighty good thing to have the high ideals that young people have. But it is only a useful thing if you keep those high ideals all through your lives. I believe with Emerson in the old adage, "Hitch your wagon to a star," but, my friends, when you get older don't cut the traces.

It has been a great experience to come back to the Eastern Shore. In Berlin I was presented with a very wonderful marlin. Some day I hope to come back, to go to Ocean City and go out in a boat and catch a marlin.

It has been good to be with you today. This is a somewhat informal morning. I have not talked politics and this afternoon at two o'clock I am not going to talk politics; I am going to talk American principles and I hope you will listen in.

It has been good to be with you. Thank you very much.



INFORMAL, EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

Salisbury, Maryland

September 5, 1938

MR. MAYOR, MY FRIENDS OF SALISBURY:

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Coming up from Crisfield this morning there were three things that stand out in my memory. The first was on a country road, away from any house, by the side of the road, a little old lady standing there holding a big American flag. I said "Good morning" to her and she smiled back. A few miles further on there was a middle-aged gentleman standing beside the road. I said "Good morning" to him and I got no response. And somebody, knowing who he was, I suppose, told me about him. Apparently he is fond of sour pickles and believes what he reads in the Sun papers.

And the third thing that impressed me was the school children -- school children turned out in front of every school because they wanted to see the President of the United States -- not Franklin Roosevelt but the President of their country. And I am glad today that there are so many school children here. I want to say to you school children that it is a mighty good thing to have the high ideals that young people have. But it is only a useful thing if you keep those high ideals all through your lives. I believe with Emerson in the old adage, "Hitch your wagon to a star," but, my friends, when you get older don't cut the traces.

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It has been good to be with you. Thank you very much.

# STATEMENTS FILE

FOR GUIDANCE OF THE PRESS

M. H. MCINTYRE,  
Secretary to the President.

*Afternoon, 1938*  
Informal, extemporaneous remarks  
of the President,  
Salisbury, Md., Sept. 5, 1938.

(P)

Mr. Mayor, my friends of Salisbury:

I am glad to come back here again. And you good people of the Eastern Shore have given me a wonderful reception this morning all the way up from Crisfield. I am glad to get to know this country better and to see the progress that it is making.

Coming up from Crisfield this morning there were three things that stand out in my memory. The first was on a country road, away from any house, by the side of the road, a little old lady standing there holding a big American flag. I said "Good morning" to her and she smiled back. A few miles further on there was a middle aged gentleman standing beside the road. I said "Good morning" to him and I got no response. And somebody, knowing who he was I suppose, told me about him. Apparently he is fond of sour pickles and believes what he reads in the Sun papers.

And the third thing that impressed me was the school children -- school children turned out in front of every school because they wanted to see the President of the United States -- not Franklin Roosevelt but the President of their country. And I am glad today that there are so many school children here. I want to say to you school children that it is a mighty good thing to have the high ideals that young people have. But it is only a useful thing if you keep those high ideals all through your lives. I believe with Emerson in the old adage, 'hitch your wagon to a star', but, my friends, when you get older don't cut the traces.

It has been a great experience to come back to the Eastern Shore. In Berlin I was presented with a very wonderful marlin. Some day I hope to come back, to go to Ocean City and go out in a boat and catch a marlin.

It has been good to be with you today. This is a somewhat informal morning. I have not talked politics and this afternoon at 2 o'clock I am not going to talk politics; I am going to talk American principles and I hope you will listen in.

It has been good to be with you. Thank you very much.

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Miss LeHand:

This speech was not delivered. The  
President spoke extemporaneously at Salisbury.

K

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT  
LABOR DAY  
SEPTEMBER 5, 1938  
SALISBURY, MARYLAND

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I am delighted to be back on the Eastern Shore.

My acquaintanceship dates back, not to this and other visits during my Presidency, but to twenty years before that when as a member of the Administration of Woodrow Wilson I paid many visits to this beautiful and historic section.

Many of you who are in this public square in Salisbury today are not yet voters. I hope that when you grow up you will remember a word of advice from a President of the United States who speaks to you today.

Your ideals are high. Approaching the threshhold of life you rightly have great hopes and great courage for yourselves and for your country. That means that you are liberals and progressives in the best sense of the words.

Do not grow more conservative as you grow older;  
do not as age comes on lose your ideals or your courage.

Back in 1913 a very great Democratic President told the people of Maryland in a Democratic Senatorial campaign that he hoped Maryland would make democracy more democratic. President Wilson, the inaugurated leader of his Party was expressing the proper view to the voters of many states, including Maryland -- that the Democratic Party throughout the nation should be dedicated to liberal policies.

In those days the Sun papers of Baltimore were famous as liberal papers and it is interesting to note that they then said in welcoming the expression of the President's views in Maryland, the following:

"His great task is to keep the people with him, and that being so, it would seem that he will help instead of hurt himself each time that he puts himself in opposition to a reactionary masquerading as a Democrat.

For every practical politician he offends,  
in or out of Congress, he must gain the  
sympathy of thousands of men who are  
interested only in good government and  
'forward-looking' legislation....."

"And so his well-wishers can view the  
fight that must ensue with serenity. Why  
shouldn't the Democratic Party be democratic?  
Why shouldn't those tories who wear its livery  
be driven where they belong?"

And again the Sun papers said this, in speaking of  
the reactionary candidate whom the President was opposing:

"While it is as honorable in a man to be  
a conservative as a radical, a Republican as  
a Democrat, or vice versa, the interests of  
truth and progress and justice require that there  
should be no confusion as to which is which.

There must be no masquerading under false

colors, no wolves in sheep's clothing.

Every man should be what he professes

to be."

But then, my friends, the Sun papers still had  
their youthful ideals. You young people, will, I hope,  
always remember the illustration I have given you. It  
isn't a bad idea in this life to hitch your wagon to a  
star when you are young. But it is equally important for  
you not to cut the traces when you get older.

This good old Eastern Shore is a grand spot to  
live in and a grand spot to visit. I hope, as a fellow  
American, to come back many times in the days to come.

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FIRST DRAFT

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 5, 1938

L

SALISBURY, MARYLAND

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Many of you who are in this public square in Salisbury today are not yet ~~vot~~ voters. I hope that when you grow up you will remember a word of advice from a President of the United States who speaks to you today.

Your ideals are high. Approaching the threshhold of life you rightly have great hopes for yourselves and for your country. That means that you are liberals and progressives in the best sense of the words. Do not grow more conservative as you grow older; do not as age comes on lose your ideals or your courage. Back in 1913 a very great President told the people of Maryland that he hoped Maryland would make democracy more democratic. President Wilson, the inaugurated leader of his Party, was expressing the proper view to the voters of many

FIRST DRAFT

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states, including Maryland, that the Democratic Party throughout the nation should be dedicated to liberal policies.

In those days the ~~Cato~~ Sun papers of Baltimore were <sup>famous</sup> ~~of~~ liberal papers and it is interesting to note that they said then in welcoming the ~~px~~ expression of the President's views in Maryland, the following:

"His great task is to keep the people with him, and that being so, it would seem that he will help instead of hurt himself ~~if~~ each time <sup>that</sup> he puts himself in opposition to a reactionary masquerading as a Democrat.

For every practical politician he offends, in or out of Congress, he must gain the sympathy of thousands of ~~maxx~~ men who are interested only in good government and forward-looking legislation. <sup>Su. 4.4</sup> ~~There must be no masquerading under false colors; no wolves in sheep's clothing. Every man should be what he professes to be.~~

And again the Sun papers said this, in speaking of the ~~President~~ <sup>General when the President was going to be</sup> ~~President~~

"And so his well-wishers can view the fight that must ensue with serenity. Why shouldn't the Democratic Party be democratic? Why shouldn't those Tories who wear its livery be driven where they belong?"

FIRST DRAFT

-3-

But then, my friends, the Sun papers still had their youthful ideals. You young people will, I hope, always remember the illustration I have given you. It isn't a bad idea in this life to hitch your wagon to a star <sup>when you're young</sup> but it is equally important for you not to cut the traces when you get older.

This good old Eastern Shore is a grand spot to live in and a grand spot to visit. I hope, as a fellow American, to come back many times in the days to come.

*Grace*

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 5, 1938

SALISBURY, MARYLAND

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I am delighted to be back on the Eastern Shore. My acquaintanceship dates back, not to this and other visits during my Presidency, but to twenty years before that when as a member of the Administration of Woodrow Wilson I paid many visits to this beautiful and historic section.

Many of you who are in this public square in Salisbury today are not yet voters. I hope that when you grow up you will remember a word of advice from a President of the United States who speaks to you today.

Your ideals are high. Approaching the threshold of life you rightly have great hopes and great courage for yourselves and for your country. That means that you are liberals and progressives in the best sense of the words.

Do not grow more conservative as you grow older;  
do not as age comes on lose your ideals or your courage.

Back in 1913 a very great Democratic President told the people of Maryland in a Democratic Senatorial campaign that he hoped Maryland would make democracy more democratic. President Wilson, the inaugurated leader of his Party was expressing the proper view to the voters of many states, including Maryland -- that the Democratic Party throughout the nation should be dedicated to liberal policies.

In those days the Sun papers of Baltimore were famous as liberal papers and it is interesting to note that they said then in welcoming the expression of the President's views in Maryland, the following:

"His great task is to keep the people with him, and that being so, it would seem that he will help instead of hurt himself each time that he puts himself in opposition to a reactionary masquerading as a Democrat.

For every practical politician he offends,  
in or out of Congress, he must gain the  
sympathy of thousands of men who are  
interested only in good government and  
'forward-looking' legislation...."

"And so his well-wishers can view the  
fight that must ensue with serenity. Why  
shouldn't the Democratic Party be democratic?  
Why shouldn't those tories who wear its livery  
be driven where they belong?"

And again the Sun papers said this, in speaking of  
*Candido Ferreira*,  
the reactionary ~~however~~ whom the President was opposing:

"While it is as honorable in a man to be  
as conservative as a radical, a Republican as  
a Democrat, or vice versa, the interests of  
truth and progress and justice require that there  
should be no confusion as to which is which.

There must be no ~~mis~~quarding under false  
profess; No wolves in sheep's clothing.

Every man should be what he professes  
to be,

But then, my friends, the Sun papers still had  
their youthful people; the young people, will, I hope,  
always remember the illustration I have given you. It  
can't be bad now in this life to hitch your wagon to a  
star when you are young. But it is equally important for  
you not to quit the oxen when you get older.

The ~~gold~~ <sup>gold</sup> old Eastern Shore is a grand spot to  
live in and a ~~good~~ good spot to visit. I hope, as a fellow  
American, to come back many times in the days to come.



# 5 minute speech

## SUGGESTION FOR SALISBURY SPEECH

You who are in this Public Square in Salisbury today, many of you, are not yet voters. I hope that when you grow up you will remember a word of advice from a President of the United States who speaks to you today. Do not, like the Sun papers, get more conservative as you get older; do not, as age comes on, lose your ideals.

(Continue in an appeal to the young people)

had the members of the Sun papers, when he came into Maryland, tell Maryland that he hoped Maryland would make democracy more democratic. So, carrying out the recommendation, the belief of the Sun papers in 1913, I am back here, twenty-five years later - a quarter of a century -- expressing the hope in Maryland that Maryland will make democracy more democratic.

(Then quote some of the editorials from the Baltimore Sun of those days.)

In those days, in 1913, I was a young man, Assistant Secretary of the Navy in the Cabinet of President Wilson. I knew then that the owners, the controlling forces behind the Baltimore Sun were in favor of a liberal democracy - not just in Maryland -- but everywhere in the United States. What a change in a quarter of a century!

(Quote editorials)

I am delighted to be ~~back in Maryland, delighted to be~~  
back on the Eastern Shore. I have made two or three visits to  
~~the Eastern Shore -- perhaps more visits than any other President~~  
has made to the Eastern Shore and I have been honored by being  
given an Honorary Degree by Washington University, located on  
~~the Eastern Shore -- one of the half dozen ~~new~~ institutions~~  
~~of learning in the United States. My acquaintanceship with~~  
~~the Eastern Shore dates back, not to my Presidency but to~~  
~~1911~~ <sup>This and other visits there,</sup>  
twenty years before that, as a member of the Administration  
of Woodrow Wilson, ~~when~~ I paid many visits to ~~the~~ <sup>this highlight</sup>  
~~and historic state.~~

Then go on to talk about the beauties of the Eastern  
Shore -- the citizenship of its people and then swing in to  
the Baltimore Sun stories -- how they welcome Woodrow Wilson's  
participation in public problems in Maryland in 1913 and the  
comparison with that attitude with their attitude today.

In those days the Sun papers were liberal papers and  
not the exact opposite of what they are doing today. They  
welcomed the President of the United States in coming into  
Maryland to make democracy more democratic. What a change  
has taken place! Back there in 1913, President Wilson, in-  
augurated leader of his Party, President of the United States,

INFORMAL, EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
At Berlin, Maryland  
(From his Automobile)  
Monday, September 5, 1938

(The President was presented with a marlin fish, which had been caught off the city of Ocean City, Maryland, on the first of June, 1938.)

Some day I am going to come back here and go over to Ocean City and try to catch a marlin.

I am very grateful to you. It will be a fine addition to the collection.

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INFORMAL, EXTEMPOREANOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
At Sharptown, Maryland  
(From his Automobile)  
Monday, September 5, 1938

(The President was introduced by the Mayor.)

I am very glad to be here and I hope some day I will be able to come back and stay with you a little longer.

This is great country through here and I am very fond of the Eastern Shore.

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STATEMENTS FILE  
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