
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 29

Council Bluffs, IA - Extemporaneous remarks

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This is a transcript made by the White
House stenographer from the stenographic
notes taken during the speech made
by Governor Roosevelt at Council Bluffs,
Iowa, September 29, 1932. The speech
was made at the special session of the
State Board of Agriculture, although
it is not printed in the Board's program.

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT
From the Back Platform of his Special Train
Council Bluffs, Iowa, September 29, 1932

It's good to get back to Iowa. Coming through here
last Spring, on the way up to St. Paul, we had a wonderful re-
ception all along the road. We also had a wonderful reception
today over in Omaha. We went out on the farm, and the result
is that I am carrying some wheat straw back East in my hair.
(Laughter)

In every possible way, I am glad that I came out on
this trip through the West. The real reason was not to make
political speeches, but to find out about what the conditions
were in every part of the country. I am sorry to say that the
depression is just as bad as it is on the Hudson River.

One of the things which we want to accomplish in the
next four years is to bring back a prosperity that will cover
every section in the country, and every class in the community.

Agriculture, in the last analysis, is the foundation
of the prosperity of the United States.

It's good to see you all. I will introduce some of
my family: Mrs. Roosevelt is over here on my left. (Applause)
My daughter, Anna, is here. (Applause) My little boy Jimmie
is alongside of me, and here is his wife, Betsy. (Applause)

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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. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF
FROM THE BACK PLATFORM OF
GENERAL BRUNTS, IOWA

It's good to get back to Iowa. Coming through
last Spring, on the way up to St. Paul, we had a wonderful re-
ception all along the road. We also had a wonderful reception
today over in Oshawa. We went out on the farm, and the reas-
on is that I am carrying some wheat back East in my hair.
(laughter)
In every possible way, I am glad that I came out on
this trip through the West. The real reason was not to make
political speeches, but to find out about what the conditions
were in every part of the country. I am sorry to say that the
depression is just as bad as it is on the Hudson River.
One of the things which we want to accomplish in the
next four years is to bring back a prosperity that will cover
every section in the country, and every class in the community.
Agriculture, in the last analysis, is the foundation
of the prosperity of the United States.
It's good to see you all. I will introduce some of
my family: Mrs. Roosevelt is over here on my left. (Applause)
My daughter, Anne, is here. (Applause) My little boy Lennie
is alongside of me, and here is his wife, Betty. (Applause)

There are three other small boys -- almost six feet and three inches -- back home. (Laughter, applause)

A VOICE: We will see you in the White House, Governor! (Applause)

GOVERNOR: I am also very glad to be campaigning once more with an old campaign mate of mine -- the next Governor of Iowa. (Applause)