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

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 158

1920 September 3

Lewiston, ME - Campaign Speech
Nearly a ninth ago I tried to make it clear that the Republican candidates were trying to bespeak the real issue of the League of Nations. Since that time they have continued the same abused campaign methods and their own position in regard to our foreign policy is, if anything, more vague than ever. We have had statements from Marion, Ohio, telling how sincerely the Republican nominee is in favor of world peace and good will among nations. These are fine words and we all agree with them because I assume that all good Americans want the same thing but these have no defining of how he proposes to accomplish the result.

The latest offering is some kind of a permanent kind of arbitration. We are of course reminded at once of the fact that the permanent court of arbitration called the Hague Tribunal, has since its inception prevented no war. Such a court might be useful of course in patching up troubles after they had occurred. Such a court is based on the same theory as what the doctors call curative medicine. The Democratic policy which is in favor of joining practically all the other nations to the world in the already existing League of Nations believes in the theory of preventive medicine for international illness.

When nations approach the high and dangerous precipice of strained relations they are in danger of grave injury if they continue their course. Set? Harding's idea seems to be to build a hospital at the foot of that precipice in order to care for the broken limbs of the nations who fall over the edge. The the theory which he has presented is that if the United States not to build states a hospital and the top in order to prevent the at era of the world from all falling off. This is really the great achievement which we may gain from sending our men across the sea and from the expenditure of many billions of dollars. This is the one great purpose which will justify the death of the splendid American boys who gave their all on the battlefields of France.
HARDING DECRIES ANY FALSE APPEAL

Continued from Page 5, Column 4

Jazz tune, and was complimented by Senator and Mrs. Harding.

"My friends," Senator Harding said in his written speech to the bandmen, I appreciate deeply your patronage and friendly interest. As a good American, I am a candidate for the Presidency. It is because I feel more deeply about it than any other subject, more deeply than any other subject.

As a candidate, I must be patient and respectful. I must not degrade the American people into the belief that their duty should be to allow the American people to be loyal to me and that they should be allowed to be loyal to me without thinking of the national dignity.

The difficulty in developing the peace work of the peace of our country, of the nation, is that it must be developed by some combination between the American people and the leaders of the world. The peace of the world is not to be secured by force, but by the will of the people, and that will of the people must be to prevent force being used.

It must be remembered, the Government of the United States is the government of the people, and its work must be done by the people, and it must be done by the people who are willing to do it. The people must have the power to do it, and they must have the will to do it.

I must say to myself, "You owe it to your children and to your children's children, and to the American people, to protect your rights and your liberties.

As a candidate, I must be patient and respectful. I must not degrade the American people into the belief that their duty should be to allow the American people to be loyal to me and that they should be allowed to be loyal to me without thinking of the national dignity.