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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. 502**

**1932 September 15**

**Denver, CO -  
Extemporaneous remarks - 4:30 p.m.**

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS  
OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT

From an Interior Balcony of the Brown Palace Hotel  
Denver, Colorado  
September 15, 1932, 4.30 P.M.

My friends, I have had a very wonderful welcome in Denver. I am glad to come back here after twelve years. As many of you know, I have been here many times before. It is a privilege to be here, especially as the guest of a very distinguished American, whom I have known and revered, and whom the whole country has known and revered for many years -- Governor Adams.

I had expected and hoped to be able to shake hands with all of you, but there is a limit to the number of people with whom one can shake hands in an hour. As a matter of fact, of course, a mere candidate for the Presidency has to get at least two hours sleep each night.

(Laughter)

Last night, after we had left Topeka, somewhere around one A.M., I heard a voice outside of the train window, saying: "Oh, come on out." (Laughter) "We won't hurt you. Come on out." (Laughter) Well, I rolled over, and the next thing I knew it was five A.M. It was somewhere in Western Kansas, and there was another voice outside the window, saying: "Aw, come on out." (Laughter)

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered; though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

My friends, I have had a very wonderful welcome in Denver. I am glad to come back here after twelve years. As many of you know, I have been here many times before. It is a privilege to be here, especially as the guest of a very distinguished American, whom I have known and honored, and whom the whole country has known and revered for many years -- Governor Adams.

I had expected and hoped to be able to shake hands with all of you, but there is a limit to the number of people with whom one can shake hands in an hour. As a matter of fact, of course, a mere candidate for the Presidency has to get at least two hours each night.

(Laughter)

Last night, after we had left Toledo, somewhere around one A.M., I heard a voice outside of the train window, saying: "Oh, come on out." "We won't hurt you. Come on out." (Laughter) Well, I rolled over, and the next thing I knew it was five A.M. It was somewhere in Western Kansas, and there was another voice outside the window, saying: "Aw, come on out." (Laughter)

We have had a very wonderful trip so far.

We started off, the very first day, with the best omen that we could get at this time of the year -- the announcement of the result of the election in the State of Maine. (Applause, prolonged) And, from what I have heard from the States West of the Mississippi, through which I have passed, there isn't a single one of them that isn't going to more than duplicate -- that isn't going to excel the result in Maine, when November comes around. (Hurrah! Applause)

Literally, this is not exactly a campaign speech, nor is it a campaign trip. It is hard to make the press of the country understand that; but I am trying to make the people of the country understand that the real honest-to-God purpose of this swing of mine through the West, and out to the Coast and back again, is primarily so that I can get in touch personally with the different sections of the country, to find out what the needs are of each section; what the thoughts of the people are; so that in case I go to Washington on the 4th of March next, I will have a first-hand knowledge. (Hurrah! Prolonged applause)

And, in case I do go down there -- I think I am going -- (Laughter, prolonged applause) I shall try to apply to the national government the same theory that I have

applied to the government of a pretty big state during the past four years -- that is, to get around the country from time to time, and see at first hand what is going on in the country, and what the country needs in its different sections, rather than trust to the country coming to Washington, D. C. (Hu'rah! Prolonged applause)

It has been a pleasure to see you. I was not only amazed but very much moved by the wonderful reception, driving up the great street from the railroad station, and in fact all through the city. You have a beautiful city. It was a privilege to go out to the Army Hospital. I am glad to see that such excellent work is being done there. I hope to come back here and see you all again, very soon. (Prolonged applause)