
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**

File No. 1292

1940 July 23

**Ceremonies Incidental to the Presentation to the
President of a Jeweled Pin by Park Lodge No. 203,
I.O.O.F.**

CEREMONIES INCIDENTAL TO THE PRESENTATION TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE JEWEL PIN COMMEMORATING HIS TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF
MEMBERSHIP IN PARK LODGE NO. 203, I.O.O.F.,
ON THE FRONT PORCH OF THE PRESIDENT'S HOME
AT HYDE PARK, N.Y.,
July 23, 1940, 11.30 A.M.

(The President greeted each individual member of the delegation.)

MR. CECIL HALPIN: Mr. President and Brother: We, representatives of Park Lodge, have assembled here today to honor you as one of our members. We are proud and honored to have, as a member of our Lodge, so great and distinguished a citizen.

On behalf of the members of Park Lodge, I assure you that this day will be a memorable one in the history of our Lodge and it will be recorded as one of the greatest historical events in the history of our Lodge.

We are here to bear witness that you have been ever faithful to the principles of our Order, that you have given your heart to the care of the sick and disabled and have done all in your power to help the widow and orphan.

As Noble Grand of Park Lodge, and on behalf of its members, I have the honor and pleasure of presenting to you this jewel as a token of our regard and esteem. (Applause)

Let it be to you, Brother Roosevelt, an ever present reminder of the joys you have given, of the personal friendships you have won and of the good deeds which you have done.

On behalf of Park Lodge No. 203 of Hyde Park, New York, I extend to you our sincere good wishes and congratulations.

THE PRESIDENT: This is most of the crowd I was sort of brought up with.

There are a few youngsters.

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 or phrases 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 MEMBERS: This is most of the crowd I was sort of brought up with. There are a few youngsters.

ON BEHALF OF THE GRAND OF THE LODGE, NEW YORK, I extend to you our sincere good wishes and congratulations.

YOU HAVE WON ONE OF THE GOOD DEEDS WHICH YOU HAVE DONE. EITHER OF THE JOBS YOU HAVE GIVEN, OF THE PERSONAL FRIENDSHIPS THAT IS BE TO YOU, BROTHAR ROOSEVELT, AN EVER PRESENT RE- AS A TOKEN OF OUR REGARD AND ESTEEM. (APPLAUSE)

I HAVE THE HONOR AND PLEASURE OF PRESENTING TO YOU THIS JEWEL AS HOPE GRAND OF THE LODGE, AND ON BEHALF OF ITS MEMBERS, POWER TO HELP THE WIDOW AND ORPHAN.

TO THE CARE OF THE SICK AND DISABLED AND HAVE DONE ALL IN YOUR TO THE PRINCIPLES OF OUR ORDER, THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR BEST. WE ARE HERE TO BEAR WITNESS THAT YOU HAVE BEEN EVER FAITHFUL IN THE HISTORY OF OUR LODGE.

AND IT WILL BE RECORDED AS ONE OF THE GREATEST HISTORICAL EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF OUR LODGE.

THIS DAY WILL BE A MEMORABLE ONE IN THE HISTORY OF OUR LODGE. ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LODGE, I ASSURE YOU THAT LODGE, SO GREAT AND DISTINGUISHED A GUEST.

MEMBERS. WE ARE PROUD AND HONORED TO HAVE, AS A MEMBER OF OUR PARK LODGE, HAVE ASSIGNED HERE TODAY TO HONOR YOU AS ONE OF OUR MR. OWEN HARRIS: MR. PRESIDENT AND BROTHAR REPRESENTATIVE OF

You know, it is -- I can hardly realize it is more than twenty-five years. We have been trying to do this for over two years.

MR. HALPIN: It is twenty-seven and a half years.

THE PRESIDENT: Twenty-seven and a half years for a fact. And I will always remember that long flight of stairs which, however, we have all survived.

Then, there is another thing that I shall always remember and that is back -- it is a sort of personal thing -- back in 1921, when I got infantile paralysis up at Campobello, and got back here and went to the hospital in New York and then to the house in New York, and I came up in the spring of 1922. I had only been here for three days when there was a committee came down from Park Lodge and they asked if there was anything they could do. It was the sweetest thing that ever happened. That was back in 1922, and it is something that I will never forget. That was the action taken by the Lodge in sending down a committee to see if there was anything they could do to help me.

MR. HALPIN: We have a new District Deputy in Park Lodge now.

THE PRESIDENT: That is grand.

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STATEMENTS FILE

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[Handwritten scribble]

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(end)