

October 5, 1940

[Dutchess County Democratic Committee]

FDR Speech File

157 DWT

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

DUTCHESS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y. - October 5 - 1946

To Jim Benson, to all of you who are attending the dinner tonight, I want to express my regret that I cannot be with you in person.

May I express the hope that your efforts in the coming weeks will be crowned by success, ~~because~~ I sincerely believe that you are seeking to give to our county, and to neighboring counties, ~~an~~ ^{distinct} improvement in ^{the} various forms of local government, ~~activities~~.

Wholly aside from ^{any} partisan ^{feelings} objectives, I am sure that I am not alone in this County of Dutchess in feeling ~~somewhat unhappy in the knowledge~~ that local government could be very greatly improved in many particulars.

I would ~~not have been more complacent~~ ^{have been the same feeling} if the county government and ~~that of many towns had been in~~ ^{government had come into} the hands of people who had been elected as Democrats. I do not think that other people, whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats or Independents, are complacent ~~as~~ ^{about} things ~~as they~~

stand today.

All of us, if we are fair minded, ^{know} believe that very great improvements can be made. All of us ^{know} believe that for the amount of money which the taxpayers of this county pay year after year we could have better planning, better management, ^{that we could} and get more ~~in-the-way-of~~ good results for our money.

I trust that in the coming campaign the Democratic candidates for office will stress not so much their Democracy as they will their belief that they can ~~more truly~~ give ~~more~~ efficient and honest service than many of those who are their opponents.

~~The~~ Government down at the bottom, ^{- local government -} very closely touches the lives of every individual citizen or family. No matter how much those in the Federal Government or at Albany strive to plan and carry out improvements, interest in local government is an essential. Simplification of local government is an essential. Constant local vigilance is an essential. Scrutiny of the records in office of those who represent you and ask a renewal of your confidence is an essential.

Overstatement, personal attacks and wild promises have
no part in our county campaign ^{any more than in a national campaign.} —~~and~~ I am very certain that
~~you~~ realizing this ^{you} will conduct it on the highest possible
level of American ethics and decency. May your efforts be
understood and approved ~~of~~ by the voters next November.

P I shall be thinking grently of my old constituents, my
old friends and my old neighbors. Good luck to you all.

SECOND DRAFT

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
THE DUTCHESS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE MEETING
POUGHKEEPSIE

To Jim Benson, to all of you who are attending the dinner tonight, I want to express my regret that I cannot be with you in person.

~~My~~ I express the hope that your efforts in the coming weeks will be crowned by success. I sincerely believe that you are seeking to give to our county, and to our neighboring counties, definite improvement in the various forms of local government.

Wholly aside from any partisan feeling, I am sure that I am not alone in this County of Dutchess in feeling that local government could be very greatly improved in many particulars.

I would have exactly the same feeling if the county government and town government ~~had been~~ ^{all} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the hands of people who had been elected as Democrats. I do not think that other people, whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats or Independents, are complacent about things as they stand today.

All of us, if we are fair minded, know that very great improvements can be made. All of us know that for the amount of money which the taxpayers of this county pay year after year we could have better planning, ^{and} better management, ^{and} that we could get ~~more good results~~ ^{less partisanship} for our money.

I trust that in the coming campaign the Democratic candidates for office will stress not so much their Democracy as they will their belief that they can give more efficient and honest service than many of those who are their opponents.

Government down at the bottom -- local government -- very closely touches the lives of every individual citizen or family. No matter how much those in the Federal Government or at Albany strive to plan and carry out improvements, interest in local government is an essential. Simplification of local government is an essential. Constant local vigilance is an essential. Scrutiny of the records in office of those who represent you and ask a renewal of your confidence is an essential.

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conduct it on the highest possible level of American ethics and decency. May your efforts be understood and approved by the voters next November.

I shall be thinking greatly of my old constituents, my old friends, and my old neighbors. Good luck to you all.

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RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
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To Jim Benson, to all of you who are attending the dinner tonight, I want to express my regret that I cannot be with you in person.

May I express the hope that your efforts in the coming weeks will be crowned by success. I sincerely believe that you are seeking to give to our county, and to our neighboring counties, definite improvement in the various forms of local government.

Wholly aside from any partisan feeling, I am sure that I am not alone in this County of Dutchess in feeling that local government could be very greatly improved in many particulars.

I would have exactly the same feeling if the county government and town government had come into the hands of people who had been elected as Democrats. I do not think that other people, whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats or Independents, are complacent about things as they stand today.

All of us, if we are fair minded, know that very great improvements can be made. All of us know that for the amount of money which the taxpayers of this county pay year after year we could have better planning, better management, that we could get more good results for our money.

I trust that in the coming campaign the Democratic candidates for office will stress not so much their Democracy as they will their belief that they can give more efficient and honest service than many of those who are their opponents.

Government down at the bottom -- local government -- very closely touches the lives of every individual citizen or family. No matter how much those in the Federal Government or at Albany strive to plan and carry out improvements, interest in local government is an essential. Simplification of local government is an essential. Constant local vigilance is an essential. Scrutiny of the records in office of those who represent you and ask a renewal of your confidence is an essential.

Overstatement, personal attacks and wild promises have no part in our county campaign -- any more than in a national campaign. I am very certain that realizing this you will

conduct it on the highest possible level of American ethics and decency. May your efforts be understood and approved by the voters next November.

I shall be thinking greatly of my old constituents, my old friends, and my old neighbors. Good luck to you all.

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
THE DUTCHESS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE MEETING

To Jim Benson, to all of you who are attending the dinner tonight, I want to express my regret that I cannot be with you in person.

I hope that your efforts in the coming weeks will be crowned by success. I sincerely believe that you are seeking to give to our county definite improvement in the various forms of local government, and to our freely chosen representative system in Albany and Washington nominees who measure up to high standards both of integrity and of intelligence.

Wholly aside from any partisan feeling, I am sure that I am not alone in this County of Dutchess in feeling that local government could be very greatly improved in many particulars.

I would have exactly the same feeling if the county government and all town governments were in the hands of people who had been elected as Democrats. I do not think that other people, whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats or Independents, are complacent about things as they stand today.

All of us, if we are fair minded, know that very great improvements can be made. All of us know that for the amount of money which the taxpayers of this county pay year after year we could have better planning and better management, and that we could get less partisanship for our money.

I trust that in the coming campaign the Democratic candidates for office will stress not so much their Democracy as they will their belief that they can give more efficient and honest service than many of those who are their opponents.

Government down at the bottom -- local government -- very closely touches the lives of every individual citizen or family. No matter how much those in the Federal Government or at Albany strive to plan and carry out improvements, interest in local government is an essential. Simplification of local government is an essential. Constant local vigilance is an essential. Scrutiny of the records ~~ixaxifkax~~ of those who represent you and ask a renewal of your confidence is an essential.

The population of Dutchess County is growing greatly. We represent almost every form of American life. Our two cities are growing; the suburban areas are growing; the villages are growing, and still most of the area of the county is devoted to farming.

That is why I have always placed so much emphasis on planning for the future. We do not want the county of 1960 to represent a "topsy-like" growth, presenting many serious problems which could be prevented by our looking ahead in 1940.

The unplanned history of other counties in this State shows us many examples. Too often this has been due to lack of interest on the part of the voters, and it is essential for us to choose as our officials people who will not only do the grand job called for by the office, but will also think about how they can improve things for the next generation. I am especially interested in the problems of that coming generation, and I am sure that you are also.

Overstatement, personal attacks and wild promises have no part in our county campaign -- any more than in a national campaign. I am very certain that realizing this you will conduct it on the highest possible level of American ethics and decency. May your efforts be understood and approved by the voters next November.

I shall be thinking greatly of my old constituents, my old friends, and my old neighbors. Good luck to you all.

.....
Franklin D. Roosevelt
Orig. reading copy

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
Delivered over the radio
To the Dutchess County Democratic Committee Meeting
Held at the Nelson House, Poughkeepsie, New York
October 5, 1940, 9.00 P. M.

To Jim Benson, to all of you who are attending the dinner tonight, I want to express my very deep regret that I cannot be with you in person.

I hope that your efforts in the coming weeks will be crowned by success. I sincerely believe that you are seeking to give to our country definite improvement in the various forms of local government, and to our freely chosen representative system in Albany and in Washington that you are going to give nominees who measure up to high standards both of integrity and of intelligence.

Wholly aside from any partisan feeling, I am sure that I am not alone in this County of Dutchess in feeling that local government could be very greatly improved in many particulars.

I would have exactly the same feeling if the county government and all the town governments were in the hands of people who had been elected as Democrats and I would say the same thing. I do not think that other people, whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats or Independents, are complacent about things as they stand today; in other words, that they are wholly satisfied with what we have got.

All of us, if we are fairminded, know that very great improvements can be made. All of us know that for the amount of money which the taxpayers of this county pay year after year we could have better planning and better management, and that we could get less

partisanship for our money.

I trust that in the coming campaign the Democratic candidates for office will stress not so much their democracy as they will their belief that they can give more efficient and honest service than many of those who are their opponents.

I always think that Government down at the bottom -- local government -- very closely touches the lives of every individual citizen or family. No matter how much (those) people in the Federal Government or at Albany strive to plan and carry out improvements, interest in local government is an essential. Simplification of local government is an essential. Constant local vigilance is an essential. Scrutiny of the records of those who represent you and ask a renewal of your confidence is an essential.

The population of Dutchess County is growing greatly. We represent almost every form of American life. Our two cities are growing; the suburban areas are growing; the villages are growing, and still most of the area of the county is devoted to farming.

That is why I have always placed so much emphasis on planning for the future. We do not want (the) this county of ours, twenty years from now, in (of) 1960, to represent a "topsy-like" growth, something that just grew up like Topsy, presenting many serious problems twenty years from now (which) that could (be) have been prevented by us, by our looking ahead in 1940.

The unplanned history of many other counties in (this) our State shows us many examples of bad management through lack of planning. Too often this has been due to lack of interest on the part of the voters, and it is essential for us to choose as our officials

people who will not only do the grand job that is called for by the office itself, but people that will also think about how they can improve things for the next generation. I am especially interested in the problems of that coming next generation, and I am sure that you are (also) too.

Overstatement and personal attacks and wild promises certainly have no part in our county campaign -- any more than they should have a place in a national campaign. I am very certain that realizing this you will conduct our campaign (it) on the highest possible level of American ethics and American decency. May your efforts be understood (and), may your efforts be approved by the voters next November.

And so, my friends, I shall be thinking greatly in the next few weeks of my old constituents, my old friends, (and) my old neighbors. So I say to you, "Good luck to you all." (Applause)

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
DELIVERED TO THE DUTCHESS
COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
MEETING, OCTOBER 5, 1940.

To Jim Benson, to all of you who are attending the dinner tonight, I want to express my regret that I cannot be with you in person.

I hope that your efforts in the coming weeks will be crowned by success. I sincerely believe that you are seeking to give to our county definite improvement in the various forms of local government, and to our freely chosen representative system in Albany and Washington nominees who measure up to high standards both of integrity and of intelligence.

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That is why I have always placed so much emphasis on planning for the future. We do not want the county of 1960 to represent a "topsy-like" growth, presenting many serious problems which could be prevented by our looking ahead in 1940.

The unplanned history of other counties in this State shows us many examples. Too often this has been due to lack of interest on the part of the voters, and it is essential for us to choose as our officials people who will not only do the grand job called for by the office, but will also think about how they can improve things for the next generation. I am especially interested in the problems of that coming generation, and I am sure that you are also.

Overstatement, personal attacks and wild promises have no part in our county campaign -- any more than in a national campaign. I am very certain that realizing this you will conduct it on the highest possible level of American ethics and decency. May your efforts be understood and approved by the voters next November.

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