
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”

The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 56

1916 August 26

Kittery, ME

August 26, 1916

[Kittery, Maine]

FDR Speech File

[Speech at Kittery, Maine,
Aug. 26, 1916]

1. Speecher.

Republican leaders admit that the course of the President in international affairs is going to give him thousands of votes of thinking Republicans - That is true; but it is also a fact that the record of the Administration in giving to the country for four years an honest government and an impartial government will swing and has already swung countless other thousands to his support. I am sorry for Mr. Hughes - not because he is going to be defeated but because he has already fallen into the hands of a lot of untrustworthy men - the same as Taft did - possibly it is because Mr. Hughes has for so long been out of touch with public affairs.

Hayden did not need to go to
 California to get citrus fruit,
 it has been handed him by his
 so called friends ever since he
 was nominated - He was told
 that two Republicans had been
 forced out when the Democrats
 came in and now it turns out
 that one of them admits he resigned
 voluntarily, and the other was
~~such a bad number in administration~~
 He replaced by a better man
 from the point of view of good
 business methods. The latest
 attack is on the civil service, and
 I violate no confidence in saying
 that President McHenry of
 the Civil Service Commission, an
 appointee of Roosevelt who

Because of his transparently honest
 and able qualities was kept on
 by Taft and Wilson - Mr. DeLooney
 has told me that this Administration
 has without question lived up
 more truly to the spirit and
 letter of the Civil Service Law
 than either of the preceding
 Administrations - And more
 than this, the Civil Service
 records will prove this assertion.
 Hayes has said the President
 has created a lot of commissions -
 yes - what kind? - The Federal
 Reserve Board which has
 stabilized American finances.

the Rural Credits Board, which
 will give the farmer for the first
 time in history an equal opportunity
 to obtain credit.
 The Federal Trade Commission - a
 boon for the merchants and manufac-
 turers of the whole country - and
 he even mentioned ^{with apparent criticism} the Naval
 Consulting Board, the so-called
 Edison board of experts who
 give free advice and help to
 the Navy Department - free,
 mind you - working without
 salary of any kind - men who
 were selected for membership
 on the Board not by the
 President or ^{by} the Secretary of the
 Navy, but by a dozen of the

great scientific associations of the nation - and neither the Secretary nor I have ever had the curiosity to find out whether they ~~were~~ are Republicans or Democrats.

That is the kind of argument - the Republican candidate for the office of President of the U. S. has been using during the past month. But the Administration is not in the position of answering charges - thank God it is able to come forward with clear eyes and clean hands and say with a note of challenge "Here is what we have done here is the account of our stewardship, ~~scan~~ ^{scan} it, examine

it from every angle, we stand on it as a good record.

I have had the opportunity of knowing most of the men in the cabinets of the last three presidents, of seeing something of their work, and I can assure you most solemnly that from the stand point of accomplishment ~~and~~ and just administration the Departments ~~have~~ of the Government have never before stood on so high a plane.

I need but to give you an example of good stewardship, an example that you do not have to take my word for

because it is at your very doors,
the biggest Government agency in
this section, the Portsmouth Navy
Yard. When I came into office
three years ago I found this
Navy Yard like a beautiful
apple rotting at the core - It
contained great costly buildings
partly or wholly empty, it
had no regularly defined work,
employment was uncertain - it
was frankly not an asset to
the people of the United States.

And it was because the then
Secretary of the Navy had
no definite business method
of running his Department.

had got into a fight with Congress, was known as the absentee Secretary, and you people here saw the result in the Navy Yard. It was typical of the other yards, typical of the whole Department, typical of the Taft Administration which set our Navy rank from 2nd to 4th place. Mr. Meyer is still talking about closing up the Navy Yards and building two great naval bases - one in the Chesapeake and one in Narragansett - the ~~may~~^{might} have been good policy ten years ago, but Mr. Meyer does not know that a great change has taken place in naval warfare since and the

preparation for naval warfare since he retired. You know and every intelligent man in this country knows that modern war is so vast in scale, requires such enormous facilities to conduct it successfully that this government must retain every plant that can be called an economical asset. Portsmouth under the policies of Secretary Daniels has become such an asset. You can appreciate because you can see. You do not have to look twice to know how those once empty buildings are being used for turning out the bulk of the electrical supplies of the Navy at far less

cost than we formerly bought them - you can see the development of the highly specialized submarine construction work, of the melting and reworking of scrap metal that used to be sold for a song and now is being used again at a saving of a hundred thousand dollars - you know what employment means now as compared with the old days.

And if you believe the record of my Department has been good here, where you can form your own opinion, you can rest assured that the record is equally good elsewhere - ~~I would like to~~ ~~people~~ ~~IT~~ is physically impossible.

For the Navy Department to manage
 this yard well and the rest rottenly -
 go to them, go to the fleet, go
 to the Department in Washington,
 and ~~if~~ ^{any} jury of fair minded men
~~do not~~ ^{will} agree that this yard is
 but a fair sample of the whole,
 that ~~the~~ fairness and honesty and
 good business sense have made
 very great changes for the better
 in the past 3 1/2 years, and that
 the fighting navy ^{now} is a better
 instrument of protection ^{to the nation} than it
 was then.

Yes, go further, take the
 government management and work
 as you see it here and you can

~~that~~

apply its high standards to ^{all} the activities of the Federal Government. We are not apologists, ~~we~~ neither do we with beautiful words "point with pride". We ask ^{that} the people of this country, very simply very humbly, ~~that they~~ examine fairly into the record of what the Wilson administration has done as their agent during these years. We do not fear to abide the result.

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RELEASED FOR MORNING PAPERS, SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 1916.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, in the course of his speech at Kittery, Maine, Saturday, said: "Republican leaders admit that the course of the President in international affairs is going to give him thousands of votes of thinking Republicans - that is true; but it is also a fact that the record of the Administration in giving to the country for four years an honest government and an impartial government, will swing, and has already swung countless other thousands to his support. I am sorry for Mr. Hughes; not because he is going to be defeated, but because he has already fallen into the hands of a lot of untrustworthy men - the same as Taft did. Hughes did not need to go to California to get citrous fruit; it has been handed him by his so-called friends ever since he was nominated. He was told that two Republicans had been forced out when the Democrats came in, and now it turns out that one of them admits he resigned voluntarily, and the other was replaced by a better man from the point of view of good business methods. The latest attack is on the Civil Service, and I violate no confidence in saying that President McIlhenny of the Civil Service Commission, an appointee of Roosevelt, who, because of his transparently honest and able qualities, was kept on by Taft and Wilson - McIlhenny has told me that this Administration has, without question, lived up more truly to the spirit and letter of the Civil Service Laws than either of the preceding administrations. And more than this, the Civil Service records will prove this assertion. Hughes

has said that the President has created a lot of commissions. Yes, what kind? The Federal Reserve Board, which has stabilized American finances; the Rural Credits Board, which will give the farmer for the first time in history an equal opportunity to obtain credit; the Federal Trade Commission, a boon for the merchants and manufacturers of the whole country; and, he even mentioned with apparent criticism, the Naval Consulting Board, the so-called Edison Board of experts who give free advice and help to the Navy Department - free, mind you - working without salary of any kind - men who were selected for membership on the Board, not by the President, or by the Secretary of the Navy, but by a dozen of the great scientific associations of the Nation, and neither the Secretary nor I have ever had the curiosity to find out whether they are Republicans or Democrats.

That is the kind of argument the Republican candidate for the office of President of the U.S. has been using during the past month. But the Administration is not in the position of answering charges - thank God it is able to come forward with clear eyes and clean hands and say with a note of challenge, 'Here is what we have done, here is the account of our stewardship; scan it; examine it from every angle: we stand on it as a good record'."

I have had the opportunity of knowing most of the men in the cabinets of the last three presidents, of seeing something of their work, and I can assure you most solemnly that, from the standpoint of accomplishment and good administration, the Departments of the Government have never before stood on so high a plane.

I need but to give you an example of good stewardship, an example that you do not have to take my word for, -- something you can see with your own eyes or learn at first hand with very little trouble. I am referring to the navy yard which lies within your own borders at Kittery. When this administration came into power, it found one of the gravest faults of the previous Republican administrations had been an utterly unbusinesslike, haphazard method of running the navy yards. Kittery was a magnificent example of that incompetency. We found here a navy yard equipped with splendid buildings which were empty and idle, and some of which had never been used from the time they were built. We found no particular work suitable to the place assigned to this station, which was becoming so obviously a burden instead of an asset as to lead the last Republican Secretary of the Navy to advise closing it up altogether. That meant the junking of millions of dollars of government property and turning out into the streets men who had worked all their lives and who had given good service. That is not the Democratic idea

of a business administration. We consulted with businessmen. We canvassed thoroughly what this yard could or could not do. We found that for certain purposes the yard was ideally adapted, and to-day the empty buildings are filled with machinery and with men, the cry from the Industrial Manager being for more accommodations on account of the press of work in hand. This is not a spurt. It is not temporary work. It is permanent day-in and day-out work. There is no feverish taking on of men and laying them off a few weeks later, a procedure unsatisfactory to the workmen and costly to the Government. There were 1410 men employed at Kittery on the first of this month.

If what we have done has been profitable to Maine and the Maine citizens working in the yard, it has been far more profitable to the Navy itself, for in the electrical apparatus here being manufactured, in the building of a submarine, in the use of this yard as a reclaiming yard for all of our scrap metal, which was previously sold at absurd prices to private concerns, we have saved our Department over a million dollars already, and the daily amount of that saving will increase rather than diminish. We have put the yard at Kittery on its feet and made it an asset - not a detriment. The present submarine will soon be out of the way and there is another one to follow. We have applied the principles of

sound business management to this yard, as we have applied them to all yards, and the Kittery cost of production stands at the bottom of the list of all yards on the East Coast.

We have made efficiency the one consideration in the employment of men. Ask some one who has friends or relatives working in the yard whether politics is allowed to play any part whatever in our management. We have refused to allow any consideration other than a man's efficiency to be thought of in both the employment and promotion of our men. We have formally notified the leaders of all parties in the vicinity of the yard that, no matter how bitter a political fight might be outside of the yard, it must not be carried inside. I want to give credit to both parties in this vicinity for having, so far as I can see, lived up to the spirit of our request. It is our idea of how to get votes for the Democratic party that the proper way, so far as navy yard management is concerned, is to keep politics out altogether, and, by the efficient administration of the yard, convince voters that the Democratic party deserves support because it is working in the interest of the people and the nation without regard to petty politics in promotions, dismissals or employments at the yard. You know what the navy yard was. If you do not, you can find out very easily. You know what it is now, or you can in both the employment and promotion of our men. We have formally notified the leaders of all parties in the vicinity of the yard that, no matter how bitter a political fight might be outside of the yard, it must not be carried inside. I

go there and see for yourselves, and after you have been there or have asked the people you know how things have been managed there under other administrations, I am willing to leave it to your own judgment and your own good sense as to how much truth there is in the wild cries of inefficiency and extravagance which Republican politicians, without looking or wanting to look at the facts, raise from time to time in the effort to throw dust in the eyes of the public.

FIGHT IN MAINE OVER EVERY VOTE

Political Campaign Which Ends on Sept. 11 Hottest in the History of the State.

ALARM SPURS REPUBLICANS

State Is Filled with Spellbinders and C. O. P. Is Making a House-to-House Canvas.

ALL RESTS WITH FARMERS

Gov. Curtis' Record Close Hope to Democrats, Who Expect at Least to Divide the Victory.

Phon a Mail Correspondence of This New York Times

PORTLAND, Me., Aug. 26.—(By The Times.) The voters of Maine are watching the campaign with interest...

As the campaign opened last week preliminary canvassing was in progress...

On the campaign opened last week preliminary canvassing was in progress...

The campaign in the Republic which is referred to as the fight of the "C. O. P." is the most intense...

It is not known if the voters of Maine have decided to elect a Republican...

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four years ago, in 1912, in which the Republicans were defeated...

It is not known if the voters of Maine have decided to elect a Republican...

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REPUBLICANS BRING HOPES FROM MAINE

Chairman Willcox Hears from Spectators That State Is More Than Safe.

HARD FIGHT ON IN INDIANA

Willis Tully Headmaster Will Carry Ohio Appeal—Willcox Party East Policy Attacked.

News stories in the Republican press regarding the situation in Maine were brought to Republican headquarters...

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JEANNE D'ARC RELIES KEPT NEAR RHEIMS

Her Letters With Autograph Sentures Are in Archives of an Ancient Family.

Special Correspondence of The New York Times

REIMS, July 27.—All attention on the battle of Orléans was directed to the letters of Jeanne d'Arc...

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CANADA HAS A LAW TO AVERT STRIKES

Statute Provides for Boards of Inquiry to Investigate Industrial Disputes.

Either Side May Invoke It

Harassing Compulsory, but Pledges Not Binding, Though Publicity Makes Them Effective.

If Canada, and not the United States, found the possibility of a nationwide railroad strike, the Canadian Government would have no recourse...

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MOROS ARE PACIFIED BY AMERICAN REGIME

Once Bloodthirsty Natives Now Confide in White Men and Seek Peaceful Paragons.

MANILA, July 26.—(Correspondence of The New York Times.)

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USES STRAUSS OPERA AS BASIS FOR BALLET

Nijinsky Will Produce Adaptation of 'Till Eulenspiegel' Here in October.

COMPOSER GIVES APPROVAL

Event Is Likely to Cause Much Discussion in Musical Circles—Dancer as Artist.

Richard Strauss, the celebrated German composer, has given his approval to the production of a ballet based on the opera 'Till Eulenspiegel'...

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WILLIS CONFIDES OF HIS

General Willis explained confidence that the State would see Hughes...

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ASBERTS HUGHES IS MISLED

P. D. Roosevelt Announces Steps of the Nominating Campaign.

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WAR RELIEF FOR TEUTONS

Further Contributions for German and American Aids.

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FIGHT IN MAINE OVER EVERY VOTE

Political Campaign Which Ends on Sept. 11 Hottest in the History of the State.

State is Filled with Spoilers

Blaine is Spurred with Spoilers and C. O. P. is Making a House-to-House Campaign.

ALL RESTS WITH FARMERS

Gov. Curtis' Record Close to Democrats, Who Hope at Least to Divide the Victory.

Phonograph Correspondent of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PORTLAND, Me., Aug. 26.—With the political season reaching the conflict and rivalry awaiting the week, Maine has just entered upon a more spirited and more contentious campaign than any since the days of the late Governor Lincoln.

On the campaign opened last week primary caucuses and primary elections, were held in the city of Maine's political party, attracted a Republican victory, but not by the vote of a national majority that secured for Maine the reputation of being a "Republican State." Both the Republican and Democratic leaders are realizing that with the war in Europe apt to produce severe events which might easily affect this section, the situation is home on an election of a conservative nature. The Democrats have not abandoned hope of a victory, but they are not so sure. The Republican leaders are determined to win and are determined to win.

The situation in the Republic is not reduced largely in the 13th congressional district, but in the 1st and 2nd districts. The Republican Party has been successful in the 1st and 2nd districts. The Republican Party has been successful in the 1st and 2nd districts. The Republican Party has been successful in the 1st and 2nd districts.

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Phonograph Correspondent of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

near view of the "spoiler" in Maine. The "spoiler" is a man who has been successful in the past. The "spoiler" is a man who has been successful in the past. The "spoiler" is a man who has been successful in the past.

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REPUBLICANS BRING HOPES FROM MAINE

Chairman Willcox Hears from Speakers That State is More Than Safe.

HARD FIGHT ON IN INDIANA

Willis Veto Headquarters Will Carry Ohio Again—Willcox Fair Party Activated.

News coming to the Republicans relieving the situation in Maine was brought to the Republican headquarters here by several prominent speakers, who have been coming there in the last few days. The speakers are: Charles W. Willcox, former Governor of Maine, who has been in the city on a tour of inspection; and Charles W. Willcox, former Governor of Maine, who has been in the city on a tour of inspection.

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JEANNE D'ARC RELIES KEPT NEAR RHENUS

Her Letters With Autograph Signatures Are in Archives of an Ancient Family.

CANADA HAS A LAW TO AVERT STRIKES

Statute Provides for Boards of Inquiry to Investigate Industrial Disputes.

EITHER SIDE MAY INVOKE IT

Harbinger Compulsory, Not Penalties Not Binding, Though Publicity Makes Them Effective.

OTTAWA, July 26.—(Correspondent of the Associated Press)—The new Canadian law which provides for the settlement of industrial disputes by means of a board of inquiry, was passed by the House of Commons today. The law is designed to prevent strikes and lockouts in Canada.

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MOROS ARE PACIFIED BY AMERICAN REGIME

Once Bloodthirsty Nations Now Confide in White Men and Seek Peaceful Pursuits.

USES STRAUSS OPERA AS BASIS FOR BALLET

Nijinsky Will Produce Adaptation of "The Entenagel" Here in October.

COMPOSER GIVES APPROVAL

Event is Likely to Cause Much Discussion in Musical Circles—Dancers to Appear at Tivoli.

MANILA, July 26.—(Correspondent of the Associated Press)—The Moros, who were once a bloodthirsty nation, are now being pacified by the American regime. The Moros are now seeking peaceful pursuits and are confiding in the white men.

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ASSETS HUGHES IS MISLED

D. Roosevelt Accuses Assets of the Nominee's Charges.

REPORT HIGGS PLACED IN JAIL

Man Under for Maine Placed in Jail on Charge of Conspiracy.

WAR RELIEF FOR TEUTONS.

Further Contributions for German and Austrian Aid.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT, dated August 11, 1914. The memorandum discusses the situation in the Philippines and the need for a strong executive action to maintain order and stability in the islands.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

In the second place, it is shown through the executive action work that is being done in every section of the State on the part of the Republican Party, that the work is being done in a most efficient manner. This work is being done in a most efficient manner.

It is further reflected through the large amount of money that is being sent out to the various sections of the State, that the work is being done in a most efficient manner. This work is being done in a most efficient manner.

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ASSERTS HUGHES IS MISLED.

F. D. Roosevelt Answers G. M. of the Nominator's Charge.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Secretary of the Navy, in a speech at Niagara Falls, N. Y., today asserted that he was misled by the nominator's charge that he was a member of the "Bull Moose" party. He said that he was misled by the nominator's charge that he was a member of the "Bull Moose" party. He said that he was misled by the nominator's charge that he was a member of the "Bull Moose" party.

TO HOLD A SUFFRAGE RALLY.

Congressional Union Will Meet in Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 12.

The Congressional Union for Women will hold a suffrage rally in Atlantic City, N. J., on August 12. The rally will be held at the Hotel Hamilton. The Congressional Union for Women will hold a suffrage rally in Atlantic City, N. J., on August 12.

ASK CANDIDATES' VIEWS.

Woman State Suffrage Party Has Secretary's Indorsement.

New York candidates for office are being asked by the Secretary of the New York State Suffrage Party, and they are being asked to give their views on the question of the suffrage.

AGED PRIEST A SUICIDE.

Minister's Pastor Had Been Trampled by His Horses in CHICAGO, Aug. 11.—The Rev. Ignace J. O'Connell, 72 years old, who was trampled by his horses in Chicago, died today.

New York Employe Killed by Auto.

John J. Ryan, 27 years old, of New York, was killed today by an automobile. He was driving the car when it struck a pedestrian.

Peace of the World.

It is the hope of the world that peace will be maintained. The world is at peace and the people are happy. The world is at peace and the people are happy. The world is at peace and the people are happy.

Best Graham Relief.

Following are the latest contributions received by the East Prussian Relief Committee.

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ROYAL BLUE LINE

PERSONALLY CONDUCTED

SINCE 1907

WASHINGTON

SEPT. 2ND

\$1350

ALL NECESSARY EXPENSES

THREE DAYS

NEW JERSEY CENTRAL

PHILADELPHIA & READING

BALTIMORE & OHIO

Full details at ticket offices

at Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Reading, and New York.

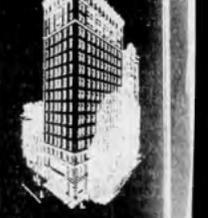
WANTED

In order to save lives and limbs of children, a small amount of blood from any child or adult who has had influenza pneumonia, can be taken by a needle puncture. The blood is then sold to the doctor representing the New York State Board of Health at 11th Ave. New York.

Burrell Building

171 Madison Avenue

(C. E. W. 2nd Floor)



A HIGH-GRADE property in perfect condition and a safe investment. Can be purchased at a reasonable price.

Loton H. Slavson Company, 171 Madison Avenue, New York