

*The*  
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# President Roosevelt Greeted Kiwanians On White House Lawn



The President tells Kiwanians he is proud of their work.

**A**S A fellow-member I am very happy to greet you.

I think you know of my fairly long association with Kiwanis and I think you know, also, of my special interest in one of the many fine things that Kiwanians are doing; and that relates to looking after crippled children. I know of the practical results of this work in a great many communities, and I think we all recognize that there are many problems in our modern life where it is in every way fine for the country that the primary and preliminary responsibility should rest upon civilian organizations and not wholly on "poor old Government."

That is as it should be. That principle applies to a great many things that we have to cope with in these days

*Four thousand Kiwanians, their wives and children, were estimated to have passed through White House gates to assemble on the spacious South Lawn to see and hear the President of the United States.*

*Led by two boys' bands, one from Arlington County, Virginia, and the other from Hagerstown, Maryland, the great crowd walked from Constitution Hall to the White House lawn, several blocks.*

*At the gate everyone was scrutinized. Your Kiwanis badges were absolutely necessary and the White House guards told of movie camera restrictions. The visitors did not realize they were being admitted to one of the most carefully guarded spots in the world. Although they were not recognized hundreds of secret service men mingled with the crowds.*

*Youngsters were aided in getting to the front where they could view the President of the United States.*

*A little buzz went up from the crowd when a young man in a gray suit came out and looked over the situation. He was one of the President's secretaries. There was little delay. The President emerged from the left. Near him was President Harper Gatton of Kiwanis International and President Bynum E. Hinton of the Kiwanis Club of Washington.*

*It was an impressive sight.—Editor.*

and, as we all know, the advance of science and the advance of public understanding of a great many things that, in the old days, were taken for granted—a great many evils that nobody before bothered their heads about

very much a couple of generations ago—and this work all was done by the citizens of each community themselves.

And so I am very proud of what the Kiwanians have accomplished, and other organizations, like the Kiwanians—that we are able to spread through the community not only our own membership, but all our friends and neighbors—what might be called a better education among the masses of the people and a better understanding of the problem and the old idea of sitting around the table and talking things over.

One of my jobs when in Washington is to sit around the table and "talk it over." I have every day a great many things that I talk over that touch practically every phase of our national life, and you know one of the things we have tried to accomplish in these very recent years is the understanding that the country is one big country; and that the handling of the problems of one locality affects the handling of the problems in other localities and communities. In other words, the force of example is of tremendous importance and effect in a great continent such as ours.

You probably have heard the term "good neighbor." We seem to have established it fairly well in our relations with all the other governments of North, Central and South America, and I hope we will extend the doctrine of "good neighbor" to all the communities within our own border. In that work, Kiwanis has accomplished much.

I wish I could have attended the various meetings of your convention. Some day when I get through my job here, I hope you will let me go just as a delegate.



Photo by Schutz, Washington, D. C.

The visiting Kiwanians with their wives and children, four thousand in all, were massed on the South Lawn of the White House to see and hear President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In the distance is faintly seen the Washington Monument.