
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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1928 October 22

Rochester, NY - Campaign Speech

I was a very early CONVENTION HALL - ROCHESTER when I went
 to the hotel I found Monday Evening that had been
 allotted to the October 22, 1928. Local rooms
 occupied on the first and second days of October, this
 year, by the first President of the United States (Pro-

My friends, did I hear a little bird whisper
 that Rochester is going Democratic this year? (Applause.)

I am sorry to have kept you waiting tonight,
 but I understand that very properly a distinguished
 candidate for the Presidency had the air (Laughter and
 Applause). And you know, it is very apt to happen that
 one runs over one's allotted time when a candidate reads
 from manuscript a carefully prepared address. (Applause.)

I have got a pretty soft spot in my heart for
 Rochester. (Applause.) I understand that this is the
 place where something happened about three weeks ago
 (applause); but I go back a great deal further, I go
 back to a convention here in 1910, the first Democratic
 Convention that I ever attended in my life, and in this
 very hall the Democratic Party nominated a ticket that
 swept the State in November, and it is going to happen
 again this November (Applause), and when I got in tonight

I had a very nice surprise, and that was, when I went to the hotel I found that the rooms that had been-- some-- allotted to me were the very same identical rooms occupied on the first and second days of October, this year, by thenext President of the United States. (Prolonged Applause.) State will go bankrupt and hungry for

I have been at it now for nearly a week, and without any premeditation on my part I seem to be hot on the trail of my friend, the Attorney General of this State. Almost every town I get to I find that he has just escaped; but now the quarry is in sight and he can't get away. I have been reading with a great deal of interest the speeches of my friend, Mr. Ottinger, during the past ten days, and it seems to me that they form a very simple combination of two thoughts. Sometimes he uses the one, sometimes he uses the other, sometimes he uses both. But I hear that when he came here to Rochester he only talked national politics. all present the sound-

The first thought that he has is that he wants to make it appear to the people of the State that he and the leaders of the Republican Party are responsible for all of the good things that have happened in the

administration of the State of New York under the leadership of Alfred E. Smith. And the second thought -- somewhat worn, to be sure, but possibly still effective among wholly unthinking people, is this: That if his friend, Mr. Hoover is not elected, every man and woman and child in this State will go barefoot and hungry for the next four years. (Laughter and Applause.)

But this year I don't believe that you can fool all of the people for even the short time that there is between now and election day.

And so, like Governor Smith, I prefer to talk facts and I prefer to talk facts about the government of this State, because after all I am running on the State Ticket. There are many applications of the problems and questions that affect this State to the situation in the nation, but it is essentially by building on what we know has been accomplished in this State that we have presented and are presenting and will present the soundest reason to our sister states for the elevation of our Governor to the Presidency. (Applause.)

And following the mighty good custom of our Governor in five campaigns, I want to take up, not a lot

glittering general remarks about the various issues of the campaign. I have been trying to concentrate insofar as possible in these great night meetings on one topic at a time, especially because now-a-days one talks not just to the fine audience in front of one, but also to thousands of people scattered all over the State who are listening in by radio.

Tonight I want to talk facts about what I call the human being function of our State Government. To-day, after a long period of education, every citizen recognizes that it is the duty of the State to concern itself with the health, welfare and general education of the people of the State. We have made tremendous strides in these past ten years. Before that, the State was content to stop with the assistance of a very second-rate kind of education and did practically nothing in the other fields of welfare.

First, in the matter of our schools, I want to point out one very simple proof of what has happened since Governor Smith came into office as Chief Executive on the first of January, 1919, because while I am not a statistician like Mr. Hoover, the use of figures once in

a while is very convincing. Republican leaders took any

During the first year of Governor Smith, the State of New York spent twelve million dollars for education; during the current year of 1928, ten years later, the State of New York has spent eighty-six million dollars in the same cause. During no period of the State's history have such enormous strides been made, and I leave it to the judgment of anybody, of all the voters of this State, as to who is responsible. Was it the gentlemen who called themselves the leaders of the Republican Party? And I want to say right here, at the outset, that my fight, our fight this year, is not against the rank and file of the Republican Party, but against the leaders of that party. (Applause.) Were those leaders responsible for this progress in education, or was it the insistence of Governor Alfred E. Smith? As the Governor himself has said, let anyone who cares to know write to Dr. Graves, head of the Education Department, and ask him who is most greatly responsible for the splendid progress. Incidentally, Dr. Graves is a Republican, but -- or I suppose it would be more polite to say "and" -- he is a truthful man.. (Laughter and Applause.)

The only time the Republican leaders took any initiative at all was when they thought they could embarrass the Governor a few years ago by passing a bill to increase teachers' salaries, when they knew there was no money in the treasury with which to pay the increase, and, incidentally, they absolutely declined to furnish the money by an appropriation.

While it is true that these magnificent steps for improved education have been taken, we cannot stand still, because in many communities of this State school facilities remain still wholly inadequate, and out of date, and a continuation of State aid is imperative. In many places the minimum requirements are still too low, and the facilities are out of date, and it is obviously the duty of the State to see to it that this minimum standard is made higher.

So, too, I am convinced that the minimum standards for the teachers of the State must also be raised. We are approaching a new era in which teaching standards will be subjected to increasing scrutiny, and I want to speak very briefly here by way of prophecy, to tell you a prophecy that was made to me the other day by that

great leader and thinker, Owen Young. He told me that he believed that in the course of the next ten years the progress of the development of the radio and of the television would enable the State of New York to reach the most remote schoolhouses in the State; to provide these schoolhouses with the oral and visual teaching of the most brilliant teachers and professors that can be found anywhere.

That sounds like a fairy story, and yet stranger things than that have happened in our own lifetime, and while this time may be still some years off, the State must be ready to use the latest inventions and improvements.

Now, here is a kindred subject that goes hand in hand with education. I conceive it to be of just as much importance to educate the body of the child as it is to educate the mind of the child. (Applause.) During the past ten years, again under the leadership of Governor Smith, the general health of the children of the citizens of this State in the first place, and of the children in particular, has taken tremendous strides. The death rate has shown a constant decline, and a good

example is the fact that ten years ago the death rate of the babies was ninety in every thousand, whereas to-day it is sixty in every thousand.

Again, in this field, we have only just begun the task, for much remains to be done. I may be pardoned if I refer to my own intense interest in the care of crippled children, and, indeed, of cripples of every kind. Infantile paralysis, tuberculosis, occupational and other accidents and various other causes give an estimate of over one hundred thousand adults and children in this State who are seriously crippled, most of them so seriously that they are unable to live normal or useful lives.

First of all, then, from the practical dollars and cents point of view, it is obvious that if a large proportion of these cripples can, by proper treatment be restored to active and useful citizenship, the money spent on them by the State will come back many times through their increased productiveness. (Applause.)

We must not forget that a wheel-chair cripple is not only a dead load on the earning power of the community, but in most cases requires also the attention clear that I bless not the rank and file of the Republican

and care of some able-bodied person as well. Modern medical science has advanced to such a point that in the great majority of cases these cripples can be made to function. It is often a long and costly procedure, but it is worthwhile for the various communities and for the State to spend this time and money, for it will be repaid a thousand-fold. (Applause.)

Then, too, there is the great humanitarian side of the subject. I have seen thousands of examples of crippled adults and children, who by proper care have been restored to normal life among their families and friends. It is, of course, a fact that the family of the average crippled child in this State cannot afford to pay the heavy cost of obtaining proper private treatment, and we must come to a better realization that this care is as much a part of the duties of the local and State Governments as it is for those governments to provide the funds for the development of the child's education. (Applause.)

Now, what is the record in Albany on that? It is just as clear on this as it is on all health and welfare questions. I want again and again to make it clear that I blame not the rank and file of the Republican

Party for the constant mulish policy of their leaders. Can anyone point to a single example of Republican leadership in the Senate and Assembly sponsoring and pushing any part of the program for the bettering of the health and child welfare program of this State? In every single case the suggestions for new legislation, the insistence on increased appropriations, have come from the Governor, Alfred E. Smith (applause), and in every single case, likewise, there has been hemming and hawing and disapproval on the part of the Republican leaders; often indeed open opposition.

A member of the Assembly a couple of years ago said to me, "I wish to goodness you had succeeded in nominating Smith in Madison Square Garden in 1924. You know, he gives us no peace at Albany. We fellows there" -- and he was one of the old guard -- "we have been there year after year, and we have had a pretty comfortable time. We all knew each other pretty well, got on well, and, why, the Assembly was just like a big club. And then this fellow Smith -- we thought we had got rid of him down in New York -- came back as Governor, and since that time we no sooner get comfortably settled in a nice town, and after looking through all the records and sound

easy chair when something happens. (Laughter and Applause.) And, believe me, my good friends, after the first of January, there is still going to be something happening in Albany. (Applause.)

Why did the gentlemen of the easy chairs jump to attention? Success has been attained because Governor Smith has made direct appeal to the voting public of the State. He has shown definite need for the legislation he has asked for and for the increased expenditure of money, in such clear terms that his humanitarian views and common sense have brought such a chorus of approval from every section of the state, that the Republican leaders have been forced to back down.

The work so well begun needs to be greatly expanded. There are, for instance, an estimate of between twenty thousand and thirty thousand crippled children in this State who have not yet been located. I remember one of our State Public Health nurses telling me that she had gone up a few years ago to Niagara County and had gone through the health and vital statistics record of that county. She had gone to the City Board in Niagara Falls. She had gone to the Supervisors of the town, and after looking through all the records she found

the names of forty-five crippled children in that county, and she was quite certain that that was wrong. It was far too low a percentage for the population. So she started literally a house to house hunt to see if there were any more, and at the end of two weeks she had a list of 275 crippled children. And then she had to move on to another county, and she said, "Mr. Roosevelt, I don't think that I found half of them."

There are thousands of others in this State who are not receiving adequate treatment. We need more money. We need an expansion of medical service to every out-of-the-way corner in the cities and on the farms. Money and momentum are the remaining needs. I propose to ask for the money and to accelerate the momentum. (Applause.)

I suppose that people readily will recognize that I myself furnish a perfectly good example of what can be done by the right kind of care (Applause.) I dislike to use this personal example, but it happens to fit. Seven years ago in the epidemic in New York, I came down with infantile paralysis, a perfectly normal attack, and I was completely, for the moment, put out of

any useful activities. By personal good fortune I was able to get the very best kind of care, and the result of having the right kind of care is that today I am on my feet. (Loud Applause.)

And while I won't vouch for the mental side of it, I am quite certain that from the physical point of view I am quite capable of going to Albany and staying there two years. (Applause.)

Here is the other side of it. Unfortunately, the great majority of the people in this State, whether children or grown up, who have become incapacitated, are unable to afford the cost and the time necessary to rehabilitation. It seems to me that it is the clear duty of the state and the local governments to make up what is needed to bring about the splendid definite results that medical science can now provide. (Applause.) And I promise to do all in my power to make available for others that which I myself have been fortunate enough to obtain. (Applause.)

Then there is another side of that same broad picture. For the additional care of the little children who have been thrown on the mercy of the community by the

death, the insanity, the desertion or the incapacity of their fathers, this State has now adopted the definite policy where we are no longer satisfied with the old-fashioned idea of sticking them away in the dismal recesses of an institution, there to be catalogued, classified, and merely allowed to grow up. We believe that their place is rightfully with their mothers. (Applause.) We believe that the money spent on institutions for those unfortunate children to go to, should instead be given to their mothers, to help bring them up at home. (Loud Applause). Money used to give these children a mother's love and a mother's rearing can never be wasted. (Applause.)

Now, this system of mother's pensions has been urged by the Democratic Party for many years, and it has gradually been broadened, extended and amplified by the Democratic administration of Governor Smith. Take the other side of the picture, again. What has been the attitude of the Republican leaders? Let us look at the record. These allowances to widows for the support of their children are made by so-called county boards of child welfare. The money comes from the County treasur-

ies, but some of our counties have been unable to raise enough money for this purpose. Their finances in many cases could not stand the strain. Governor Smith has come forward and said "Let the great State of New York step in and help." He has urged the Legislature time and again to appropriate money to help the counties in this humane work. Bills were introduced by Democratic Legislatures to contribute State money to these local boards, with which they could function. Those messages and those bills were ignored by the Republican leaders. They turned a deaf ear to these pleas for better childhood, for better motherhood in our State. Why? Simply because it cost money, and the other reason, because they hadn't thought of it first. (Applause.)

When we Democrats were in control of the Senate a few years ago, the Senate passed these bills: witness, Senate Introductory Bill No. 284 of 1923; Senate Introductory Bill No. 84 of 1924. Introduced by Democrats, they were passed by Democrats. But what happened to them? When they got on the other side of the Capitol to the Assembly, that was a different story. The Republican politicians. (Laughter.) But in line with that program,

leaders were in control there. The bills were strangled to death in committee, and were not even allowed to come out for a vote. That is the record; those are the facts. On that record and on those facts, are you going to trust those Republican leaders to carry on our program of child welfare in this State? (Cries of "No.")

Well, my friend Mr. Ottinger has been going up and down the State promising. He is a very promising young gentleman (Laughter). And in line with his program of promising everything to everybody, from the abolishment of flat tires (laughter) to the abolishment of taxation, and, incidentally, if you will read his speech of acceptance you will see how he outlined there a perfectly glorious plan by which the expenditures of the State if this plan were carried through, would be increased from somewhere around \$250,000,000 a year to about \$2,500,000,000 a year. At the same time he advocates in that message the repeal of the State Income Tax, the tax on farms, and almost every tax now on the Statute books. (Laughter). How much better, how very much better it is. Well, you know, this is the open season for politicians. (Laughter.) But in line with that program,

my friend Mr. Ottinger announced in Utica on Saturday night, that if his friend, Mr. Herbert Hoover became President, he would abolish -- he, Mr. Hoover, will abolish all poverty. Here is what Mr. Ottinger said. I am just quoting from a literal transcript of his remarks: "And now Herbert Hoover announces one great project. He announces one great generally definite program, and that program is to abolish poverty." (Laughter and Applause.) "When Herbert Hoover says he will abolish poverty, he will do so." (Laughter and Applause.) And then listen to the reason, "Because he is the statistician who knows what he is talking about." (Laughter.)

Well, when my friend Herbert Hoover abolishes poverty by handing out some of those famous statistics, I shall vote for him (laughter and applause). That is a perfectly safe pledge on my part. (Laughter.) Perhaps by multiplying the adding machine factory and establishing one in every community, the unemployment problem will be solved (Laughter). How much better, how very much better it would be if my friend Mr. Ottinger would come to brass tacks and facts, to repeal it

One of the unsatisfactory conditions still existing in this State is the administration of the Poor Law. I don't know how much you people come in contact with that law, how much you have ever bothered your heads to look into the administration of the Poor Law in the various counties of this State. In some counties they handle it pretty well. But I think one of the most oppressing things that I have to do on occasion in this State, is to visit the County Poorhouse. Somehow it just tears my heart to see those old men and women there, more than almost anything that I know. We need a drastic revision of the poor laws, and I propose to recommend it. But beyond a mere revision of that law is the difficult problem of why it is that we have to have so many aged poor who need to be taken care of.

I have already said that in accordance with the Democratic platform I propose an immediate study of the broad subject of old-age pensions (applause), and if this State can, as I believe it will, pass a proper and adequate old-age pension law, then we won't have to revise the Poor Law of this State (Applause.) Then we will be in a position, by a simple two-line act, to repeal it

forever and ever. (Applause.) York on the principle of

The taking up of this subject of old-age pensions at this time is no more radical or socialistic than the initiation of the Workmen's Compensation and the Factory Inspection Laws of seventeen years ago; and I remember well, when I was in the Legislature in that year of 1911, following that fine convention in this very hall, that we people who advocated Workmen's Compensation and Factory Inspection and social legislation of that kind, were regarded by a great many of the respectable and substantial citizens of this State as radicals and socialists. As I remember, the two senators from Rochester at that time viewed me as a "Red." If the word "Bolshevist" had been invented then, it would have been applied to people like Assemblyman Alfred E. Smith, Senator Robert F. Wagner and me. (Applause.) Yes, and I suppose that those of us, who, this coming winter, ask for an immediate study of the question of old-age pensions, will be written down as Bolshevists.

Now, I am opposed to any form of dole. I don't believe that the State has any right merely to hand out money. But I am certain that a practical method can be

worked out in the State of New York on the principle of mutual contributions. ~~There is a teacher; this man can~~

This State has taken a proud lead in social legislation and is being looked up to, and copied by many of our sister States. I want us to continue in that position of leadership, and I cannot repeat too often that we cannot stand still, but must move forward with every passing year. My fight is not against any political party, but my fight is very definitely a fight against one type of so-called leadership, of certain Republicans who at the present time have a stranglehold on the reins of their party in the State of New York, and I hope and trust that after the first of January I won't have to go through the kind of struggle that Alfred E. Smith has had. I want with me a Democratic Senate and a Democratic Assembly. (Applause.)

The people of all the United States are watching this State. They have learned to watch it, because they have been reading the history of this State from the lips of a man who first taught this State, and he has been going through this country to the people in other states, who never took an interest in the kind of subjects

that you are accustomed to. They are working up and they are saying, "Why, this man is a teacher; this man can tell us something; this man has done something. And they have been reading the record of Governor Smith during all these years, and it has taken a long time, and we have gone through a preparatory period during the last two months. But, as I travel through this country, down south, out in the middle west, over in New England, I am beginning to feel a surge, a surge of knowledge. People have been learning, and now they have got it, and that is why all over this country Republican leaders are meeting together tonight, and tomorrow night, and the next night, and they are saying, "What can we do to stop this man? If this goes on, he is going to win." (Loud Applause.)

The people are making up their minds, and it is a surge that cannot be stopped. The people have made up their minds that they want government by common sense and not by statistics (Laughter). The people have made up their minds that they want the National Government run by a human being and not a machine. (Applause.)

Yes, that is a perfectly natural difference.

You and I and Al Smith, human beings. (Applause.)

And so, my friends, as I was coming over this afternoon from Batavia, I thought of a little verse that was taught me when I was pretty small, and I thought it was a pretty good motto for me in this campaign, a motto that will apply to what we are trying to do in this State; a motto that applies with equal force to what our Governor is going to do in Washington after the fourth of March, next, and it is this: "Look outward and not in; look forward and not back; look upward and not down, and lend a hand." (Loud and continued applause.)

About the issues of the campaign, as Colonel Lusk has said, and also Mr. Quay — I think they are comparatively simple. It is a simple question of whether we approve the kind of government that we have had in Albany during the past few years; of whether we want to continue progress, or whether we want to go back to the days of reaction. I have been around this country a good deal in the last couple of months. I have been down South and out in the middle west and in New England, and to me as a New Yorker it is a great source of pride that all the other states in the Union are reading and finding

ADDRESS OF
HONORABLE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Monday Evening
October 22, 1928

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

MR. ROOSEVELT: Without any premeditation on my part I seem to be hot on the trail of my friend, the Attorney-General of this State. Almost every town I get to I find that he has just escaped. But now the quarry is in sight and he can't get away.

Mr. Ottinger's speeches form a simple combination of two thoughts; first, he would have it appear that he and the leaders of the Republican Party are responsible for all of the good things which have happened in the administration of the State of New York under the leadership of Alfred E. Smith. Secondly, that if his friend, Mr. Hoover, is not elected, every man, woman and child in this state will go barefooted and hungry for the next four years.

Like Governor Smith, I believe in facts, and tonight I want to talk facts in regard to what I call the "human being" functions of our State Government. To-day every citizen recognizes that it is the duty of the State to concern itself with the education, health and general welfare of the citizens. We have made tremendous strides in the past 20 years. Before that, the State was content ⁷⁰ with stopping with the assistance of a very second-rate kind of education and did practically nothing in the other fields of welfare.

First, in the matter of our schools, I want to point out one very simple proof of what has happened since Governor Smith first went to Albany as Chief Executive on January 1, 1919. During 1919, the first year of Governor Smith, the State spent ~~about~~ \$12,000,000 for education. During the current year of 1928 the State is spending ~~about~~ \$86,000,000 in the same cause. During no period of the State's history have such enormous strides been made, and I leave to the judgment of the voters of this State as to who is responsible. Was it the gentlemen who call themselves the leaders of the Republican

*"you can't
put all the people for
your own use"
The Times*

Party? Or was it the insistence of Governor Alfred E. Smith? As the Governor himself has said, let any one who cares to do so write to Dr. Graves, the head of the Education Department of this State and ask him who is most greatly responsible for the splendid progress. Incidentally, Dr. Graves is a Republican, but he is a truthful man. The only time the Republican leaders took any initiative was when they thought they could embarrass the Governor by passing a bill to increase teachers' salaries when they knew there was no money in the Treasury with which to pay the increases, and incidentally they absolutely declined to furnish the money by appropriation.

While it is true that these magnificent steps for improved education ^{have} ~~had~~ been taken, we cannot stand still. In many communities in this State, school facilities remain wholly inadequate and out of date and a continuation of State aid is imperative. In many places the minimum requirements ~~and facilities~~ ^{and the facilities are out of date} are still too low, and it is obviously the duty of the State to see to it that this minimum standard is made higher. Individual localities will then be in a position to build up from that point as their finances and wishes allow. Furthermore, I am convinced that the minimum standards for the teachers in the State must also be raised. We are approaching a new era in which teaching standards will be subjected to increasing scrutiny. Many believe that with the development of the radio and television, the most remote school houses in the State will be provided with the services of the most brilliant teachers and professors, and while this time may be some years off, the State must be ready to use the latest inventions and improvements.

Now, ^{here is a} ~~as to a~~ kindred subject which goes hand in hand with education. ^{to be} I conceive it of just as much importance to educate the body of the child as the mind of the child. During the past ten years, again under the leadership of Governor Smith, the general health of the citizens of this State has made tremendous strides, especially the health of

the children of the State. The death rate has shown a constant decline and a good example is the fact that ten years ago the death rate of babies was ninety in every thousand, whereas today it is sixty in every thousand.

Again, we have only commenced the task, for much remains to be done. I may be pardoned if I refer to my own intense interest in the care of crippled children, and indeed of cripples of every kind. Infantile paralysis, tuberculosis, occupational and other accidents and various other causes give an estimate of over one hundred thousand adults and children in this State who are seriously crippled, most of them so seriously that they are unable to live normal or useful lives.

First of all, from the practical dollars and cents point of view, it is obvious that if a large proportion of these cripples can by proper treatment be restored to active and useful citizenship, the money spent on them by the State will come back many times by their increased productiveness. We must not forget that a wheel-chair cripple is not only a dead load on the earning power of the community, but in most cases requires ^{like} the attention and care of some able-bodied person. Modern medical science has advanced to such a point that in the great majority of cases these cripples can be made to function. It is often a long and costly procedure, but it is worthwhile for the various communities and for the State to spend this time and money, for it will be repaid a thousand-fold.

Then, too, there is the great humanitarian side of this question. I have seen thousands of examples of crippled adults and children who, by proper care, have been restored to normal life among their families and friends. It is of course a fact that the family of the average crippled child in this State cannot afford the heavy expense of obtaining proper private treatment, and we must come to a better realization that this care is as much a part of the duties of the local and State governments as it is for these governments to provide funds for the development of the child's education.

The record in Albany is as clear ~~as~~ on this as it is on all health and welfare questions. I want again and again to make it clear that I do not blame the rank and file of the Republican party for the constant mulish policy of the Republican leaders. Can anyone point to a single example of Republican leadership in the Senate or Assembly sponsoring and pushing any part of a program for the bettering of the health and child welfare of the State? In every single case the suggestions for new legislation and increased appropriations have come from Governor Alfred E. Smith. In every case, likewise, there has been a hemming and hawing and disapproval on the part of the Republican leaders -- often, indeed, open opposition.

Success has been attained because Governor Smith has made direct appeals to the voting public of the State. He has shown definite need for the legislation and for the increased expenditure of money in such clear terms that his humanitarian views and common-sense have brought such a chorus of approval that the Republican leaders have been forced to back down.

The work so well begun needs to be greatly expanded. There are, for instance, between 20,000 and 30,000 crippled children in this State who have not yet been located. There are thousands of others who are not receiving adequate treatment. We need more money. We need an extension of the medical service to every out-of-the-way corner in the cities and on the farms. Money and momentum are the remaining needs. I propose to ask for the money and to accelerate the momentum.

People readily recognize that I myself furnish a perfectly good example of what can be done by the right kind of care. I dislike to use this personal example but do so because it fits. Seven years ago, through an attack of infantile paralysis I was completely put out of any useful activity. By personal good fortune I was able to get the best kind of medical care. The result is that today I am on my feet and entire capable, at least from the physical

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On that record & on those
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Rep. party to carry on our program
of child welfare in this State?

ADDITIONAL TO ADDRESS AT ROCHESTER:

For the care of little children who have been thrown on the mercy of the community by the death ~~or~~ insanity ^{desertion or incapacity} of their father, this State has now adopted a definite policy. We are no longer satisfied with the old fashioned idea of sticking them away in the dismal recesses of an institution, there to be catalogued, assorted, classified and merely allowed to grow up. We believe that their place is rightfully with their mothers. We believe that the money spent on ^{institutions for} these unfortunate children should be given to their mothers to help them bring them up at home. Money ~~went~~ ^{was} to give these children a mother's love and a mother's rearing can never be wasted.

This system of mother's pensions ^{has been urged by Democrats for years and} has been gradually broadened, ~~and~~ extended and amplified by Democratic administration. What has been the attitude of our Republican friends? Let us look at the record.

These allowances to widows for the support of their children are made by so-called county boards of child welfare. ~~The~~ Money ~~comes~~ from the county treasuries. But some of our counties have been unable to raise enough money for this purpose. Their finances in many cases could not stand the strain. Governor Smith ^{has come} ~~immediately came~~ forward and said, "Let the great State of New York step in and help." He ~~has~~ urged the legislature time and again to appropriate money to help the counties in this humane work. Bills were introduced by Democratic legislators to contribute State money to those local boards with which they could function. These messages and these bills were ignored by the Republican leaders. They turned a deaf ear to these pleas for better childhood and better motherhood in this State. Why? Simply because it cost money.

When we Democrats were in control of the Senate, ~~the~~ ^{these} Senate passed ~~the~~ bills. Witness Senate introductory bill No. 284 of 1923 and Senate introductory bill No. 84 of 1924. Introduced by Democrats, they were passed by Democrats. But

Additional to Rochester Address - 2

what happened to them in the Assembly? ^{Ah! That was a different story.} The Republicans were in control there. The bills were strangled in ~~the~~ Committee; and were not even allowed to come out for a vote. That is the record; those are the facts.

On that record and on those facts are you going to trust the Republican Party to carry on our program of child welfare in this State?

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Additional to Rochester Address - 2

Greenway
Jellen
Rosen

what happened to them in the hospital? The hospital was
in control there. The bills were returned in the hospital
and were not even allowed to come out for a day. That is
the reason. Please see the facts.
On that record and on those facts, I am going to
start the Republican Party to work on the system of child
welfare in this State.

~~1911~~ 588/1913 S. J. L. L.
Commissioner

point of view, of running any business, whether a private business or that of the Government of the State of New York. Unfortunately the great majority of people in this State, whether children or grown-ups who become incapacitated, are unable to afford the cost and time necessary to rehabilitation. It is the clear duty of the State and local governments to make up what is needed to bring about the splendid definite results which medical science can now provide. I promise to do all in my power to make available for others that which I myself have been fortunate enough to obtain.

My friend, Mr. Ottinger, in line with his program of promising everything to everybody, from the abolishment of flat tires to the abolition of all taxes, announced in Utica on Saturday that if Herbert Hoover becomes President he will abolish all poverty. He said, "And now, Herbert Hoover announces one great project. He announces one great, general, definite program -- and that program is to abolish poverty. When Herbert Hoover says he will abolish poverty he will do so, because he is the statistician who knows what he is talking about."

Well, when Herbert Hoover abolishes poverty by handing out more of those famous statistics, I shall vote for him. That is a perfectly safe pledge on my part. Perhaps by multiplying the adding machine factories and establishing one in every community, the unemployment problem will be solved. How much better it would be if my friend Mr. Ottinger would come down to brass tacks. One of the unsatisfactory conditions still existing in this State, is the administration of the Poor Law. We ~~need~~ need a drastic revision of that law, and I propose to recommend it, but beyond a mere revision of law is the problem of why we have so many aged poor who need to be taken care of. I have already said, that in accordance with the Democratic Platform, I propose an immediate study of the broad question of old age pensions. The taking up of this subject at this time is no more radical

Insert Extra

Some of our countries don't have
enough to raise enough money
for this purpose. Their finances
in many cases could not stand
the test. Gov. Smith immediately
came forward & said "Let the great
State of my ~~help~~ ship me help." He
brought the Leg. here & again to ~~contribute~~
the money. He of the ~~crusades~~ in the ~~Lincoln~~
road. Bills were introduced by Sen.
Leg. to contribute state money to these
local roads with what they could
function. These were ~~very~~ ~~of~~ ~~these~~
bills were ~~required~~ by the ~~Leg.~~ ~~one~~
that they turned a deaf ear to these
plans for better ~~cheaper~~ better ~~with~~ ~~had~~
in the state. Why? Simply because it cost
money. When in ~~the~~ ~~state~~ the Senate we
passed the bill. Witness Senate. But
of 1923 + Senate bill of 1924.
But ~~rejected~~ by Sen. They were passed by
Senate etc. But what happened in the Assembly.
The bill were in ~~control~~ there. The bills were
not ~~strengthened~~ in the ~~Assembly~~ ~~of~~ ~~committees~~. ~~Saving~~ of

or socialistic than the initiation of the workmen's compensation and the factory inspection laws ~~was~~^{was} seventeen years ago. I am opposed to any form of dole, but in view of the experience of other nations, I am certain that a practical method can be worked out in the State of New York on the principle of ^{mutual} contribution. This State has taken a proud lead in social legislation and is being looked up to and copied by many of our sister states. I want us to continue in that position of leadership, and I can't repeat too often that we ~~can not~~^{can not} stand still but must move forward with every passing year. My fight is not against any political party, but my fight is a very definite one against the type of so-called leadership of certain Republicans who at the present time have a strangle hold on the reins of their party in the State of New York.

Gov. by your name not statesman

*" " because they not machine
" " for progress not reaction
Motto of my campaign.*

*Look upward and not in.
Look forward and not back,*

*Look upward and not down
And lend a hand.*

Child Welfare

For the care of little children who have been
thrown on the mercy of the community ~~either~~ by the
death ^{or} ~~insanity~~ ^{or} ~~premature~~ of their father, this
State has ^{now} adopted a definite policy. We are
no longer satisfied with the old fashioned idea
of sticking them away in the dismal recesses of
an institution, there to be catalogued, assorted
classified and ^{mostly} allowed to grow up. We believe
that their place is rightfully with their mother. We
believe that the money spent on these unfortunate
children should be given to their mothers
to keep them as long as possible. Money spent
to give these children a mother's love and a
home thus rearing can never be wasted.

This system of mother's pensions
~~adoption~~ has been gradually broadened and
improved ~~and~~ ~~is~~ ~~now~~ ~~being~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~State~~
Administration. ~~It has been administered by~~
~~County Boards of Child Welfare~~ that has
been the attitude of our ~~Self~~ friends ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~public~~
as the record.

I have ~~been~~ ~~allowed~~ ~~to~~ ~~visit~~ ~~you~~
the ~~purpose~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~County~~ ~~Board~~ ~~in~~ ~~Child~~
made by ~~an~~ ~~order~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~County~~ ~~Board~~
Welfare. The money comes from ~~the~~ ~~County~~ ~~treasury~~
~~which is~~ ~~the~~ ~~County~~ ~~Board~~ ~~of~~ ~~Child~~ ~~Welfare~~

110
Rochester, N^y Y., Oct. 22, 1928.

MR. ROOSEVELT: Anybody who knows anything of campaigning upstate must have been impressed by the results of the first day of the eastward trip of the Democratic candidates. Batavia, for instance, is an over-whelmingly Republican city. When Mr. Ottinger was there a few days ago, he spoke to about 200 Republicans in the Courthouse. Today, the Democratic candidates spoke to 1200 enthusiastic voters in the largest theatre in town. Again I was cheered by the large number of people who came up after the meeting to greet me with the statement that although they were normally Republicans they are voting the Democratic ticket this year. One Republican leader, an old acquaintance of mine, told me that the Republican organization is plainly worried.

Tonight's reception in Rochester carries the same story. When Attorney-General Ottinger was here two days ago, the story was very different from the tremendous reception which greeted the Democratic candidates along the main street, and I am told that the evening meeting for the Attorney-General brought out considerably less than 2,000 to hear him.

It is growing more and more apparent as we get closer to election day that the enormous increase in registration is going to help the Democratic vote far more than the Republican vote.

Tomorrow night in Syracuse I propose to fire one of the big guns of the campaign on the subject of whether the water power of the state shall remain in the hands of the people of the state.