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

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 127

1920 July 14

Hyde Park -
Press Release in re: V.P. campaign (longhand)

Jan. 7, 1949.

Statement to the press released at Hyde Park,
N.Y., July 14, 1920.

((Most of this statement is published in the
Washington (D.C.) Post, July 15, 1920 (clipping
in Group 1 - Scrapbook 12, page 21)))

RLJ

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The attempt by Senator Harding
yesterday, to defeat the Four
League of Nations issue by
dragging in the name of Pres.
Wilson is merely further
evidence of the historical
fact that a certain type of
Senatorial mind cares more
about squaring an ancient
grudge against an individual
than it does to consider the
true welfare of the nation.
It is of course well known
that seven-eighths of the
opposition of these Senators
is not to the League of

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Nation but the person
of the President of the
U. S. himself.

History will take care
of the great part Woodrow
Wilson has played. But
the Democratic Party enters
the campaign with the clear
cut purpose of proving
that the World War has
not been fought in vain.
Senator Schreiver says "Should
the Democrats win the ^{Treaty and} League
will be ratified" He is
right. No war, probably not

even Senator Harding himself
 knows what would happen should
 the Republicans win. One
 branch of his supporters such
 as Senator Johnson assures
 the Nation that a Republican
 victory means no League of
 Nations. Another branch led
 by such men as former
 Pres. Taft assures the Nation
 that a Republican victory
 means the acceptance of the
 League with certain and specific
 reservations.

The root of Senator Ward's statement is the usual vague mumbling forth of bogies and imaginary ghosts of horrible pictures of American soldier boys maging war in Poland Rumania and Turkey; and at the end he talks in glittering terms about the danger of "a surrender of the Republic"

It I yield nothing in my Negotiation with

Treaty and The League of Nations, which as the world knows is already constituted. A Republican victory means that the U.S. with Russia, Mexico and Turkey shall remain on the outside. ~~Overpowered~~ The election of ^{Senator} Harding means that in case of future war the U.S. will enter the war after the conflict has begun. The election of Governor Cox means that the U.S. in

in participation with the
 other civilized nations of
 the world will through the
 League of Nations ~~harvest~~
 solve international difficulties
 and prevent a recurrence of
 the holocaust of 1914 to
 1918.

It I am quite willing as I
 know Governor Cox is to
 let the American people decide
 whether they will go back to
 the conditions prior to 1914
 or whether they will join with

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Civilization and humanity in
this great step forward.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Hyde Park

July 14