
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
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STATEMENT BY FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
CHICAGO - AUGUST 29, 1920

Since the inauguration of the Presidential ~~max~~ campaign here in Chicago, nineteen days have passed. In that time, however, I have traversed the continent and return to your city today confident that the objectives of the tour have been reached.

The tour will be concluded at Indianapolis tomorrow evening. It has already borne its fruits. Addresses made in the principal cities of more than fifteen states have brought the issues of the campaign squarely before their peoples, and hundreds of thousands heard the problems involved in the campaign discussed for the first time by a party nominee.

Following the speech in Indianapolis, I shall go to Columbus for a conference with Governor Cox. I shall give him first hand my impression of conditions affecting the sentiment as I have found it throughout the country. Briefly it is this:

The West and Northwest demand recognition from those for whom they will cast their vote in November. They feel that they are entitled to hear the issues between the two parties as the parties' leaders view them. In other words, they demand that Governor Cox and Senator Harding come to them and let them choose for themselves what their votes shall be after they have listened to the candidates and had an opportunity of sitting-up the two men.

Everywhere, I found the keenest interest manifested in the League of Nations. There is no question but what the citizenship of the States I have visited is overwhelmingly in favor of the League. Many told me that the interest today is deeper than it was six months or a year ago. Particularly is this true with regard to the attitude of the women on the League.

The anxiety to see the candidates was evidenced by the large and enthusiastic receptions received wherever I went. At a number of places in the Northwest mountains I was greeted by men and women who had driven 50 miles and more to hear something in regard to the plans of the Democratic party for the future welfare of the Country. The West is alert and progressive. The people are thinking. They will not permit their minds to be befuddled on the questions at issue in this campaign. We can ask no more and are ready to abide by their decision in November.