
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
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Silver Bay, NY -
Smaller Industries Conference

ROOSEVELT URGES INDUSTRY TO GO BACK TO SMALL TOWNS

Governor In Silver Bay Talk Cites Lower Taxes And Easier Living

Silver Bay, N. Y., Aug. 13—(AP)—Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt today advised American industry to consider seriously a great trek back to the smaller communities where taxes are cheaper and the employe's living easier.

He addressed the first smaller industries conference, and pleaded with the delegates as representatives of about 200,000 of the nation's manufacturing plants, to lend their efforts to social and economic experiments. He warned that the time has come when this country must try new things, that the leaders of the great economic spree has played us false.

The governor said that the great economic cycle having brought industries so huge that the people were unable to think in terms of less than millions, was now turning back to give smaller industries a predominant place in the new civilization.

Small Plants Made Good
"I can remember the day," said the governor, "when most of our small communities had an additional cash crop in the form of small industries. Then a plant with 500 employes was a huge plant. Today that is nothing. But those plants were making good not only from a financial, but from a social viewpoint."

"Now these factories are dilapidated. But the wheel is turning. Economists tell us that the economic value of the large city is questionable because of the prohibitive costs that such size entails. It is particularly well illustrated in the case of taxes—the larger the community, the greater the tax."

"Our great taxes are your community taxes and they will grow larger as more subways are built, water systems enlarged, and the systems of transportation further congested."

Small Town, Small Taxes
"But suppose your smaller industries, instead of inhabiting a large town, moved to a farm community. There those taxes would be smaller. Your employe's dollar would buy milk for five cents a quart; and vegetables seven days a week at less than he pays now for a fourth as much. Your employe would be handier and the farmer would have a larger outlet for his produce."

"There are in New York state a good many thousand industries, which might well go back to the farms. I do not mean that literally, but rather back to the communities which I have described."

"Employers must accept a greater sense of social responsibility. Near Poughkeepsie, N. Y., they are selling feet for \$500—property with a real value of about 100 bucks an acre. These are not country estates for working men. No, we are selling them a pig in a poke."

Too Much Salesmanship
"There has been too much salesmanship, too much talk, too many words about cooperation. What we must have is planning. Not short time planning, but vision that will help us through a long and complex future. You can help."

"The political executives of this nation cannot make a new economic era. You must help, be willing to try some experiment. If we do this, perhaps we can give to our children an even greater America than our ancestors gave us."

After his address the governor returned to his yacht on Lake Champlain, where he will spend the night. Today he dedicated the Moss-Ludington hospital in Ticonderoga.

Backs Small Town



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

WATERBURY REPUBLICAN,
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