

December 9, 1938

State Welfare Administrators

FDR Speech File

INFORMAL, EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
To the City and State Directors of Public Welfare
Executive Offices of the White House
Friday, December 9, 1938, at 12.00 o'clock noon

(These remarks not released to the Press.)

It is good to see you all. I am not going to make a
speech.

We are all working along the same lines and I think we are getting our message across to the American people so that they can really understand the fundamentals. Also, as the work goes on, I believe that the work is getting more practical and the machinery is being improved. That is one thing we have to bear in mind, that in our relationship with the public, we have to overcome a certain type of opposition that results from the fact that in some places we do not have very good management. In order to succeed we have to prove to the public that we are improving our method of management. That is one of the important things we have got to get across today. We have got to make the country believe that as we go on we learn an awful lot. When you come down to it, in all of this work we are still in kindergarten as compared to what will be the practice twenty years from now; we are just scratching the surface. We have to make the public understand that we are improving. That is one of the things we always have to remember and we also should remember that in order to achieve our general objectives we have to hang together or we will hang separately.

I wish I could come to your meetings. I know I need a lot of education myself and I am getting it as I go along about every ten minutes through the day.

It is a grand thing and good to see you all.

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 a good thing and good to see you all.
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I shall I could come to your meetings. I know I need a
lot of education myself and I am getting it as I go along about
how we have to make the public understand that we are improving.
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lic work we are still in the future as we are now and will be
to do as we learn as we go along. When you come down to it, in all of
anyway today. We have not to make the country believe that we
mean. That is one of the important things we have got to get
to prove to the public that we are improving our nation of manage-
ment. We do not have very good management. In order to succeed we have
type of operation that realize that the fact that in some places
in our relationship with the public, we have to overcome a certain
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believe that the work is getting more practical and the country
I am not sure about the fundamental. Also, as the work goes on I
getting our message across to the American people so that they can
be sure all coming along the same lines and I think we are

~~to A. G. G. G.~~
bouncing

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9. 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2
10. 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2

GROUP ATTENDING MEETING IN OFFICE OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

Friday, December 9, 1938, at 12 noon

1. Richard Foster, Director of Public Welfare, New Orleans, Louisiana
2. Loula Dunn, Commissioner, State Department of Public Welfare, Alabama
3. J. R. McDougall, Assistant Commissioner, State Department of Social Security and Welfare, Arizona
4. Gascie Heynie, Commissioner, State Department of Public Welfare, Arkansas
5. Harold E. Pomeroy, Administrator, State Relief Administration, California
6. Earl M. Kouns, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, Colorado
7. Frederick C. Walcott, Commissioner of Welfare, Connecticut
8. Dr. Charles L. Candee, President, Old Age Welfare Commission, Delaware
9. Clayton C. Codrington, Commissioner, State Welfare Board, Florida
10. Lamar Murdaugh, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, Georgia
11. John C. Weigel, Administrative Assistant, State Department of Public Welfare, Illinois
12. C. B. Marshall, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, Indiana
13. Lester Wickliffe, Deputy State Director, State Board of Social Welfare, Kansas
14. Margaret Woll, Director, State Department of Welfare, Kentucky
15. A. R. Johnson, Commissioner, State Department of Public Welfare, Louisiana
16. J. Milton Patterson, Executive Secretary, Board of State Aid and Charities, Maryland
17. Walter V. McCarthy, Commissioner, State Department of Public Welfare, Massachusetts
18. James G. Bryant, Director, State Welfare Department, Michigan
19. W. F. Bond, Commissioner, State Department of Public Welfare, Mississippi
20. George I. Haworth, Administrator, Missouri Social Security Commission, Missouri
21. I. M. Brandjord, Administrator, State Department of Public Welfare, Montana
22. Wm. J. Ellis, Commissioner, State Department of Institutions and Agencies, New Jersey
23. Mary Gibbons, Assistant Commissioner, State Department of Social Welfare, New York

24. Mrs. W. T. Bost, Commissioner, State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, North Carolina
25. E. A. Willson, Executive Director, Public Welfare Board, North Dakota
26. Henry J. Denton, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, Oklahoma
27. Elmer R. Goudy, Administrator, State Relief Committee, Oregon
28. Charles I. Engard, Secretary, Department of Welfare, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
29. Edward P. Reidy, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, Rhode Island
30. Thomas H. Daniel, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, S. Carolina
31. J. W. Kaye, Director, State Department of Social Security, South Dakota
32. George H. Cate, Commissioner, State Department of Institutions and Public Welfare, Tennessee
33. Dr. William H. Stauffer, Commissioner, State Department of Public Welfare, Virginia
34. Philip D. Flanner, Director, Public Welfare Department, Wisconsin
35. Elwood Street, Director, District Board of Public Welfare, Washington, D. C.
36. Neil C. Vandemoer, Director of Assistance, State Board of Control, Nebraska
37. Donald S. Whitehead, Lieutenant Governor of Idaho
38. Henry J. Robison, Chief, Division of Public Assistance, State Department of Public Welfare, Ohio
39. George Oranger, Administrator of State Relief, Michigan
40. Fay Guthrie, Director, Department of Public Welfare, New Mexico
41. Gaston L. Porteris, President of National Association of Attorneys General, Louisiana
42. William Hodson, Commissioner of Public Welfare, New York City
43. Jane M. Hoey, Director, Bureau of Public Assistance, Social Security Board Washington, D. C.
44. Gay B. Shepperson, Works Progress Administrator of Georgia
45. E. J. Kovde, Administrator, Pittsburgh Housing Authority
46. Fred Ramsey, Director, City Department of Health and Welfare, Cleveland, Ohio
47. Joseph L. Moss, Director, Cook County Bureau of Public Welfare, Chicago

48. Leo Lyons, Director, Chicago Relief Administration
49. C. Edgar Goyette, Director of Pima County Department of Public Welfare, Tucson, Arizona
50. Assistant Commissioner Ryan of Detroit, Michigan
51. R. W. Ballard, Director, Lake County Department of Public Welfare, ~~Gary~~, Gary
52. Wm. G. O'Hare, Director, Department of Public Welfare, Boston
53. Louisa deB. FitzSimmons, Director of Department of Public Welfare, Atlanta, Ga.
54. Fred K. Hoshler
55. Marietta Stevenson
56. Louis Bosch
57. Ralph Spear
58. A. W. Laver, Toronto, Canada
59. Marc Grossman, Chairman of Housing Authority, Cleveland, Ohio