

## Franklin D. Roosevelt: The first 'modern' President?

### 1932 – President: Video transcript

Swept into office by the greatest landslide in history, his first words were fearless, prophetic.

[Franklin D. Roosevelt]

*I am prepared, under my constitutional duty, to recommend the measures that a stricken nation in the midst of a stricken world may require.*

*These measures, or such other measures, as the Congress may build out of its experience and wisdom I shall seek, within my constitutional authority, to bring to speedy adoption.*

*But in the event that the Congress shall fail to take one of these two courses, and in the event that the national emergency is still critical, I shall not evade the clear course of duty that will then confront me.*

*I shall ask the Congress for the one remaining instrument to meet the crisis – broad Executive power to wage a war against the emergency, as great as the power that would be given to me if we were in fact invaded by a foreign foe.*

**Extract from FDR obituary courtesy of Prelinger Archives and Getty Images**