
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 October 25

Southern Pines, NC - Extemporaneous remarks

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This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the remarks were made. Unintentionally some words in the original were omitted when the speech was delivered. Those words appear in the transcript prepared for the press.

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT
From the Back Platform of his Special Train
Southern Pines, N. C., October 25, 1932, 8.53 P.M.

My friends, it is very good to get back into North Carolina and be the guest of you good people, and also greet my old friend, Governor Gardner. (Applause)

You will notice that the only thing I lost down in Georgia was my voice. We have had very wonderful receptions all along the line. In fact, so far as that goes, clear around to the Pacific Coast and back.

I am very confident, my friends, of the result on November 8th, and even more confident of the result in the State of North Carolina.

Somewhere along the line -- I don't know when or where -- they started to shoot off a cannon, or cannon crackers, during the night. It wasn't quite as much of a reception as we had in Wyoming. It must have been three o'clock in the morning, and I was sound asleep, when the crowd came down to the station, and one lady said, "Come on out, Governor! Come on out!" I opened one eye about half-way, and then rolled over again. It didn't do any good, for the crowd kept on shouting, "Come on out, Governor. If you don't we will vote for Hoover."
(Laughter) But I'll tell you a secret: I didn't believe it!

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"Come on out, Governor. If you don't we will vote for Hoover."

(Laughter) But I'll tell you a secret: I didn't believe it!

(Laughter) And so I rolled over and went back to sleep. I still think they are going to vote for me. (Applause)

It has been a very great pleasure to be down here, and I hope to be back and see you all soon. (Applause)