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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. 534**

**1932 September 27**

**La Junta, CO - Extemporaneous remarks**

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT  
From the Back Platform of his Special Train  
La Junta, Colorado, September 27, 1932, 6.25 P.M.

How do you do, my friends. It's good to be back here in La Junta. I haven't been here for twelve years. The last time I came here I was running on the tail-end of the ticket for Vice-President. Now, I am on the top-end of the ticket. (Applause)

We have had perfectly wonderful and tremendous receptions all day coming through New Mexico. I think I saw the principal part of the population of the town back at Lamy, also Las Vegas and Ratoon. I notice also, that this must be a Roosevelt town here, too, judging by the number of people I see here. There is no race suicide here. (Applause) (Referring to number of children.)

We have had a wonderful trip. We visited Colorado, and Denver on the earlier part of our trip, as you know. From what I heard up there, there is no question about Colorado going Democratic this year. (Applause)

All through the trip we have been very much impressed with the fact that the progressives of the old days, and the new days, are turning to the Democracy in an effort to find relief from troubles, which we have been going through all this time.

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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.

How do you do, my friends?  
I haven't been here for twelve years. The last time I came here I was running on the tail-end of the ticket for Vice-President. Now, I am on the top-end of the ticket. (Applause)

We have had perfectly wonderful and tremendous reactions all day coming through New Mexico. I think I saw the principal part of the population of the town back at Las Alamos, also Las Vegas and Watson. I notice also, that this must be a Roosevelt town here, too, judging by the number of people I see here. There is no race outside here. (Applause)

(Referring to number of children.)  
We have had a wonderful trip. We visited Colorado and Denver on the earlier part of our trip, as you know. Two days I heard up there, there is no question about Colorado going Democratic this year. (Applause)

All through the trip we have been very much impressed with the fact that the progressives of the old days and the new days are turning to the Democrats in an effort to find relief from troubles, which we have been going through all this time.

I have, on this trip, been trying to do not much talking about politics, but find out what the needs were in different sections of the country. The only way to do that is to find out, first hand, what is going on, and what people are talking about, and what the Federal Government must do in order to bring about a greater prosperity. We don't want a party prosperity, or rather, a part-time prosperity, just confined to one section or one class of people in a section. We want a rounded prosperity that will cover every class and every section of the Nation. (Applause)

I have some of the family along with me. My wife is right here -- Mrs. Roosevelt! (Prolonged applause) I don't see the girls here, but my "little boy Jimmie" is right here behind me. (Applause) He is only six foot three. I refer to him as the "block off the old chip"! (Laughter)

I think it would be very nice if you people would allow me also to introduce to you a very old friend of mine, Senator Walsh, of Montana, who is with us on the trip. (Prolonged applause, whistling.)

(Senator Walsh, at this point, spoke briefly to the crowd.)