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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. 574**

**1932 October 24 Evening**

**Raleigh, NC - Extemporaneous remarks**

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT  
From the Back Platform of his Special Train  
Raleigh, North Carolina, October 25, 1932, 10.15 A.M.

My friends, I am very glad to be here once more, especially as the guest of my old friend, Governor Gardner! It's good to see you boys from the State College, and the band over there. It brings back to my memory today, only three years ago, when I came here to this wonderful State Fair.

We have had a very fine trip through the United States. We were out to the Coast and back. Tomorrow, when I get back to Albany, we will have covered 36 States out of the 48. That's nearly a record.

Everywhere we have gone, we have had very wonderful receptions, not only from Democrats, but from those thinking Republicans who are satisfied that the United States will not return to prosperity under Republican leadership.

This morning I got a grand welcome from North Carolina, somewhere around 5:30 A.M. I didn't know what it was all about because I was sound asleep, and I think I was dreaming of the old days when I used to go quail shooting up around High Point. Suddenly, in the middle of my dreams, I heard a double-barrelled shotgun go off directly under my berth. It turned out to be only a cannon cracker. That was one of my experiences since I have come across a part of your State.

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 or 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.

My friends, I am very glad to be here once more, especially as the guest of my old friend, Governor Gurnea. It's good to see you boys from the State College, and the band over there. It brings back to my memory today, only three years ago, when I came here to this wonderful State Fair. We have had a very fine trip through the United States. We were out to the Coast and back. Tomorrow, when I get back to Albany, we will have covered 36 States out of the 48. That's nearly a record. Everywhere we have gone, we have had very wonderful receptions, not only from Democrats, but from those thinking Republicans who are satisfied that the United States will not return to prosperity under Republican leadership. This morning I got a grand welcome from North Carolina, somewhere around 8:30 A.M. I didn't know what it was all about because I was sound asleep, and I think I was dreaming of the old days when I used to go duck shooting up around High Falls. Suddenly, in the middle of my dreams, I heard a double-barreled shotgun go off directly under my berth. It turned out to be only a cannon exercise. That was one of my experiences since I have come across a part of your State.

I want to tell you how glad I am to be here again.

Away back, 132 years ago, when the Democracy was coming into its own as a Party representing a great human principle, Thomas Jefferson wrote of North Carolina: "North Carolina is fixed and forward!" (? -- should be checked) And that, I think, describes better than any one described it before or since, the splendid attitude of this State as a component part of the forward-looking Democracy of the United States.

I hope to come back here and see all of my old friends.

I am glad to see here today my old chief, Josephus Daniels. (Applause) And I think that as history has come to be written of the Administration of our beloved Chief, Woodrow Wilson, history will say that the United States Navy never reached a higher level of efficiency or morale than it did under the leadership of my chief, Secretary Daniels.

Sometimes, in looking back over this trip of ours, I wish that I could keep on going and see more of the United States. All I have lost on this trip has been a portion of my voice. I have gained a great many other things more important. I have gained a fairly intimate knowledge of the conditions and needs of the whole country. That was the purpose of the trip -- not merely to go out and make political

speeches, but to find out what the needs of every section of the country were, because it is our creed that when we come into the control of the Government of the United States on the 4th of March next, we are going to try to restore a prosperity not merely to one section, but to every part of the Nation.

(Applause)

And so, my friends, we have but two weeks to go -- two weeks from today, and from all that I have seen and heard, I am very confident not only that this State is going to give a greater majority to the Democratic nominees than ever before in its history, but we are going to make a sweep of the United States that will spell for many, many years to come the thought and the purpose of the voters of the country that our Government shall for all times be a liberal and progressive Government for the good of the men and the women and the children of the State for all time. (Applause)

While I am here, we have two members of the family on the train. I am sorry that my better half had to go back to New York on Sunday in order to teach school. But here is my daughter, Anna! (Applause) And here is my "little boy" Jimmie, right alongside of me. (Applause)