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

**Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension**

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**File No. 225**

**1920 October 23**

**Newburgh, NY - Campaign Speech**

EXTRACTS FROM SPEECH OF HON. F.D. ROOSEVELT  
NEWBURGH, N.Y., OCT. 23, 1920

Because a man's or a nation's soul is more important than a bank account, we have emphasized, almost to the exclusion of the many other arguments in its favor, the necessity from a moral point of view of our entering with the civilized nations of the world into the League of Nations. In these closing days of the campaign, perhaps it may not be amiss to call attention to the more material side of the question.

If we are to continue to be prosperous as we have been under a Democratic Administration during the past eight years, we must participate in the <sup>unselfish</sup> development of the uncivilized or semi-civilized portions of the world and must continue to expand our interchange of commodities with other nations. There are two ways of securing our just share in the development of the world's resources.

One is the policy of brute force - of such tremendous Navies and standing Armies as will permit us to stretch out and grasp whatever we may desire, because no other nation or combination of nations is strong enough to gainsay us.

The other way is by establishing such close intimacy and friendly agreements with the rest of the world powers as to establish our place with them by mutual consent in the world's progress.

There will be great economic problems before the present League of Nations - problems which they will solve as they see fit whether we are in the League or not.

The great resources of <sup>Asia Minor</sup> Mesopotamia, of Africa, <sup>of Siberia</sup> the development of the vast Chinese Empire - These are but a few of the matters which will be determined in the next few years. Is any one foolish enough to imagine that with the United States holding aloof from the Council Board, maintaining a position of complete isolation, that we will be seriously considered in the agreements which will be reached in the near future? Who will speak for our interests in the League's councils - what country will hold a brief for the United States if we disdainfully refuse to join our sister countries? It is so clear I do not think it is necessary to enlarge upon this feature of the League.

Unless we enter in, unless we become a partner in this great partnership of Nations, we need expect ~~no~~<sup>few benefits</sup> from the trade of the world, and as for the other way - the way of brute force, the way of Napoleen, of ~~the~~ Caesar and Alexander the Great, even though we <sup>were</sup> willing to break the backs of our people with the burden of taxation, we could not create an armament vast enough to overawe the confederated nations in the League. We must

abandon all ~~expansion~~ future expansion from our country, border & trade exclusively between ourselves or we must go

in

1. Trip Type of Voters
2. Campaign - Negro
3. Charge - Wacht
4. Lugau
  - A. History 1821
  - B. False statement
  - C. ~~Success~~  
Economics
  - D. Lincoln
  - E. Moral

German }  
French }

Itali. }  
Dago Slave }

Harding's Senate  
May

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