

September 5, 1938

[Annapolis, Maryland]

FDR Speech File

1172

INFORMAL, EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

(From his Automobile)
At Annapolis, Maryland
September 5, 1938

MR. MAYOR, MY NEIGHBORS OF ANNAPOLIS:

I have been coming here, as you know, for a great many years, in fact for a quarter of a century, and some of you perhaps do not know that a great many years ago I was made an alumnus of St. John's College. (Applause)

I have had a very wonderful trip on the Eastern Shore today and I could not help but think of the wonderful history of this part of the country. There are a great many historic buildings over on the Eastern Shore and up here at Annapolis which is, in many ways, one of the most historic cities in the United States. It is a great privilege to be here.

I have been talking not politics but government and I think you will understand the allegory when I point out to you that the old buildings of this College (St. John's) and the old buildings of this city, this capital city, would not be used today if they had not been modernized.

I will leave you^{to} apply that same principle to government. We have the same form of government, a great historic form, but it would not work today unless we keep it modernized. I think that is all that need be said and I think you will catch the point.

(Audience: We will modernize it.)

And now I am going with the Governor to his home, which is another historic building. I have not had a chance to visit the Governor

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.

I have been coming here for a great many years, and I have seen a great deal of the country, and I have seen a great deal of the people. I have seen a great deal of the people, and I have seen a great deal of the country. I have seen a great deal of the people, and I have seen a great deal of the country.

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of Maryland since I was a very young Assistant Secretary of the Navy and I am going to have a very good time before I return to the White House.

Many thanks.