

NATIONAL UNITY

STATEMENT

BY

HON. JAMES A. FARLEY

November 6, 1940

(Printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of November 7, 1940)

Mr. GUFFEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD an article from the New York Times containing a statement of Hon. James A. Farley, chairman of the Democratic Committee of New York State, broadcast over the radio yesterday morning, urging the people to put behind them all feeling engendered during the election and to unite for the common good.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times of November 6, 1940]

FARLEY ASKS END OF ALL BITTERNESS—REPEATS PLEA OF 4 YEARS AGO THAT CAMPAIGN ACRIMONY BE PUT ASIDE—NO REPRISALS, HE SAYS—DOUBTS THAT VINDICTIVENESS IN CAMPAIGNS ARE OF BENEFIT TO EITHER PARTY

James A. Farley, New York State Democratic chairman, pleaded for "no reprisals" in a statement made at 12:30 a. m. today over the coast-to-coast network of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

"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," he said. "As victors, we Democrats promised there would be no reprisals.

"No American should have fear for 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."

APPEALS FOR UNITY

"Now, perhaps more than ever before in history, the United States has need for national unity. The excitement of the campaign must not blind our eye 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 and harshness has crept into the campaign just closed. Perhaps it was inevitable in view of the excited state of public feeling.

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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 campaign will heal quickly and leave no soreness. 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 4 years."

JUDGMENT OF MAJORITY

"As patriotic citizens I urge every single individual in the land to accept the supreme judgment of the majority. The people made the decisions. 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 last 7 years and one-half.

"When a new administration takes office in January this spirit of cooperation must be carried on. We have a common stake in America and we must present a solid front before all of the nations of the world.

"In the past people of America have demonstrated the 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 feelings for the cause of a better, fuller, and finer America. National unity is our goal. Let us realize this goal in the ties of our common citizenship."

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