
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
The Master Speech Files, 1898, 1910-1945

Series 1: Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Political Ascension

File No. 524

1932 September 24

Santa Barbara, CA - Extemporaneous remarks

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
This is a transcription made by the White House
of a speech made by the President
at Santa Barbara, California, September 24, 1932, 8.35 A.M.

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT
From the Back Platform of his Special Train
Santa Barbara, California, September 24, 1932, 8.35 A.M.

Good morning, my friends. I am indeed glad to come back here to Mr. McAdoo's town, after an absence of twelve long years.

We have had a very wonderful trip. Last night was a very peaceful night, because nobody tried to wake us up after one A.M. That has not been true at all on most of the former stops of our trip. Back, somewhere in Montana, or Wyoming, around half-past two or three in the morning, there was quite a crowd on the outside. My boy Jimmie, who is standing here with me, went out, and in the crowd there was a lady who said she had motored 100 miles to see me. I was sound asleep. So, my boy suggested that I could not get up at that hour of the night. She was so angry at me for declining to rise at that hour of the night that she said, "If you don't get him out of bed, I will go in and get him."
(Laughter)

At still another stop, somewhere back along the line, there was a crowd waiting at the station at five o'clock in the morning. Of course, the most respectable people get up at that time in the morning. But I wasn't up. The crowd gathered around the car, and shouted: "Come on out, Governor."

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.

To conclude a few, after Mr. McGowan's town, after a

twelve long years.

We have had a very wonderful time last night

was a very peaceful night, because nobody tried to wake us

up after one A.M. That has not been true at all on most of

the former days of our trip. Back, somewhere in Montana,

or Wyoming, around half-past two or three in the morning,

there was quite a crowd on the outside. My boy Jimmie, who

is standing here with me, went out, and in the crowd there

was a lady who said she had noticed 100 miles to see me.

was sound asleep. So, my boy suggested that I could not get

up at that hour of the night. She was so angry at me for do-

ing to rise at that hour of the night that she said, "If

you don't get him out of bed, I will go in and get him."

(Laughter)

At still another stop, somewhere back along the line,

there was a crowd waiting at the station at five o'clock in

the morning. Of course, the most respectable people got up

at that time in the morning. But I wasn't up. The crowd

gathered around the car, and shouted: "Come on out, Governor."

I opened one eye and then rolled over. Then the crowd said, "Come on out! Come on out!" It ended up with the shout, "If you don't come out, we will vote for Hoover." (Laughter) -- (interrupted by)

A VOICE: And you rolled over again!

GOVERNOR: Yes. Now, as a matter of fact, as some of you people know, this trip of ours is not primarily a speech-making trip, but it is an effort on my part to become familiar with the conditions and needs in every section of the country. I want to know, at first hand, what the conditions are, and what the needs are. Because I believe that we cannot have a well-rounded prosperity unless it is a prosperity that touches every State in the Union, and every section in the Union. That is the reason that we are here. (Applause)

While I am here, I will introduce some of the family to you, with your permission. My boy Jimmie is right here. (Applause) Here is my daughter, Anna, on my right. (Applause) Here is my daughter-in-law, Betsy. Then, this other "little fellow", at the end of the platform over here, is the man who is responsible for the running of the campaign -- Mr. James A. Farley, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee. Come over here, Jim, and say "Good morning"! (Applause)