

Speech
Speech - Kick-off Dinner, Knights of Columbus, Oates Tavern - January 12th.
7:15 pm.

It is a very distinct and personal pleasure for me, not only for the opportunity of being with you tonight, which is very enjoyable in itself, but also because it makes it possible for me to express personally the happiness I have derived at being selected to serve in the official capacity as Chairman of the Special Gifts Committee of the Knights of Columbus Charity Ball.

It has always been my positive opinion that this great charitable endeavor sponsored annually by the Knights for the alleviation of the suffering and misery of the poor and needy and our less fortunate neighbors ranks high as an outstanding reason, in my mind, for the justification of the existence of the great Order of the Knights of Columbus in this State.

This humanitarian work of love is made possible by the Charity Fund and results in some degree of happiness and sunshine and hope being brought into the hearts and lives of many fine people who find themselves through no fault of their own on the very brink of hopeless despair. It must also, I feel sure, be not only a source of great spiritual inspiration to its recipients but to you, too, the kindly and noble people who work diligently and at great personal sacrifice to make it all possible.

I look upon this assignment as Chairman of the Special Gifts Committee, which I was invited to undertake by my friend and your very active and able General Chairman, Jim Trainor, in the light that it is a responsibility and duty not to be accepted and regarded lightly. Rather it is a project to which I intend

to devote as much time, effort and energy as possible in order that I may help in some small way to make this year's Charity Fund the most successful ever.

It has been a practice, and a most happy one I assure you, for Mrs. Fogarty and ^{me} ~~I~~ to attend your Charity Ball at Rhodes annually and I can tell you now that unless important Congressional business compels my presence in Washington, we shall be with you again this year. I am looking forward to meeting with you again on that occasion.

May I once again express my most earnest hope that the coming Charity Ball will be the most successful one we have ever known.

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