Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 19

1912 August 24

Accepting re-nomination
Franklin D. Roosevelt's

Speech Accepting Re-nomination as Democratic Candidate for
N.Y. State Senator from the 26th Senatorial District,
Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Aug. 24, 1912.

"October, 1910, was the first time that it was my
pleasure to stand on this platform and in going over some
papers the other day I found the first public speech I
ever made which I delivered upon that occasion and I will
read you a few words from it:

'For nearly 20 years Dutchess County and the neigh-
boring counties were represented by those who took orders
from two or three men in Chatham and Poughkeepsie. These
gentlemen still control. I now accept this nomination with
absolute independence and seek only to represent the wishes
of the whole district.'

With your permission I repeat and emphasize these
words today. I realize the great honor that you have
conferred upon me and feel it deeply. In running this
year I will do all I can in this district for the Democratic
cause and all I can for the other candidates from this
district. I hope the election will be like two years ago
when you elected the best Congressman this district ever
had at Washington and the best Assemblyman that the district
ever had in Albany.

I now ask to be accepted on my record. I have tried
to represent the people of the whole district to the best of
my ability. I also realize that in places the Democrats are not in accord with one another as they ought to be and to have success I believe in unity.

I believe thoroughly in representative government and majority rule. I have tried to do my share of carrying out the wishes and working for the best interests of the district which I represent. We are going to take action which is bound to assure the election of the whole Democratic ticket this Fall and if I am elected I will use my utmost efforts for the Democratic party."


(Filed in Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie, NY)
copied: May 27, 1948