I think we should not start a meeting on this day without expressing a few words about what is in the minds of us all. We have suffered a severe, sad, unexpected loss. It is no eulogy to say that the difficult task ahead of the world, which is called "winning the peace" has become immeasurably more difficult without Roosevelt. His death is comparable to the legendary death of Moses who saw the land of Kaanan but could not enter it, and we feel not so much or not only sympathy with him but also with the people who had to enter the unknown without their wise guide.

Tonight 15 times 350 cannons are sounding in Moscow in honor of the liberation of my home town which vicissitude appears especially tragic to me personally. However, I am of the opinion that a grateful society honors the memory of great men by work not by interruption of work. Let us work.