

# Text of Gov. Townsend's Address Before Convention

The text of Governor Townsend's address to the Democratic State Convention today follows:

My friends, I have come here today with a great deal of gratitude in my heart.

I am deeply grateful to you, the members of the Democratic Party, for giving me an opportunity to serve the people of Indiana. And, more than that, you have given me your understanding and support. Your generous counsel and advice has enabled me to better understand the problems and views of all the people.

I am deeply grateful for the privilege of living in a democratic society, where the views of every person are regarded as important. I have tried to consult the wishes of all the people, because I have profound faith in the rule of the will of the majority. The steady evolution of our society through democracy has enabled us to progress and live together in peace and security.

It is inevitable that conflicts should arise among men, but in our democracy they are solved not by force but by submitting them peacefully to the will of the majority. And I thank God that it is so.

The Democratic Party means more to me than I know how to tell. It has elevated me as a tenant farmer, to the Governorship of a great state, and naturally the party has become an essential part of my life. Its successes are my successes, and its failures are my deep sorrows. I would not for anything in the world be a party to a fatal division in the party.

We are assembled here today to fulfill our function as a political party under a democratic form of government. On this day when we will form our policies and select our nominees, I know that all of us feel the deep responsibility that is ours. We have a deep responsibility to those millions of people who have faith in our party, who believe they can entrust their welfare to us.

## 'COMMON MAN'S PARTY'

The actions we take today will be felt in every home in our state and will have an influence on every life.

Our party as it is constituted today is the party of the common man—the worker, the businessman, the farmer, the unemployed, and the dependant. It is the party pledged to bring greater security to the common man.

It is truly a democratic party, embracing all groups and all creeds with tolerance and understanding. The young, the old, the women, the Negroes, the foreign groups all look to us for a solution of their problems.

Today and every day, we must remember that we are the liberal party, the party responsive to the needs of all. Within the last few years as the social issues have become more clearly defined, the people of America have chosen between two fundamentally different points of view.

We represent the progressive view, the philosophy that always seeks to adjust society to the people's needs for humanity's sake. We seek to build a society that not only today but far into the future will provide a greater measure of security and happiness for all the people.

Opposed to us are the reactionaries and the do-nothings who are indifferent to the social problems which have such a deep and lasting effect on the lives of all people. They cannot lift their eyes and face the future with reality and thus cannot recognize the need for progress.

We, as Democrats, as progressives, must be careful that the criticism of the opposition does not divert us from our true course. We must remember always that our responsibility is to the common people. We must fulfill our obligation to them.

## 'DO NOT WISH TO DICTATE'

You, the delegates to the convention, are the representatives of the Democrats of your communities. You know their wishes, and I charge you to consider their welfare and their interest in your deliberations today.

I have said continually, and I repeat today that I do not wish in any way to dictate to the Democratic Party its nominee for any office. I believe that the Democrats of Indiana should be given every opportunity to select the candidates they believe will best represent our party.

However, as an individual Democrat honestly interested in the success of the party, I would like to express my hope. I sincerely hope that when you weigh the qualities of candidates you will select those whom you earnestly believe will be responsive to the needs of all the people. I sincerely hope you will select those who have the economic and social welfare of the people at heart. I sincerely hope you will select nominees who understand and are thinking about the basic problems facing our nation and its people. I sincerely hope you will select those who will co-operate in the broad liberal program of our President for recovery and security.

When you establish the platform on which the party will stand, I sincerely hope you will think in terms of providing greater security for all the people.

## 'NO SECURITY FOR ANYONE'

Suffering is like a bad dream. When the pain has ceased, the tortured hours seem little more than a frightening dream. And so today, the terrifying events of 1930, 1931 and 1932 seem part of an unreal experience. But the tragedy was a real one, and the suffering was no dream. All of us, no matter what our place in life, looked

with dull despair at what seemed to be the end of our civilization.

If we were businessmen, we saw our business—the product of our labor and our love—wrecked. If we were farmers, we saw the soil that we tilled and our fathers before us tilled, taken away from us. Prices dropped so low that grain rotted in the fields and cattle starved to death. If we were working people, we had nothing, not even a crumb, to stave off the haunting fear of hunger and want. And the elderly people, the sick and the dependant, what was to become of them? The banking system was failing, and the patient savings of years were swept away in the flood of depression. There was no security for anyone.

Our greatest sin, and it was a sin, was the failure of Government to face reality and try to do something for the people. The Hoover Government ignored the fact that 10-cent corn would pauperize agriculture. It ignored the fact that the machinery was taking away millions of jobs. It ignored the fact that small business was being choked by the pressure of monopolies. It ignored the fact that the old must be given security and the young opportunity. It ignored the fact that unrestrained greed always reaps its tragic harvest of human suffering.

And now terrible it was to watch the suffering of people who had no place to turn! How must a man feel who has stood for hours in a soup line and is told the supply has been cut out? How must a man feel who is ejected from the farm of his fathers? How must a man feel when the bank takes over his business?

But the tide of events began to turn when the people, by the power of their votes, chose the great humanitarian, Franklin D. Roosevelt, to lead them out of the valley of sorrows.

## LOOKED FAR AHEAD

With his love for the common people, with his smiling courage, he found jobs and food and security for the people of America. But more than this President Roosevelt laid the foundation for a better and more secure society.

As he looked into the future, he knew that the battle to bring to all people a happy secure life could not be won in a year, could not be won perhaps in a generation.

The goal of the President has been to build a better balanced, and therefore, more stable society. This has been accomplished by increasing the buying power of the people through higher wages for the working people, a greater return for the farmer, and works projects for the unemployed.

This has been accomplished by going to the bottom of the problems of the nation and inaugurating such programs as soil conservation, rural electrification, home loans, cheap housing, and progressive labor legislation.

This has been accomplished by going to the people themselves for the answers to our national, state and local problems. The banker, the businessman, the farmer, the wage-earner have been consulted. Since that eventful day in March, 1933, when the President took the oath of office, there has been a steady and stabilizing influence felt in every home. The fears of an uncertain future have gradually been laid aside as Social Security and many other acts have become the law of the land.

And I, as a Hoosier, am proud of the contributions that our Indiana Democratic Senators and our Democratic Congressmen have made to this program.

## 'TRIED TO KEEP FAITH'

Last winter this nation faced another economic crisis, because many corporate interests, now that they were cured, refused to go the rest of the way and help the common man.

In this crisis, the Government did not fail the people. Money was appropriated for the war against human suffering. Money was appropriated to protect the people of America against hunger and want. Money was appropriated to control floods, build highways, construct public works, bring electricity to the farm, provide cheap housing for the ill-housed, and provide loans for business and agriculture.

The recovery program has had an immediate effect. Since the passage of the recovery program, which cost three billion dollars, stocks have increased in value 10 billion dollars. In other words, the investor has received already more than three times the original value of the taxes he will pay for recovery. That doesn't sound like spending will ruin America!

In Indiana, we have tried to keep faith with the people. You all know how the Legislatures of 1933, 1935, 1936 and 1937 acted effectively to eliminate taxation inequalities to provide for the unemployed, to bring security to the dependant and underprivileged, to bring peace between labor and industry, and to strengthen the banking system. When the rivers rose from their banks and flooded southern Indiana a short time after my inauguration, I was thankful that the Legislature had reorganized state government. The entire force of state government was co-ordinated to bring relief to the people of southern Indiana. Eleven agencies of state government were all mobilized to save life and property. The flood, too, proved how invaluable is the close co-operation of the state and Federal governments, because the agencies of both worked side by side. When I became Governor, I hoped to carry on the operation of state government smoothly

and effectively along the liberal course charted by the previous administration.

## LABOR AND INDUSTRY

This administration had two new objectives. We wanted to help bring about peace between labor and industry, and we wanted to further reduce traffic accidents. And perhaps, above all things, we wanted to develop a better understanding and a true spirit of co-operation among all our people.

Two of the most vital forces in our society are labor and industry. Neither can operate without the other. Labor needs the tools of industry, and industry needs the hands of labor. And, if our society is to be stable and secure, labor must receive a fair share of the wealth it produces, just as business must have a just profit. The laborer is both a worker and a consumer, and if his buying power is lowered by low wages, the goods of industry will go unsold.

We, and by we I mean the people of Indiana, through the Legislature and the executive, established the Division of Labor to settle the disputes of labor and industry around the conference table. Our record is unequalled anywhere, 700 disputes, involving 151,000 workers, solved peacefully and satisfactorily. In this work, the State of Indiana has added to the security of every Hoosier home.

## GROSS INCOME TAX

We have saved lives in Indiana by putting into effect an aggressive traffic safety campaign. Indiana reduced traffic deaths 25.8 per cent this year.

This administration has tried in all ways possible to find out the needs of the people, and to talk over the government with the people. We have tried to think through each act of government will affect every person. When the people come to us with their problems, we sincerely try to give them service.

As you will recall, one of my first and unofficial acts after my election, was to call in all those interested in the gross income tax, and we worked out an arrangement which has helped the retail merchant.

Rural electrification is needed to bring a more abundant life to the farmer, and through our efforts this modern convenience has been made available to hundreds of rural homes. The Public Service Commission was able to obtain reduction in rates for rural co-operatives and Indiana is now in a position to lead the nation in rural power. The Commission has worked wholeheartedly with the farm leaders in pushing the rural electrification program into every section of the state.

I believe that as the Governor of a semi-agricultural state, I should be deeply interested in national agriculture problems. The problems of agriculture are more than local problems, they are national problems. Last October we sponsored a Midwest farm meeting, so that Indiana as well as other corn-belt states could have a hand in writing the new agricultural bill. We met, discussed our problems, and acted constructively.

This administration, too, has endeavored to serve business and industry. We have encouraged reliable industries to come to Indiana and settle here. Day after tomorrow I will be in Buffalo, N. Y., to testify before the Interstate Commerce Commission, at the request of the State Chamber of Commerce. I am going to Buffalo to do my part to protect our industries against an unfair competitive advantage sought by other states.

State government is essentially a service organization, and I wish I had the time to tell you of all the services we are giving the people of Indiana. I wish I had time to tell you how the Board of Health is protecting and preserving the health of our people by its services to mothers, to children, and to the sick and diseased. I wish I had time to tell you how we are ministering to the needs of the unemployed, underprivileged and dependant in our state.

'STUDYING FUTURE NEEDS'

We are today studying carefully future needs, so that we may act intelligently to meet new problems as they arise. We are studying and talking to people to find out how we can better serve the people at a reasonable cost evenly distributed. Commissions are studying taxation, marriage laws, and compensation insurance.

Last Christmas when thousands of our people were unemployed and all were facing heavy holiday and tax payments, we declared a moratorium on motor vehicle payments. We sincerely believed that the motorists should not be burdened with additional expense at this time.

I now propose that the date for payment of motor vehicle fees be extended by legislative and administrative action to June 30, and I hope to recommend this.

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Shampoo, Rinse and  
Finger Wave ..... 35c  
**SEARS, ROEBUCK  
AND CO.**  
Alabama at Vermont

move to the next regular session of the General Assembly.

Government in Indiana, with all its increased services, has been able to reduce costs and maintain a balanced budget. Comparing the last year of Republican state administration with the first year of this administration, the cost of government in Indiana has been reduced \$18,400,000.

We have a surplus of \$24,500,000 in the State treasury, and I believe that the people should be given the benefit of their thriftiness. I believe that it would be fair and just to distribute back to the local communities a portion of the surplus to help them bear the cost of public welfare. I believe it would be fair and just to appropriate funds for a recovery public works program, which would employ many Hoosier workers and create employment in the durable goods industries.

## 'LET'S FORGET DIFFERENCES'

At this time, we are all naturally thinking of the future, and what our party can do to further improve the welfare of the people. The best advice I can give to you is to cling to our ideals of liberalism and to never forget that the common people are our people.

I hope we will all leave this convention united and inspired for the campaign. Let us all forget our differences of the past.

As liberals, we may differ conscientiously with one another on

some few issues, but we must unite to push forward the general program of security and progress. That, my friends, is the spirit of President Roosevelt's last fireside chat.

The issue of the campaign, the battle cry of democracy shall be SECURITY. Shall we go ahead with our President and the party to bring greater security to the people, or will we turn back to ineffective, do-nothing government?

Shall America have a government attentive to the needs of the people, or will we turn back to the government of special privilege?

I say we shall go ahead. We will continue the kind of government which is deeply sympathetic to the welfare of the common people. In Indiana the people shall be fed. The unemployed must have work. The farmer and the laborer and the businessman must have a fair share of the wealth they produce. The old must have security and the young opportunity. And all this shall be achieved by democracy—a free people guaranteed freedom of thought and worship.

To these purposes, I dedicate the entire resources of the great State of Indiana.

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have passed and we are happy to tell you that hundreds of Indiana folk have responded with great vim and vigor. There is no question about it, and you will agree, if you come down and look for yourself, that this is the BIGGEST BARGAIN EVENT EVER RUN BY ANY FURNITURE STORE. The best ad that we can write is simply—SEEING IS BELIEVING and we urge you to pay heed to this axiom and visit the Victor. Even if you are not in the market for furniture at the present time, a visit to our store may convince you NOW IS THE TIME.

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**WOMEN'S 59c to \$1.00 SUMMER DRESSES**

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A grand group of cool cotton wash frocks in assorted styles and materials. Many sports dresses included. First quality dresses with a few slight irregularities included. Shop early for best pick.

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Cool foundation garments for hot summer days. Girdle sizes 26 to 33. Foundation sizes 34 to 42. **88c**

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Actual 29c extra fine quality. Clearance Priced

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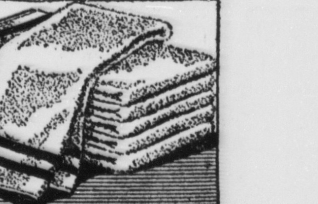
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**9c** YARD

36 and 39-inch sheer quality wash goods. Full bolts and up to 10 yard lengths. Guaranteed tub fast. Choice of plain and printed patterns in voiles, lawns, dotted voiles and printed voiles.

## Boys' Solid Leather WHITE Oxfords \$1.95

Regular \$2.45 oxfords with Goodyear sewed soles, and leather Cuban heels. Sizes 1 to 6. **\$1.69**



Standard Size 17x34-In.

## Turkish Towels

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Nice for summer use, with fancy colored borders. Every towel strictly first quality. Buy a whole summer's supply tomorrow.

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Four-gore and form-fitting, bias cut slips with shadow-proof panel and swing stride panel. Tearose in tailored or dainty lace trimmed models. Sizes 34 to 44. Sizes 46 to 50 without panel.

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