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

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 243

1920 Not dated

Unidentified Campaign Speech

EXTRACTS FROM SPEECH OF HON. F. D. ROOSEVELT

I have just read the full text of Mr. Herbert Parsons' letter in which he resigns as a member of the National Committee because he is convinced the only hope of the Country is in the election of Governor Cox and the early entrance of America into the League of Nations, and also the wording of the telegram to Senator Harding from the 30,000 members of the Women's League for the Peace Treaty, of California, declaring that it is impossible for them to support him if he has been correctly quoted on the League. I think that these two remarkable documents amply justify the confident assertions I have been making during the past week that the nation is at last aroused to the paramount necessity of our joining the present League of Nations without delay, and is convinced that Senator Harding has so definitely committed himself as to make it impossible for any believer in the League to support him.

Senator Harding's course of action has been evidently founded on two theories. First, that the importance of the League of Nations could be either minimized or distorted so that its true value could not be realized by the voters of the country before election, and, secondly, by shiftiness and evasiveness of statement he could persuade both the League and anti-League Republicans he was on their side at heart.

During the last week it has become clear that both of these assumptions are wrong.

The people in the districts through which I have travelled are tremendously interested in the League and are beginning to clearly understand what it means, and Mr. Parsons' letter as well as the California telegram show conclusively that not only the rank and file but

the leaders of the Republican Party who are sincere in their belief that the League is a necessity, have decided that Senator Harding has so definitely cast his lot with Berah and Johnson as to make it a patriotic duty for them to desert his cause.

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