

March 8, 1941

[8th Anniversary of the Farm Program]

FDR Speech File

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FARM PROGRAM
MARCH 8, 1941

I am glad to be able again to take part in this
anniversary celebration. Eight years ago today I sent out
a call for farmers and farm leaders to come to Washington to
help draft farm legislation to meet the emergency. That
meeting led to the national farm programs that we now have.

Farmers did their work well. Agriculture was
almost helpless before the emergency of 1933 but in September,
1939, when another crisis confronted us, the crisis of the
second World War, ^{farming} ~~it~~ was far better prepared.

The reasons for the favorable position of agriculture
in the late summer of 1939 are not hard to find. Agriculture
probably suffered more than any other industry from the
shortsighted national policies that followed the end of the
first World War. When the farmers arrived here in response
to my call of March 8, 1933, I found a group eager for action
and ready to lay aside minor differences. They knew there was

no time to lose.

When the second World War began, the farm programs inaugurated in 1933 served as shock-absorbers for agriculture. We had no repetition of the "Buy-a-Bale" movement and other ineffective proposals for farm relief that followed August of 1914, after the outbreak of the 1st World War

Today there is no call to plow up the plains.

American agriculture is in splendid condition to play its full part in the program of national defense. Our granaries are full. Our stores of food and fiber are adequate to meet our own needs at home -- yes, and the needs of our friends in other lands now fighting for their existence -- fighting in behalf of all democratic forms of government, fighting against world control by dictatorships.

The country is glad that there are no bottlenecks in our agricultural production. The farm front is ready for any demand of total defense.

It is no accident that the farmers of our country stand ready to serve in the severe trial ahead of us. Their preparedness is the fruit of their own voluntary, concerted efforts, stretching back over the years.

These efforts are embodied in national farm programs, conceived by the farmers and administered by farmers.

To me the story of this achievement is a genuine inspiration. Back in 1933, farmers balked at the philosophy of fear and inaction. Assisted by Government, they came together and began to work together to solve some of these difficulties. Through their programs they have raised farm income. They are conserving their soil. They are rehabilitating poverty-stricken farmers. The farm front is a broad one but national programs for agriculture touch every part of this front.

Six million farmers cooperating in these national programs are helping to give the answer to those who question

the future of democracy. I am well aware that these programs have not solved all farm problems. Out of the war have arisen new difficulties and new demands. The post-war world will be different in many ways from the world we knew before September, 1939. But given a sympathetic national administration, farmers can meet these post-war problems as they met those of 1933. They can achieve the equality they must have if they are to make their proper contribution to the national defense and to the American way of life.

It is the fate of this common life that weighs upon all our hearts tonight. The farmer, no less than the businessman and the workman, has his eyes turned to the world situation.

Democracy over large areas of the old world is threatened with extinction. And no democratic farm program in the United States, nor the democratic way of life, can hope to survive the death of democracy over the rest of the earth.

We cannot escape our collective responsibility for the kind of life that is going to emerge from the ordeal through which the world is passing today. We may discharge that responsibility unwisely but we cannot escape the consequences of our choice. We would have it a world in which we may live in peace, freedom and security -- the kind of world our farmer forefathers dreamed of and worked for as they settled the Atlantic seaboard and pushed their way to the West. I am confident that the farmers of 1941 want this kind of world to survive.

-000-

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Vig. reading copy

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FARM PROGRAM
MARCH 6, 1941

I am glad to be able again to take part in this anniversary celebration. Eight years ago today I sent out a call for farmers and farm leaders to come to Washington to help draft farm legislation to meet the emergency. That meeting led to the national farm programs that we now have.

Farmers did their work well. Agriculture was almost helpless before the emergency of 1933 but in September, 1939, when another crisis confronted us, the crisis of the second World War, it was far better prepared.

The reasons for the favorable position of agriculture in the late summer of 1939 are not hard to find. Agriculture probably suffered more than any other industry from the shortsighted national policies that followed the end of the first World War. When the farmers arrived here in response to my call of March 6, 1933, I found a group eager for action and ready to lay aside minor differences. They knew there was

no time to lose.

When the second World War began, the farm programs inaugurated in 1933 served as shock-absorbers for agriculture. We had no repetition of the "Buy-a-Bale" movement and other ineffective proposals for farm relief that followed August of 1914.

Today there is no call to plow up the plains. American agriculture is in splendid condition to play its full part in the program of national defense. Our granaries are full. Our stores of food and fiber are adequate to meet our own needs at home -- yes, and the needs of our friends in other lands now fighting for their existence -- fighting in behalf of all democratic forms of government, fighting against world control by dictatorships.

The country is glad that there are no bottlenecks in our agricultural production. The farm front is ready for any demand of total defense.

It is no accident that the farmers of our country stand ready to serve in the severe trial ahead of us. Their preparedness is the fruit of their own voluntary, concerted efforts, stretching back over the years.

These efforts are embodied in national farm programs, conceived by the farmers and administered by farmers.

To me the story of this achievement is a genuine inspiration. Back in 1933, farmers balked at the philosophy of fear and inaction. Assisted by Government, they came together and began to work together to solve some of these difficulties. Through their programs they have raised farm income. They are conserving their soil. They are rehabilitating poverty-stricken farmers. The farm front is a broad one but national programs for agriculture touch every part of this front.

Six million farmers cooperating in these national programs are helping to give the answer to those who question

the future of democracy. I am well aware that these programs have not solved all farm problems. Out of the war have arisen new difficulties and new demands. The post-war world will be different in many ways from the world we knew before September, 1939. But given a sympathetic national administration, farmers can meet these post-war problems as they met those of 1933. They can achieve the equality they must have if they are to make their proper contribution to the national defense and to the American way of life.

It is the fate of this common life that weighs upon all our hearts tonight. The farmer, no less than the businessman and the workman, has his eyes turned to the world situation.

Democracy over large areas of the old world is threatened with extinction. And no democratic farm program in the United States, nor the democratic way of life, can hope to survive the death of democracy over the rest of the earth.

We cannot escape our collective responsibility for the kind of life that is going to emerge from the ordeal through which the world is passing today. We may discharge that responsibility unwisely but we cannot escape the consequences of our choice. We would have it a world in which we may live in peace, freedom and security -- the kind of world our farmer forefathers dreamed of and worked for as they settled the Atlantic seaboard and pushed their way to the West. I am confident that the farmers of 1941 want this kind of world to survive.

Annual Anniversary

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
In Connection with the Anniversary Farm Dinners,
Broadcast from the White House,
March 8, 1941, 9:45 P.M., E.S.T.

I am glad to be able (again) to take part again in this anniversary celebration. Eight long years ago today I sent out a call for farmers and farm leaders to come to Washington to help draft farm legislation to meet the emergency (.) ; and that meeting led directly to the national farm programs that we now have.

Farmers did their work well. Agriculture was almost helpless, as we remember, before the emergenc(y)ies of 1933 but in September 1939, when another crisis confronted us, the crisis of the second World War, (it) farm ing was far better prepared.

The reasons for the favorable position of agriculture in the late summer of 1939 are not hard to find. Agriculture probably suffered more than any other industry from the shortsighted national policies that followed the end of the first World War. When the farmers arrived here in response to my call of March 8, 1933, I found a group eager for action and ready to lay aside minor differences. They knew that there was no time to lose.

So when the second World War began a year and a half ago, the farm programs inaugurated in 1933 served as what might be called shock-absorbers for agriculture. We had no repetition of the "Buy-a-Bale" movement and other ineffective proposals for farm relief that followed that August of 1914.

Today there is no call to plow up the plains. American agriculture is in splendid condition to play its full part in the program of national defense. Our granaries are full. Our stores of food and fiber are adequate to meet our own needs at home -- yes, and the needs of our friends in the other lands now fighting for their existence -- fighting in behalf of all democratic

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.

..... of national and fiscal aid or assistance of men of means and

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.

... and all assistance to citizens wherever and not another off and even bettering themselves . but we must do our best to measure up to our obligations and our greatest radio you up or anyone of us and derive strength and hope and faith in our selves yet of what has been done and now a hero I , (CVI , 8 April to him)... of our own fact would want . concentrate in main and off one day a but may a aged the below names and now off

strengths - off rights now as before (CVI of determine among radio has shown "right-a-ways" and to ourselves on bed of enthusiasm not April to remain and believe and not disengaged without our strengths and off . making off to hold of like or in event what - ab innocent to memory off the first off gain of wisdoms bibles of all or stampede ourself has got to realize who first off us seriously and - and radio off of course too to these off has , say -- now is when two and four old enough lie to lined at night -- especially tied to paired off was usual

forms of government, fighting against world control by dictatorships after the outbreak of the first World War.

The country is glad that there are no bottlenecks in our agricultural production. The farm front is ready for any demand of total defense.

It is no accident that the farmers of our country stand ready to serve in the severe trial ahead of us. Their preparedness is the fruit of their own voluntary, concerted efforts, stretching back over (the) all these years.

These efforts are embodied in national farm programs, conceived by the farmers and administered by the farmers.

To me the story of (this) that achievement is a genuine inspiration. Back, back in 1933, farmers balked at the philosophy of fear and inaction. Assisted by their Government, they came together and began to work together to solve some of these difficulties. Through their programs they have raised farm income. They are conserving their soil. They are rehabilitating poverty-stricken farmers. The farm front is a broad one but national programs for agriculture touch every part of this front, in every part of the land.

Six million farmers cooperating in these national programs are helping to give the answer to those who question the future of democracy. I am well aware that these programs have not solved all the farm problems. Out of the war -- the present war -- have arisen new difficulties and new demands. The post-war world will be different in many ways from the world that we knew before September 1939. But given a sympathetic national administration, farmers can meet these post-war problems as they met (those) the problems of 1933. They can achieve the equality they must have if they are to make their proper contribution to the national defense and to the American way of life.

It is the fate of this common life that weighs upon all our hearts tonight. And it may interest you to know that only a few hours ago the Senate

passed, by a vote of about two to one, the Lend-Lease Bill for aid to the democracies of the world that are trying to save their democracy. The farmer, no less than the businessman and the workman, has his eyes turned to the world situation.

Democracy over large areas of the old world is threatened with extinction. And no democratic farm program in the United States, nor the democratic way of life here, can hope to survive the death of democracy over the rest of the earth.

We cannot escape our collective responsibility for the kind of life that is going to emerge from the ordeal through which the world is passing today. We cannot be an island. We may discharge that responsibility unwisely but we cannot escape the consequences of our choice. We would have it a world in which we may live in peace, live in freedom, (and) live in security -- the kind of world our farmer forefathers dreamed of and worked for as they settled the old Atlantic seaboard and pushed their way into the West. I am confident that the farmers of 1941 want this kind of world to survive.

* * * * *

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

MARCH 8, 1941

CAUTION: The following address of the President, to be broadcast from the White House, in connection with the Anniversary Farm Dinners, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Release to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 9:45 P.M., E.S.T., March 8, 1941. The same release of the text of the address also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

A f d / 1

Address of the President in connection with the
Eighth Anniversary of the farm program, to be
broadcast over a nationwide hookup from the
White House at 9:45 P.M., E.S.T., Saturday,
March 8, 1941.

I am glad to be able to take part ~~in~~ in this anniversary celebration. Eight years ago today I sent out a call for farmers and farm leaders to come to Washington to help draft farm legislation to meet the emergency. That meeting led to the national farm programs that we now have.

Farmers did their work well. Agriculture was almost helpless before the emergency of 1933 but in September, 1939, when another crisis confronted us, the crisis of the second World War, it was better prepared ^{for} ~~than any other major industry~~

The reasons for the favorable position of agriculture in the late summer of 1939 are not hard to find. Agriculture probably suffered more than any other industry from the shortsighted national policies that followed the end of the first World War. When the farmers arrived here in response to my call of March 8, 1933, I found a group eager for action and ready to lay aside minor differences. They knew there was no time to lose.

When the second World War began, the farm programs inaugurated in 1933 served as shock-absorbers for agriculture. We had no repetition of the "Buy-a-Bale" movement and other ineffective proposals for farm relief that followed August of 1914.

Today there is no call to plow up the plains. American agriculture is in splendid condition to play its full part in the program of national defense. Our granaries are full. Our stores of food and fiber are adequate to meet our own needs at home -- yes, and the needs of our friends in other lands now fighting for their existence *fighting in behalf of all democratic forms of government fighting against world control by dictatorship*

The country is glad that there are no bottlenecks in our agricultural production. The farm front is ready for any demand of total defense.

It is no accident that the farmers of our country stand ready to serve in the severe trial ahead of us. Their preparedness is the fruit of their own voluntary, concerted efforts, stretching back over the years.

These efforts are embodied in national farm programs, conceived by the farmers and administered by farmers.

To me the story of this achievement is a genuine inspiration. Back in 1933, farmers balked at the philosophy of fear and inaction. Assisted by Government, they came together and began to work together to solve some of these difficulties. Through their programs they have raised farm income. They are conserving their soil. They are rehabilitating poverty-stricken farmers. The farm front is a broad one but national programs for agriculture touch every part of this front.

Six million farmers cooperating in these national programs are helping give the answer to those who question the future of democracy. I am well aware that these programs have not solved all farm problems. Out of the war have arisen new difficulties and new demands. The post-war world will be different in many ways from the world we knew before September, 1939. But given a sympathetic national administration, farmers can meet these post-war problems as they met those of 1933. They can achieve the equality they must have if they are to make their proper contribution to the national defense and to the American way of life.

It is the fate of this common life that weighs upon all our hearts tonight. The farmer, no less than the businessmen and the workman, has his eyes turned to the world situation.

Democracy over large areas of the old world is threatened with extinction. And no democratic farm program in the United States, ~~no single aspect of our~~ ⁱⁿ democratic way of life can hope to survive the death of democracy over the rest of the earth.

We cannot escape our collective responsibility for the kind of life that is going to emerge from the ordeal through which the world is passing today. We may discharge that responsibility unwisely but we cannot escape the consequences of our choice. We would have it a world in which we may live in peace, freedom and security -- the kind of world our farmer forefathers dreamed of and worked for as they settled the Atlantic seaboard and pushed their way to the West. I am confident that the farmers of 1941 want this kind of world to survive.

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

STATEMENTS FILE

MARCH 8, 1941

CAUTION: The following address of the President, to be broadcast from the White House, in connection with the Anniversary Farm Dinners, MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Release to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 9:45 P.M., E.S.T., March 8, 1941. The same release of the text of the address also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

I am glad to be able again to take part in this anniversary celebration. Eight years ago today I sent out a call for farmers and farm leaders to come to Washington to help craft farm legislation to meet the emergency. That meeting led to the national farm programs that we now have. *long* *and* *ies* *directly* *again*

as we remember Farmers did their work well. Agriculture was almost helpless before the emergency of 1933 but in September, 1939, when another crisis confronted us, the crisis of the second World War, it was far better prepared.

The reasons for the favorable position of agriculture in the late summer of 1939 are not hard to find. Agriculture probably suffered more than any other industry from the shortsighted national policies that followed the end of the first World War. When the farmers arrived here in response to my call of March 8, 1933, I found a group eager for action and ready to lay aside minor differences. They knew there was no time to lose. *that* *and right located* *a year and a half ago*

See When the second World War began, the farm programs inaugurated in 1933 served as shock-absorbers for agriculture. It had no repetition of the "Buy-a-Bale" movement and other ineffective proposals for farm relief that followed August of 1914.

that Today there is no call to plow up the plains. American agriculture is in splendid condition to play its full part in the program of national defense. Our granaries are full. Our stores of food and fiber are adequate to meet our own needs at home -- yes, and the needs of our friends in other lands now fighting for their existence -- fighting in behalf of all democratic forms of government, fighting against world control by dictatorships. *after the outbreak of the* *first World War*.

The country is glad that there are no bottlenecks in our agricultural production. The farm front is ready for any demand of total defense.

It is no accident that the farmers of our country stand ready to serve in the severe trial ahead of us. Their preparedness is the fruit of their own voluntary, concerted efforts, stretching back over the years.

all these These efforts are embodied in national farm programs, conceived by the farmers and administered by farmers. *that* *the*

back To me the story of this achievement is a genuine inspiration. Back in 1933, farmers balked at the philosophy of fear and inaction. Assisted by Government, they came together and began to work together to solve some of these difficulties. Through their programs they have raised farm income. They are conserving their soil. They are rehabilitating poverty-stricken farmers. The farm front is a broad one but national programs for agriculture touch every part of this front, in

their

every part of
the land.

the present war

Six million farmers cooperating in these national programs are helping to give the answer to those who question the future of democracy. I am well aware that these programs have not solved all the farm problems. Out of the war have arisen new difficulties and new demands. The post-war world will be different in many ways from the world we knew before September, 1939. But given a sympathetic national administration, farmers can meet these post-war problems as they met (those) of 1933. They can achieve the equality they must have if they are to make their proper contribution to the national defense and to the American way of life.

It is the fate of this common life that weighs upon all our hearts tonight. The farmer, no less than the businessman and the workman, has his eyes turned to the world situation.

Democracy over large areas of the old world is threatened with extinction. And no democratic farm program in the United States, nor the democratic way of life can hope to survive the death of democracy over the rest of the earth.

We cannot escape our collective responsibility for the kind of life that is going to emerge from the ordeal through which the world is passing today. We may discharge that responsibility unwisely but we cannot escape the consequences of our choice. We would have it a world in which we may live in peace, freedom, (and) live in security — the kind of world our farmer forefathers dreamed of and worked for as they settled the Atlantic seaboard and pushed their way to the West. I am confident that the farmers of 1941 want this kind of world to survive.

He cannot be an island.

And it may interest you to know that only a few hours ago the Senate passed, by a vote of about two to one, the Lend-Lease Bill for aid to the democracies of the world that are trying to save their democracy.