Franklin D. Roosevelt — “The Great Communicator”
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Highland, NY - Extemporaneous remarks
My neighbors, here we are back almost in sight of my house. You know, we can very nearly see the Highlands except for the trees from our front porch across the River.

I am very glad to come back here; it is not the first time and it won't be the last time. Things are going awfully well. I was very much surprised and made very happy a couple of years ago by what Ulster County did then and I think we will do it this year. (Applause)

When I first started coming to Highlands, I was about eleven years old and I had got my first shotgun. We used to row across the River from Hyde Park and go after quail. In those days we used to work down through the back country down to Highlands. So you see, I go back about 40 years.

The place has grown a great deal since then and, with our new bridge, I know we have a very great future ahead for this particular community. I have been very happy to have had a part in getting the legislation to build our bridge. It is going to be an even greater factor in the development of this part of the country in the future than it has in the past.
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 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 neighbors, here and elsewhere, we can very nearly see the highlands except for the trees from our front porches."

The highlands, and I think we will go to the river, too.

When I first started coming to the highlands I was expected to come back here, if it was not the

first time and it would be the last time. There's

something extra. Well, I was very much surprised and made

very happy a couple of years ago when Ulster County give

me and I think we will go to the river."

When I first started coming to the highlands I was

often given leaves and I had for my first shower. We

used to come here and I used to have a bath in the river and go across

downtown. Do those days we used to work down through the yard.

country gone to highlands. Go you see I go back young.

Yo leave.

The people and grow a great deal since then and

with our own plants I know we have a very good future

speech for the particular community. I have been very much

to have had a part in getting the legislation to print out

practices. It is going to be an even greater factor in the

development of the part of the county in the future plan

if we are in the best.
It is nice to see you all and I hope to be back here very often, no matter what happens tomorrow, and you can rest assured that I am going to continue to be your neighbor. (Applause)