
Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
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Pueblo, CO - Extemporaneous remarks

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT
From the Back Platform of his Special Train
September 27, 1932, 8.10 P.M., Pueblo, Colorado

They tell me that I don't need any introduction here in Pueblo. I am glad of that. (Applause)

Well, it's like getting home again! Twelve years ago I came to Pueblo, as some of you people remember, and we had a wonderful meeting in the evening.

Alva Adams was a good friend of mine. He was there. We didn't know what to do until 11 A.M., so we went around to the Y.M.C.A.'s Bowling Alley. (Applause, laughter)

It's good to be back here in Senator's home town, -- here he is! I don't need to tell you that I am happy to see him, having known him in the old days when I was still in Washington, in the Navy Department. I am very happy to know that he is going back to Washington next year.

Now, you know that in the very early part of this trip, we visited the northern part of Colorado. There, we had a great meeting. Since then, we have been out in the Northwest, and down on the Pacific Coast, and back to Arizona, and New Mexico. I can't tell you what wonderful crowds we had everywhere. People have just turned out in droves. Sometimes there were more people who turned out than there

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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.

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East, and New Mexico. I can't tell you what wonderful crowds

we had everywhere. People have just poured out in droves.

Sometimes there were more people who poured out than there

were in the whole town. A town with 1,000 people would turn out 2,000 people at the station. That is good mathematics. (Applause, laughter) That is all right.

I have noticed one thing about the population in Southern Colorado, and that is that it is not dying out. (Referring to number of children.) For that reason, I am sure it is a Roosevelt State.

As some of you know, the trip hasn't been for the purpose primarily of making political speeches. I have been trying to find out what the conditions are in every section of the country, and what the needs are, so that if -- "if" is the wrong word -- so that "when" I go to Washington next March I will be able to know what are the conditions in every single part of the country, and be able to try to run the United States Government so that when we get prosperity back, it won't be just a sectional prosperity, or a local prosperity, or a class prosperity; but will cover every section of the United States and every class among our inhabitants.

I have "both of the family" here now: Mrs. Roosevelt is here on the end. (Applause) Over there is my daughter, Anna, and my daughter-in-law, Betsy; and also my "little boy Jimmie". (Laughter, applause)

A VOICE: Come on, Jimmie, let's see you! (Applause)

GOVERNOR: He is only six-foot-three; and that is why I call him a "block off the old chip". (Laughter)

A VOICE: The "chip" is pretty good! (Laughter)

GOVERNOR: Well, it is fine to be back in this State again. We have had a wonderful trip. I am going to ask Senator Adams to say just a word or two to you -- his own townspeople. (Applause)

(At this point, Senator Adams spoke a few words of greeting.)

A VOICE: We want Roosevelt! We want Martin for Congress! (Applause)

GOVERNOR: Here is John Martin. You want him too!

(John Martin spoke briefly.)

GOVERNOR: I will get Jimmie to tell you what happened in the middle of the night, not once, but other times.

(James Roosevelt recited the Governor's experience during the middle of the night in Wyoming, Colorado and Idaho, when the crowd outside woke him up.)

A VOICE: Show us how to work!

GOVERNOR: That is something we are working at now. We are trying to find out how. Is Senator Walsh there?

A VOICE INSIDE THE CAR: No.

A VOICE: Bring Senator Walsh out.

GOVERNOR: Is Senator Pitman there?

A VOICE INSIDE THE CAR: No.

GOVERNOR: Here is the oldest member, in point of years -- not in point of age -- of the Democratic National Committee -- an old friend of mine, and a friend of yours -- Bruce Kremer, of the State of Montana.

A VOICE: Hello, Bruce! (Applause)

(Mr. Kremer then spoke a few words to the crowd.)