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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. 591**

**1932 November 7**

**Kingston, NY - Extemporaneous remarks**

INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT

KINGSTON, NEW YORK

November 7, 1932.

My friends of Kingston and of Ulster County:

I was very much surprised about two minutes ago, when I drove up here, by being formally served with a summons. (Laughter) I did not know quite what I had done. Then I read the summons and I think you ought to hear it. It reads, "State of New York, County of Ulster, City of Kingston, Court of the People," and the action is entitled "The members of the Democratic Club to Franklin D. Roosevelt -- summons to the above named Franklin D. Roosevelt -- you are hereby summoned to appear and to be inaugurated on March 4, 1933, at the White House, Washington, D. C." (Applause)

That is the kind of a summons that does not require any defense. I accept it. (Laughter)

I was here two years ago and I was here four years ago and I was here many, many times before that, as you all know. As a matter of fact, the family started coming here in the year 1670, and that is a long time ago. That was when the second member of the family in this country came up here as a member of the militia company to save Isophus against the Indians. And then a good deal later, nearly a

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the speech 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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century or more, my great great grandfather had the privilege of being a member of the Senate that sat in your old Senate House that is known all over the United States. So you see, I have a good many close contacts with Kingston and Ulster County.

I am very happy to be here and I am very confident that tomorrow Ulster County is going to do what I said Ulster County was going to do in 1930 -- I believe that tomorrow Ulster County is going to give me a majority just as it did in 1930. (Applause)

May I say one word more? I have been, as you know, Governor for four years, which is not as long as two other people have been Governor nor as long as Alfred E. Smith was Governor. (Applause) Nor was it as long as a certain very famous citizen of Kingston was Governor -- Governor and Vice President -- George Clinton. (Applause) Nevertheless, in four years one gets a pretty good insight into the government of the State. I believe that we have conducted that government during the past four years for the benefit of the average citizen of the State and that is why I am very anxious that on the first of January, I be able to turn the reins of our government over to that splendid citizen, that man of fine ability and of great humane convictions, Colonel Herbert H. Lehman. (Applause)

So now I am going down to the good old ferry and then across up to Rhinebeck, as I have many times before, and tonight we have a closing meeting in Poughkeepsie -- the close of what I believe has been a very great campaign. It has certainly been a very interesting campaign for me because I have visited almost every part of the United States.

I am confident of the result and, no matter what that result is, I am going to be your neighbor for a good many years longer so this is not "Goodbye" but just "Au Revoir" for a short time. I hope to see you soon.  
(Applause)