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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. 1213**

**1939 April 1**

**Warm Springs, GA –  
Georgia Hall Dedicatory Ceremonies**

Georgia Warm Springs Foundation

DEDICATORY EXERCISES

Plaque in memory of George Foster Peabody  
Georgia Hall, Georgia Warm Springs Foundation  
Warm Springs, Georgia

April 1, 1939

MR. O'CONNOR:

Ladies and gentlemen:

As you all know, Mr. George Foster Peabody was one of the first trustees of this Foundation and he continued as trustee until the time of his death. Through the generosity of his daughter, Mrs. Waite, a very beautiful plaque has been given to the Foundation.

Dr. Johnson, speaking for Mrs. Waite, will now make the formal presentation of that plaque to the Foundation.

DR. JOHNSON:

As a favorite resort of Georgia and other southern people, Warm Springs was well known to George Foster Peabody, and hearing this property was for sale, he resolved to look it over with the idea in mind of turning it into a Recreational Park and presenting it to his native State -- Georgia. So the next opportunity found him here being shown about by Mr. Loyless (a well-known newspaperman of Columbus, Georgia, Mr. Peabody's native city), who called his attention to a young man dancing in the Hotel. This Mr. Joseph had been a victim of Infantile Paralysis for several years but for two summers had been exercising in the pool and was now pointed out as dancing in the Hotel.

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MR. O'CONNOR:

And now, the President of the United States.

THE PRESIDENT:

I am very glad indeed to accept this plaque on behalf of the Foundation for two reasons: The first is that the Foundation in a very true sense would not be in existence today had it not been for Mr. Peabody.

Dr. Johnson has told you of those early years, of the case of young Joseph and of my coming down here. I can remember also when the first patients came and I, very much panic stricken -- for they had come without warning or notice -- telephoned over to Dr. Johnson to please come over and see if they were going to live. So Dr. Johnson himself was one of the pioneers and I hope that he will be with the Foundation just as long as I am and that means just as long as we live.

There is another thought, too. Those of us who knew Mr. Peabody remember that he lived to a very ripe old age. At the same time we remember that Mr. Peabody's heart was just as young when he was up in his eighties as when he was down in his twenties. We shall always remember that youthful spirit and the fact that all through his life, just as much in his later years as in his early years, he was trying to do good for mankind, not just here at the Foundation but in many other places, such as Saratoga and New York City, trying to do good for human beings, men and women of every color and race and creed. These things will be remembered,

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ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
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PEABODY;  
GEORGIA HALL  
WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION,  
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STATEMENTS FILE

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Yours very sincerely,  
FDR

DEDICATORY EXERCISES  
Georgia Warm Springs Foundation School  
Georgia Warm Springs Foundation  
Warm Springs, Georgia  
April 1, 1939, (about 3:00 P. M.)

MR. BASIL O'CONNOR:

Mr. President, friends of the Foundation:

I am certain that this is a very happy day for all of us. We have a double task -- a triple task today but they are all very pleasant undertakings.

My position today is merely that of master of ceremonies and I shall try to abide by that role.

I think it is most appropriate that I should read to you a letter which I have just received this morning from Mrs. Tuck who, as you know, has given this School to the Foundation:

"Embassy of the  
United States of America

Buenos Aires, Argentina,  
March 26th, 1939.

My dear Mr. O'Connor,

Your letter of March 17th telling me that the school is to be dedicated at 3:00 P. M. on April first, reached me this morning. I have a great longing to be present on that day, - it is with sincere and deep regret that I am unable to do so. I had considered flying to America but having made the trip to Chile by plane two weeks ago to see my family, I gave up the idea, knowing

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It is not very good when a lot of what I say is  
what many others have said or even when it  
is significant when I say something that  
seems to confirm what others have said.  
After all it is what I say that  
other people I think are important seem to fit into it.  
In this speech I say I believe it is not a  
foolish idea having some wrongdoing as you know . . .  
including acts of  
self to themselves  
as well as to others during

which there was  
such a great deal

that we justified it in order to protect them  
so . . . I think in themselves as far as I can see  
it is . . . and that no one act of unrighteousness  
or wrongdoings as I think I might call them  
and nothing or anything that I . . .  
as far as I can see  
as far as I can see . . .

it was more than I could undertake.

"I am aware of the fact that you may read this letter at the time the School is dedicated, - I realize that the President will be there; this is a great honour and I am most grateful for the President's presence. I would like to take a few minutes of your time to tell the story of how the plans for the School began.

"In June, 1937, Mr. Bullitt, our Ambassador in Paris asked me to help him with the decorating and furnishing of his house in the country. We were making a tour of the antique shops in his car one day when he said to me, 'If ever I can do anything for you or your husband, will you let me know?' I thanked him, and told him I had a request to make immediately! I wanted to know if the President would always maintain his keen and active interest in Warm Springs. Mr. Bullitt said he thought so and wanted to know why I asked the question. I told him I thought so, too, but that I wanted a definite answer to my question! I told him that since 1918 I had been very much interested in work for physically handicapped children, in particular the physiotherapy and scholastic parts of the work, - and that I wanted to give a school but that I wanted to give the school to an institution that was organized and

permanent, and that I could select no better than the institution that was under the guidance and leadership of our President. Mr. Bullitt communicated with the President and my offer was, I am most happy to say, accepted.

"I tell this story because I should like to have Mr. Bullitt identified with the dedication of the School today; he was so largely instrumental and helpful in making today possible, and a great inspiration during the two years that we were privileged to form part of his staff.

"I give this School to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation with a deep interest and affection for the children who will cross its threshold. I earnestly hope that the Head Mistress and teachers will take an individual interest in each and every child and that these children will learn from them not only their daily lessons but the greater lesson of learning to adjust the individual problems that confront them, to life, with confidence and courage.

"I am at present living in a far distant land, married to a foreign service officer. We have our problems to face as well, and inspiration, courage and confidence comes to us in the knowledge that we are working not only for our country but for our President who has passed so far above and beyond

his personal problems to the great place he occupies in the world for good and right. Our problems become so small in comparison and as I look at the photograph he so kindly gave us, I am given fresh courage each day to try and do my tiny share.

"May this School help to give the President a little added pride in the great and splendid work he is doing at the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation -- this is my most earnest hope.

"I shall be with you all in thought on Saturday, April first, at three o'clock.

"Very sincerely yours, Katherine Tuck."

I suppose there is no one better equipped to tell us what this School will mean to the Foundation than your Head Mistress, Mrs. Huntington.

MRS. HUNTINGTON:

I think it should be interesting on this occasion to hear a few facts connected with the history of this School. Of course it is obvious that a school, such as we have tried to operate, requires different handling from a regular school. First, each pupil requires more personal attention; second, the hours for instruction are short; third, we have to have a wider variety of equipment and, fourth, each pupil requires more floor space. Our present setup illustrates this.

The medical treatment, of course, takes precedence

and should, in my opinion, never be otherwise.

Up until the year 1928, there was no regular Foundation School, there being merely private tutoring for a few patients done by a patient. In 1928, when I came we had only a sort of kindergarten, including three patients and two able bodied, in Mrs. L. Pattison's nursery. It was a private school. In 1929 the school became a part of the Foundation work. Group classes were held in the old playhouse and we had fourteen pupils. In the next seven years we moved back and forth between there, the old Annex and the private dining room of Georgia Hall.

In 1936, two rooms were fixed over in the Bradley Cottage, one for group work and one for tutoring. Up to that time the tutoring had been done most any place and still is, to some extent.

Beginning in 1932 and for five years, Mrs. Hicky Allen was on our staff. Since 1935, Mrs. Shipp has done tutoring. Arthur Bolter, a patient, tutored year before last and last Fall John Barrows was added to our staff, giving special attention to the boys.

Our attendance figures do not furnish a true measure of value. At times we have had 45 pupils. We now have 22, 19 patients and three able-bodied children.

In 1928, the Occupational Therapy Department was started in one room of the then unoccupied Lovelace

Cottage. It was begun by a physio, Nancy Watson and one of her patients, Dick McFeely, as a leather craft hobby, which gradually drew an interested group. They moved to the old playhouse where metal craft was added. These crafts were continued by the house mother, Mrs. Pattison, and Sterling Haver for a year and a half.

In September, 1932, a former patient, our Jeanette Neal, took over craft activities as a definite department and it was again located in one-half of the Lovelace Cottage. After Georgia Hall was built it was located in its south wing. Then began the development of the therapeutic value of occupational therapy, adapting handicrafts as arm exercises. This work then became a branch of the Medical Department. Miss Flora Spurgeon has recently been added to the staff to assist Miss Neal.

You can appreciate from the foregoing sketchy history that we have, through these ten years, been handicapped by the lack of a 'home' and proper equipment. Thanks to Mrs. Tuck, the cooperation of the Trustees and other personnel, we now look forward to a larger measure of success. On behalf of the Staff, I wish to express my deepest appreciation for this magnificent new building and hope that we shall be able to produce such results that neither Mrs. Tuck nor any of you will ever regret having made this possible.

MR. O'CONNOR:

I think I ought to say to you youngsters that you have just had a delightful treat. You may have sat in your schoolrooms on many occasions in fear of your teacher but I can assure you that she has just stood before you in even greater fear. I can only say I hope you handle yourselves as well before her as she has before you.

I am informed that all of the orators today, even including the President, have very bad cases of the jitters. I only arrived this morning, so I don't know what that might be due to.

The next speaker is one who knows Warm Springs as well as any of us. She has been here for many years. She has been devoted to the work here and she is one of the custodians of the fund provided by Mrs. Tuck from which this School will be maintained during the next ten years.

Mrs. Tuck is very glad and so are we to have Mrs. Pierson represent Mrs. Tuck on this occasion.

MRS. PIERSON:

Mrs. Tuck asked me to express her sincere regret in being unable to be present today.

Since she was a very young girl, Mrs. Tuck has been helping physically handicapped children. She

used to be a very active worker at the Detroit Orthopedic Clinic. Later she gave a beautiful pool to the Sigma Gamma Convalescent Home. Then, believing that education is as great a need for the handicapped as health, she gave a well-equipped hospital-school to this same Home.

Though Mrs. Tuck has been living abroad for some years, she had heard of the wonderful accomplishments at Warm Springs. She came to me a few years ago and asked about the educational work being done here. Upon hearing of the lack of adequate facilities, she generously offered to donate the funds to meet this need. This beautiful building is the result.

I wish Mrs. Tuck could be here to see for herself how much it is going to mean to all of us and we hope the next time she comes home from the Argentine she will be our guest here at Warm Springs.

MR. O'CONNOR:

Ladies and Gentlemen, the orator that needs no introduction; the President of the United States:

THE PRESIDENT:

Members of the Warm Springs family and fellow-jitterers:

I think that those of us who have been in Warm Springs since the early days of the Foundation are perhaps glad that the completed article did not come into being all at one time; in other words, that it has taken a great many years for us to develop our physical plant. Because it has taken so long, we have probably avoided a great many mistakes that we would have committed if all these buildings had been put up at the beginning.

There again, I want to emphasize one thought to you today about the Foundation. People think of Warm Springs as just a place dedicated to medical care, just another hospital. And yet, thinking back, they cannot realize some of the many problems that we have had to face and still have to face. If, for example, Warm Springs Foundation were located in a city, think of all the things that we would not have to have. Think of the educational facilities of a large community. We would not have to have a fire department; we would not have to have roads. We would not have to have the care of the families of the patients and, believe me, that is quite a care. We would not have to work on the social problem if we were located in a

city. Here we have these many outside matters to think of and to care for, and one of them has been the question of education. It has not been, again, merely the question of running a village school, because in each case we have had to think of the individual problem of the boy or girl who receives instruction. We have had to think not only of book learning but, as time has gone on, the relationship of book learning to what the individual child can do physically and, with that, this growing science of educational training, the need of fitting each case into the broad circumstances of that case.

So, here at Warm Springs, I am glad that we have developed slowly. This building is going to form a very wonderful center. Actually, I go back a good many years before Mrs. Huntington, when the only thing we had in the way of learning was a little bit of a room called 'The Library' and people, when they got through with detective stories and other fairy tales would give their books to the Library. That was the only voluntary instruction of the earlier days. So you see how the place has grown. The whole educational problem has grown with the advance of medical science that goes with the care of the individual patient.

I am very happy because of this splendid gift of Mrs. Tuck and I am sure that I speak for everybody

here when I suggest that Mr. O'Connor send her a telegram to tell her of these delightful dedicatory exercises, that all of the Warm Springs family were here and that they hope very much when she returns to the United States she will come down to Warm Springs and visit us.

STATEMENTS FILE

George WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION SCHOOL  
April 1, 1939.

(6)

MR. BASIL O'CONNOR:

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"I am aware of the fact that you may read this letter at the time the School is dedicated, - I realize that the President will be there; this is a great honour and I am most grateful for the President's presence. I would like to take a few minutes of your time to tell the story of how the plans for the School began.

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The medical treatment, of course, takes precedence and should, in my opinion, never be otherwise.

Up until the year 1928, there was no regular Foundation School, there being merely private tutoring for a few patients done by a patient. In 1928, when I came we had only a sort of kindergarten, including three patients and two able bodied, in Mrs. L. Pattison's nursery. It was a private school. In 1929 the school became a part of the Foundation work. Group classes were held in the old playhouse and we had fourteen pupils. In the next seven years we moved back and forth between there, the old Annex and the private dining room of Georgia Hall.

In 1936, two rooms were fixed over in the Bradley Cottage, one for group work and one for tutoring. Up to that time the tutoring had been done most any place and still is, to some extent.

Beginning in 1932 and for five years, Mrs. Hicky Allen was on our staff. Since 1935, Mrs. Shipp has done tutoring. Arthur Bolter, a patient, tutored year before last and last Fall John Barrows was added to our staff, giving special attention to the boys.

Our attendance figures do not furnish a true measure of value. At times we have had 45 pupils. We now have 22, 19 patients and three able-bodied children.

In 1928, the Occupational Therapy Department was started in one room of the then unoccupied Lovelace Cottage. It was begun by a physio, <sup>Nancy</sup> ~~Money~~ Watson and

one of her patients, Dick McFay, as a leather craft hobby, which gradually drew an interested group. They moved to the old playhouse where metal craft was added. These crafts were continued by the house mother, Mrs. Pattison, and Sterling Haver for a year and a half.

In September, 1932, a former patient, our Jeanette Neal, took over craft activities as a definite department and it was again located in one-half of the Lovelace Cottage. After Georgia Hall was built it was located in its south wing. Then began the development of the therapeutic value of occupational therapy, adapting handicrafts as arm exercises. This work then became a branch of the Medical Department. Miss Flora Spurgeon has recently been added to the staff to assist Miss Neal.

You can appreciate from the foregoing sketchy history that we have, through these ten years, been handicapped by the lack of a 'home' and proper equipment. Thanks to Mrs. Tuck, the cooperation of the Trustees and other personnel, we now look forward to a larger measure of success. On behalf of the Staff, I wish to express my deepest appreciation for this magnificent new building and hope that we shall be able to produce such results that neither Mrs. Tuck nor any of you will ever regret having made this possible.

MR. O'CONNOR:

I think I ought to say to you youngsters that you have just had a delightful treat. You may have sat in your schoolrooms on many occasions in fear of your teacher but I can assure you that she has just stood before you in even greater fear. I can only say I hope you handle yourselves as well before her as she has before you.

I am informed that all of the orators today, even including the President, have very bad cases of the jitters. I only arrived this morning, so I don't know what that might be due to.

The next speaker is one who knows Warm Springs as well as any of us. She has been here for many years. She has been devoted to the work here and she is one of the custodians of the fund provided by Mrs. Tuck from which this School will be maintained during the next ten years.

Mrs. Tuck is very glad and so are we to have Mrs. Pierson represent Mrs. Tuck on this occasion.

MRS. PIERSON:

Mrs. Tuck asked me to express her sincere regret in being unable to be present today.

Since she was a very young girl, Mrs. Tuck has been helping physically handicapped children. She

used to be a very active worker at the Detroit Orthopedic Clinic. Later she gave a beautiful pool to the Sigma Gamma Convalescent Home. Then, believing that education is as great a need for the handicapped as health, she gave a well-equipped hospital-school to this same Home.

Though Mrs. Tuck has been living abroad for some years, she had heard of the wonderful accomplishments at Warm Springs. She came to me a few years ago and asked about the educational work being done here. Upon hearing of the lack of adequate facilities, she generously offered to donate the funds to meet this need. This beautiful building is the result.

I wish Mrs. Tuck could be here to see for herself how much it is going to mean to all of us and we hope the next time she comes home from the Argentine she will be our guest here at Warm Springs.

MR. O'CONNOR:

Ladies and Gentlemen, the orator that needs no introduction; the President of the United States:

## THE PRESIDENT:

Members of the Warm Springs family and fellow-jitterers:

I think that those of us who have been in Warm Springs since the early days of the Foundation are perhaps glad that the completed article did not come into being all at one time; in other words, that it has taken a great many years for us to develop our physical plant. Because it has taken so long, we have probably avoided a great many mistakes that we would have committed if all these buildings had been put up at the beginning.

There again, I want to emphasize one thought to you today about the Foundation. People think of Warm Springs as just a place dedicated to medical care, just another hospital. And yet, thinking back, they cannot realize some of the many problems that we have had to face and still have to face. If, for example, Warm Springs Foundation were located in a city, think of all the things that we would not have to have. Think of the educational facilities of a large community. We would not have to have a fire department; we would not have to have roads. We would not have to have the care of the families of the patients and, believe me, that is quite a care. We would not have to work on the social problem if we were located in a city. Here we

have these many outside matters to think of and to care for, and one of them has been the question of education. It has not been, again, merely the question of running a village school, because in each case we have had to think of the individual problem of the boy or girl who receives instruction. We have had to think not only of book learning but, as time has gone on, the relationship of book learning to what the individual child can do physically and, with that, this growing science of educational training, the need of fitting each case into the broad circumstances of that case.

So, here at Warm Springs, I am glad that we have developed slowly. This building is going to form a very wonderful center. Actually, I go back a good many years before Mrs. Huntington, when the only thing we had in the way of learning was a little bit of a room called 'The Library' and people, when they got through with detective stories and other fairy tales would give their books to the Library. That was the only voluntary instruction of the earlier days. So you see how the place has grown. The whole educational problem has grown with the advance of medical science that goes with the care of the individual patient.

I am very happy because of this splendid gift of Mrs. Tuck and I am sure that I speak for everybody here when I suggest that Mr. O'Connor send her a telegram

11.

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that all of the Warm Springs family were here and that  
they hope very much when she returns to the United  
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\* \* \* \* \*

STATEMENTS FILE

~~Check by Wanner~~

INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
AT THE DEDICATION OF THE WARM  
SPRINGS FOUNDATION SCHOOL

April 1, 1959

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████████████

GEOGRAPHIC, CLIMATE,  
CLIMATE AND SOILS

**DEDICATORY EXERCISES**

Norman Wilson Memorial Hospital  
Georgia Warm Springs Foundation  
Warm Springs, Georgia

April 1, 1939

MR. O'CONNOR:

I think to all of us who followed the activities of this Foundation for twelve years, this Medical Building comes about as close to the realization of a dream as one could expect.

No one can tell you better what it means than your present Surgeon-in-Chief. We have had only three of those creatures here in twelve years and I think that is a fine record for this Foundation.

As you know, we first had that glorious individual, Dr. Hubbard. We then had the eminent and able Dr. Hoke. We now have all of them combined in Dr. Irwin.

DR. IRWIN:

Mr. President, Mr. O'Connor, friends:

I feel that we are gathered here today to celebrate the achievement of a goal, to memorialize, if you please, the advent of a new era in the progress that has been made at the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation in the treatment of that phase of infantile paralysis for which this institution was founded. This modern physical plant which spreads before us this afternoon, possessing all the facilities necessary for the correct treatment of the

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.

:HOMWOOD RR

activities and how often one can tell the other?

I believe such views will not prevail until we  
see the difficulties and opportunities which  
Jacques Ellul and others  
have made evident over and over again all

to point out that even the most advanced  
and learned I have many views of great importance about  
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:KIWHI RG

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various problems arising after the acute convalescence, is the realization of a dream that had its inception in the heart and mind of our beloved President who was its Founder some twelve years ago. In the beginning, the pool of natural warm water located at the foot of this hill was the one big machine or tool used to fashion all of our end results. At that time it did a fine job and still continues a most important cog in the wheels of our present-day machinery and serves a specific purpose in carrying out treatment for those patients for whom hydrotherapy is indicated. Today it stands as a monument as having been the means of helping create renewed interest in infantile paralysis throughout the country.

As time passed, conditions made it necessary to broaden our field or scope of treatment, to supplement hydrotherapy with additional methods as all problems did not lend themselves to the efficacy of a single regimen. Many cases within a few weeks after their acute onset presented themselves for treatment -- their condition on admission demanded prolonged rest in bed with medical and nursing care, which we were unable to provide. We had to be on the alert to prevent deformities while improvement in muscle power was taking place. A great number of cases had well-defined deformities on admission which needed correction before any type

of physical therapy could be of value. In some instances this could be accomplished by braces or a series of corrective plaster casts or, in advanced cases, surgical intervention was necessary. All these phases of treatment, and many more too numerous to mention at this time, have been added during the past few years, but not without some inconvenience -- and yet not to the same degree as that experienced by our Founders in their work during the early years. And as our results from this more individualized type of treatment merited space for its continuance, the Trustees have seen fit to provide us with this modern up-to-date workshop which houses a complete armamentarium, a specific tool for every problem. On completion it will no longer be impossible to provide proper orthopaedic supervision and adequate medical and nursing care for those individuals handicapped to the extent that unaided they would be unable to take care of their personal needs. It will no longer be necessary to do all surgery in a distant locality with added discomfort to the patient and inconvenience to the staff.

Needless to say, the provision of these facilities fills me with inexpressible joy and now may I, representing the Medical Department of the Foundation, ask all of you to unite with us in seeking God's guidance and direction in the utilization of these facilities that

we, at all times, may exercise the necessary wisdom and skill which in the end will have provided a richer and fuller service for those individuals entrusted to our care.

I thank you!

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At the close of these exercises there will be buried, for the edification of future archaeologists, in front of the Medical Building a sealed copper box containing the following articles:

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One thumb splint.  
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Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt.  
A copy of the Atlanta Constitution and a  
copy of the Warm Springs Mirror.

No one could make the circuit we have just made and not realize fully that only an exceptional vision twelve years ago could have foreseen what we see today. I think it is only fair to say simply that there are few men who would have had the courage, the perseverance and the foresight to carry through an institution of this kind up to its present development and I know that no one takes greater pleasure than the President in dedicating this new Medical Building. The President of the United States.

THE PRESIDENT:

Dr. Irwin was right when he spoke of this new building as the attainment of one of the major goals that we have been striving for for a great many years. I think it was eleven years ago that Henry Toombs and I one night worked on some sketch plans for the Campus. At that time there was no Campus. There was the old wooden hotel that many of us remember and a few off-center, ramshackle cottages down at this end and a few similar off-center ramshackle cottages at the other end. There was no order, no plan. At that time Henry Toombs and I put down on paper the first sketch of what is now the Warm Springs Campus.

I am glad that Dr. Irwin has also told you something about the great strides in the care of infantile paralysis during these intervening years. If at that time we had done more on that original plan than to put a square down at this end of the proposed Campus and label it "Medical Center," if we had attempted to draw the plans of a Medical Center, medical science would have outdistanced us before the building was a year old.

Now, however, I think we all feel that we are working along lines of permanency in the development of medical care and that this building will last for generations to come because it has been designed right and built right.

So it is with great pleasure that I dedicate this building today, and I might add the thought that the braces and other implements which are about to be buried in the box are a symbol of what we are doing here at Warm Springs for the patients, getting rid of physical handicaps of every form and, where we cannot get rid of them altogether, making them so infinitesimal, so insignificant in the life of the individual that they no longer count.

I think that today can be put down as one of the great red-letter days in the history of the Foundation. We dedicate this building not only to those who are here now and those who will be here in the days to come, not only to that very small fraction of infantile paralysis sufferers that we now have room for, or will ever have room for at Warm Springs, but we dedicate this building to crippled boys and girls all over the United States and other countries for generations to come.

STATEMENTS FILE

DELICATORY EXERCISES  
NORMAL WILSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA  
April 1, 1939

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As time passed, conditions made it necessary to broaden our field or scope of treatment, to supplement hydrotherapy with additional methods as all problems did not lend themselves to the efficacy of a single regimen. Many cases within a few weeks after their acute onset presented themselves for treatment -- their condition on admission demanded prolonged rest in bed with medical and nursing care, which we were unable to provide. We had to be on the alert to prevent deformities while improvement in muscle power was taking place. A great number of cases had well-defined deformities on admission which needed correction before any type of physical therapy could be of value. In some instances this could be accomplished by braces or a series of corrective plaster casts or, in advanced cases, surgical intervention was necessary. All these phases of treatment, and many more too numerous to mention at this time, have been added during the past few years, but not without some inconvenience -- and yet

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# STATEMENTS

DEDICATORY EXCERPTS

NORMAN WILSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA

April 1, 1939

(8)

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WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, WARM SPRINGS, Ga.  
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(Copy A)

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it is only fair to say simply that there are few men who  
would have had the courage, the perseverance and the fore-  
sight to carry through an institution of this kind up  
to its present development and I know that no one takes  
greater pleasure than the President in dedicating this new  
Medical Building. The President of the United States.

THE PRESIDENT:

(Copy B)

*AF* We are gathered here today to celebrate the achievement of a goal, to memorialize, if you please, the advent of a new era in the progress that has been made at the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation in the treatment of that phase of infantile paralysis for which this institution was founded. This modern physical plant which spreads before us this afternoon, possessing all the facilities necessary for the correct treatment of the various problems arising after the acute convalescence, is the realization of a dream that had its inception in the heart and mind of our beloved President who was its Founder some ~~fourteen~~<sup>twelve</sup> years ago. In the beginning, the pool of natural warm water located at the foot of this hill was the one big machine or tool used to fashion all of our end results. At that time it did a fine job and still continues a most important cog in the wheels of our present day machinery and serves a specific purpose in carrying out treatment for those patients for whom hydrotherapy is indicated. Today it stands as a monument as having been the means of helping create renewed interest in infantile paralysis throughout the country.

As time passed, conditions made it necessary to broaden our field or scope of treatment, to supplement hydrotherapy with additional methods as all problems did not lend themselves to the efficacy of a single regimen. Many cases within a few weeks after their acute onset presented themselves for treatment - their condition on admission demanded prolonged rest in bed with medical and nursing care which we were unable to provide. We had to be on the alert to prevent deformities while improvement in muscle power was taking place. A great number of cases had well defined deformities on admission which needed correction before any type of physical therapy could be

of value. In some instances this could be accomplished by braces or a series of corrective plaster casts or, in advanced cases, surgical intervention was necessary. All these phases of treatment, and many more too numerous to mention at this time, have been added during the past few years, but not without some inconvenience - and yet not to the same degree as that experienced by our Founders in their work during the early years. And as our results from this more individualized type of treatment merited space for its continuance, the Trustees have seen fit to provide us with this modern up-to-date workshop which houses a complete armamentarium, a specific tool for every problem. On completion it will no longer be impossible to provide proper orthopaedic supervision and adequate medical and nursing care for those individuals handicapped to the extent that unaided they would be unable to take care of their personal needs. It will no longer be necessary to do all surgery in a distant locality with added discomfort to the patient and inconvenience to the staff.

Needless to say, the provision of these facilities fills me with inexpressable joy and now may I, representing the Medical Department of the Foundation, ask all of you to unite with us in seeking God's guidance and direction in the utilization of these facilities that we, at all times, may exercise the necessary wisdom and skill which in the end will have provided a richer and fuller service for those individuals entrusted to our care.

I thank you!

INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
AT THE DEDICATION OF THE NORMAN WILSON  
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,  
WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, WARM SPRINGS, GA.,  
April 1, 1939.

*PJ*

Dr. Irwin was right when he spoke of this new building as the attainment of one of the major goals that we have been striving for for a great many years. I think it was eleven years ago that Henry Toombs and I one night worked on some sketch plans for the Campus. At that time there was no Campus. There was the old wooden hotel that many of us remember and a few off-center, ramshackle cottages down at this end and a few similar off-center ramshackle cottages at the other end. There was no order, no plan. At that time Henry Toombs and I put down on paper the first sketch of what is now the Warm Springs Campus.

I am glad that Dr. Irwin has also told you something about the great strides in the care of infantile paralysis during these intervening years. If at that time we had done more on that original plan than to put a square down at this end of the proposed Campus and label it "Medical Center", if we had attempted to draw the plans of a Medical Center, medical science would have out-distanced us before the building was a year old.

Now, however, I think we all feel that we are working along

lines of permanency in the development of medical care and that this building will last for generations to come because it has been designed right and built right.

So it is with great pleasure that I dedicate this building today, and I might add the thought that the braces and other implements which are about to be buried in the box are a symbol of what we are doing here at Warm Springs for the patients, getting rid of physical handicaps of every form and, where we cannot get rid of them altogether, making them so infinitesimal, so insignificant in the life of the individual that they no longer count.

I think that today can be put down as one of the great red-letter days in the history of the Foundation. We dedicate this building not only to those who are here now and those who will be here in the days to come, not only to that very small fraction of infantile paralysis sufferers that we now have room for, or will ever have room for at Warm Springs, but we dedicate this building to crippled boys and girls all over the United States and other countries for generations to come.

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