

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

1929 – Wall Street Crash: Video transcript

Called in 1928 to the state capital in Albany, Franklin Roosevelt was elected governor of New York. With Al Smith his old friend the 'Happy Warrior' at his side, he threw himself into the fight for better government, became the champion of the common man and was widely talked about as the next Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

And with big genial James A. Farley swinging the gavel the di was cast. A country still mired in depression wanted a new President.

Called to Chicago to accept the nomination, Governor Roosevelt flew from Albany with his wife, son Elliott and son John. Few knew it then but this was the beginning of an era unparalleled in American history.

Extract from FDR obituary courtesy of Prelinger Archives and Getty Images