

ADDRESS OF HONORABLE JAMES A. FARLEY,  
DEMOCRATIC STATE CHAIRMAN.

Four years ago on a similar occasion, when the election returns were in and the result was known, I expressed the sincere hope that the bitterness and ill-feeling engendered in the heat of campaigning would soon be forgotten. As victors, we Democrats promised there would be no reprisals and that no American should have fear of the future.

Four years have passed. Tonight I make the same appeal to my fellow Americans. I ask the victors to be moderate and considerate of others in their joy of victory. I ask the losers, in the traditional spirit of fair play, to overcome their disappointment and to pitch in like the loyal citizens they are, for the common good.

Now, perhaps more than ever before in its history, the United States has need for national unity. The excitement of the campaign must not blind our eyes to the dangers of the perilous world in which we live. We must go forward without delay or interruption along the path which we have been following as a nation since the ugly form of total war engulfed the nations of Europe and the Orient.

While many things are said and done in political campaigns which are later regretted, I am sorry that an excessive note of bitterness has crept into the campaign just closed. Perhaps it was inevitable in view of the excited state of public feeling. Yet I wish it could have been avoided. I doubt if such bitterness makes votes for any candidate or any party.

I am hopeful that the scars of this intense campaign will heal quickly and leave no soreness. And I am also hopeful that in future campaigns, we shall find some way of avoiding these extreme and disturbing methods of appealing for votes. In making this statement, I am not pointing my remarks at any political party or any group in the country. I am simply expressing a feeling in which I believe every citizen may concur.

The voice of America has spoken. The people of America have once again expressed their will and selected the man whom they consider best fitted to guide the destiny of the United States for the next four years. As patriotic citizens, I urge every single individual in the land to accept the supreme judgment of the majority. The people made the decision and the people may be trusted to do what is right.

During the few months remaining in his present term, President Roosevelt will face problems of broad scope and magnitude. He needs your full, earnest and sympathetic cooperation. He will be the President of all the people just as he has been the President of all the people during the past seven and a half years.

When the new Administration takes office in January, this spirit of co-operation must be carried on. We have a common stake in America and we must present a solid front before all the nations of the world.

In the past, the people of America have demonstrated a remarkable capacity for rising above factional and party strife when the electorate has spoken. We have accepted the verdict of the majority with the utmost of tolerance and good-will.

This is our solemn duty tonight. We must realize that the United States is greater than each of us and greater than all of us. We must lay aside personal feeling for the cause of a better, fuller, finer America.

National unity is our goal. Let us realize this goal in the ties of our common citizenship.