
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
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Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

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1928 October 26

Herkimer, NY Campaign Speech

had before in **HERKIMER - (OPEN AIR)** The really inter-
 esting thing is the **Friday Noon** when there is a new
 kind of vote - **October 26, 1928.** as of Democrats - but
 there is a new kind called "Smith Republicans."
 (Laughter.) And they are coming our way every day.

Well, I am glad to see you. This is rotten
 weather, but this is a warm Democratic reception.
 (Applause.)

You know, I am not a stranger in Herkimer or
 in Herkimer County, because I have a good many relations
 who live up there on the hill. (Laughter.) They don't
 vote generally the same way that I do, but I have an
 idea that this year quite a lot of them are going to
 vote the Democratic Ticket. And that is in line with
 what we have found on this trip through the State of
 New York. Tuesday.

We started off a week ago last Wednesday, out
 through the Southern Tier. We went to Buffalo and we
 have come back along the line of the Central, with one
 trip up to Watertown, and everywhere that we came we
 found great enthusiasm for Governor Smith and the State
 Democratic Ticket -- more enthusiasm than we have ever

had before in my memory. (Applause.) The really interesting thing is that in this campaign there is a new kind of voter - not just Republicans or Democrats - but there is a new kind called "Smith Republicans." (Laughter.) And they are coming our way every day.

The nearer we get to Election Day, the more confident I am that the people of this State are going to recognize that the real fight is a fight for progressive government both in Washington and in Albany, and I am very certain, more and more so as we get nearer Election Day, that Governor Smith and I are going to carry this State by a big majority. (Applause.)

And so, I hope that Herkimer County -- and I am very certain that Herkimer County is going to be found with the majority party, the Democratic Party, a week from Tuesday.

You people here are doing a great piece of work. When I came through the town I saw what I have seen in other places, and that is that the women are out in full force for Governor Smith. (Applause.) And as I go through a town also, I discover another thing, and that is that you have such a large population of children

in this town, that the population of Herkimer will be doubled by the time they are voters.

And so, it has been a great pleasure to be here. I can't talk campaign issues on account of this rotten weather, but I know how glad I am to have been here, and I hope that the next time I come back next spring, that I will come back in an official capacity as the Governor of this State. (Prolonged Applause.)

ward in the Republican. Not only here, but all over the State, because there are two things that are very significant to me. One is that during all these years that this State has elected the best of men, the Alfred I. Smith for Governor. (Applause.) His great virtues have been due in large measure to the fine support we have had from the thinking Republicans of this State. (Applause.)

And in this campaign, as I have travelled all over the State now for the past ten days, I find an unusual degree -- more than in any previous campaign I have engaged in, and that is a good many Republicans coming forward in dyed-in-the-wool, hard-shelled Republican towns, coming up to me and saying, "We are not