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

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 186

1920 September 30

Press Release from West Virginia

STATEMENT BY HON. F. D. ROOSEVELT
SEPT. 30, 1920

After a three-days trip through the northern part of the State, during which I made more than a score of speeches and had the opportunity of greeting people at dozens of railway stations, I am leaving with the firm conviction that West Virginia will be found in the Democratic column after November second by a very comfortable margin.

There is no mistaking the evidences of this that I found on every hand. Quite frankly, I was tremendously pleased with the warmth and enthusiasm of the greeting extended to me in the various cities. It is tremendously encouraging to know that I was given the privilege of speaking to audiences at various places fully as large as those which the Presidential Nominee on the Republican Ticket had addressed but a brief twenty-four hours previously.

An interesting thing in connection with the impromptu receptions held at the close of all meetings was the number of people who came up, shook hands with me and told me that while normally Republicans they proposed to vote this year the Democratic National Ticket. There is evidence on every hand that this Fall West Virginia will be found in the ranks of the Progressive States of the Union, throwing its ~~substantial~~ strength for Governor Cox.

During my trip I was accompanied by the Democratic candidate for Governor, Mr. A. C. Koontz, and there is every reason to believe that a safe majority will be piled up for the Democratic State Ticket as well.