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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1932 September 22

Dunsmuir, CA - Extemporaneous remarks

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT From the Back Platform of his Special Train Dunsmuir, California, September 22, 1932, 8.35 A.M.

(As the Governor stepped out on the back platform, there was handed to him a bouquet of flowers from the railroad people.)

Good morning, good people! I am glad that I was able to get up early enough this morning to see this wonderful country again. I have been here several times before, in the early days when I was in the Navy Department. I didn't get up for the 5 A.M. stop. I think some member of the family did.

We sometimes have problems on our hands on this trip:
At one particular stop on the line between Colorado and Wyoming,
sometime in the middle of the night -- I don't know what time
it was -- I heard people on the outside, saying, "Come on out,
Governor. Come on out." (Laughter) I opened one eye about
half-way, and they kept on yelling, and suddenly the crowd began to shout, "Come on out! If you don't, we will vote for
Hoover." (Laughter, applause) So, you see, we have some real
problems.

I should say, judging by the number of young people here, in this district, that it was distinctly a "Roosevelt town". (Laughter) There is no race suicide here. It is all right. (Laughter)

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White
House stengrapher 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. In about the speech was delivered, though
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You know, I am not making a great many political speeches on this trip, because the real purpose of the trip is for me to get acquainted with the conditions and the needs of the different parts of the United States. That is a good deal more important than to talk politics. So, in each settion that we have come to, I have been trying to find out at first hand what the conditions are -- what the needs are, and what the people are thinking. It seems to me that the principal objective of our national government in the next few years must be to bring back a prosperity that is uniform in the country -- not a prosperity that hits into one section and leaves the other section out.

As I said back in the State of Washington, we cannot endure as a nation if we are "half boom" and "half broke".

It is good to see you all, and I hope to come back here again sometime. I don't think there is any question as to the way I am headed at the present time. Things are going all right, and we are looking for a Democratic victory. (Applause)

I want to thank you for the beautiful flowers. It was very sweet of you! I want also to introduce to you the Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, Mr. James A. Farley. (Applause)