

November 4, 1940

[Tuesburgh, Beacon, Kingston, Krumbeck & Poughkeepsie]

FDR Speech File

STATEMENTS FILE

INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
BEACON, N. Y.
November 4, 1940.

File Copy
(11)

This is not a campaign speech, in spite of what you have read in the papers. This is a visit of sentiment -- to be here thirty years after Morg (Morgan) Hoyt introduced me ~~here~~ for the first time in 1910. I just had to come back.

And, as you know, this is my sixth visit, the sixth time that I have come down here on the day before Election to say ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ howdy-do to a lot of my old neighbors.

It is the last time, very obviously, that I will do that as a candidate for office but you can be quite sure that in all the years to come my heart will be in Dutchess County where it has always been.

* * *

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INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
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November 4, 1940

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Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

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STATEMENTS FILE

INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
NEWBURGH, N. Y.,
November 4, 1940

(12)

Mr. Mayor, my old friends of Newburgh:

I feel like a bridegroom just now because when I got off the ferry somebody showered me with rice.

This is not a political campaign ~~trip~~ trip. It is a trip of sentiment because, as you know, on a great many previous occasions, the day before Election, I have made a little drive, a little tour, down to Beacon and across here to Newburgh and up to Kingston and then to Rhinebeck and then back home. It has been a visit to my neighbors.

As you know, obviously this is the last time that I will come as a candidate on this kind of a trip.

It is good to see you all. This particular town, you know, is where my mother's family came from and I will be back in Orange County whether I am a private citizen or President in the next four years.

And this -- what I am going to say now, -- is for the newspapermen: I hope they will note the fact that this is the biggest crowd that has ever turned out in any of my ~~trips~~ trips to Newburgh. I hope that will go into the papers, but you never can tell.

It is good to see you all, -- bless you and I hope that we will go forward, progressing, as this country is progressing today, during the next term. Many thanks.

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November 4, 1940

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INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
KINGSTON, NEW YORK
November 4, 1940

13

My friends of Kingston and of Ulster County:

When I got to Newburgh I said that I felt like a bridegroom because they threw rice all over me. Now I feel even more like a bridegroom with these beautiful bouquets of roses.

I am back on a sentimental journey, simply to do what I have done on many occasions before -- to go and say howdy-do to my own neighbors across the Hudson River.

You know, I have very close ties with Kingston because about two hundred and seventy years ago one of the very earliest Roosevelts lived here in Esopus and belonged to the militia.

Incidentally, in those days we needed a militia to keep the Indians away. And today, 1940, we are trying to keep other marauders away from America.

And so, having come here to say howdy-do, I want to tell you how happy and gratified I am to see this wonderful gathering that has turned out.

You can always be very sure that in the days to come this old Hudson River Valley is going to be very close to my heart.

* * * *

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November 4, 1940

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STATEMENTS FILE

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INFORMAL REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT,
RHINEBECK, NEW YORK,
November 4, 1940.

14

You know, for me this is a sentimental journey because I have done it every time that I have run, either for Governor or for President.

This is not a campaign trip because it is quite obvious that I cannot gain or lose any votes among people who have known me since I was a small boy.

It has been a very wonderful trip this afternoon because down in Beacon and in Newburgh and in Kingston there were more of my Hudson River neighbors that turned out to say howdy-do than in 1932 or 1936.

And so I am stopping here just for a minute to say good evening to all of you and, of course, as you know, you will see me again very soon.

I am very happy and rather proud to be speaking here tonight between two of the most interesting buildings in the United States. First of all, the oldest hotel in America which, I am glad to say, is owned in Rhinebeck and run by Rhinebeck. The other is one of the best looking postoffices in all of the forty-eight states.

It has been good to see you. I am going back home now to wade through 50 or 100 telephone messages and then I am going down tonight to say hello to my neighbors in Poughkeepsie -- that will be about half past nine -- and then, finally, I think it is eleven o'clock or eleven ten, I am making a short national broadcast which I don't believe will be very partisan or very political because these days I am, frankly, a little bit more concerned about the country as a whole than I am about any other one thing. I know you will understand me when I say that.

Thank you, very much.

* * * * *

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RHINEBECK, NEW YORK,
November 4, 1940.

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SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 4, 1940.

- - - - -

MY NEIGHBORS OF DUTCHESS COUNTY:

My reason for speaking to you tonight is not to ask your votes on the morrow. It is rather to tell you of a little of the past and a little of the future.

It is just thirty years ago that I first campaigned in our County -- when I was running for State Senator and old Dick Connell of the News Press was running for Congress. In those days we did have a Democratic paper in Dutchess County; and Dick Connell ran for Congress so often that he finally got elected. He always said that his success was due to the fact that in previous unsuccessful campaigns he stopped at every school house he passed and made a little speech on democracy and the American Flag to the pupils.

He claimed that enough school children grew up over a period of years to know him, to remember the incident, and to vote for him.

He won in that year of 1910 against the father of your present Congressman.

In those days this Hudson River section of ours was closer politically between the two major parties than it has been in recent years. Speaking not in a partisan way but as one who, you know, has been always interested locally in civic betterment, I am inclined to think that close competition between the two parties in these river counties was a very good thing. Each party was striving to outdo the other, not in promises alone, but in the actualities of good government.

In those days, thirty years ago, I am inclined as an observer to believe that county and local government in Dutchess and the other counties was stimulated by the closeness of the races that were made.

The same thing was true in those days in regard to State and even National politics. We were not committed to any set way of voting. We used to have an occasional Democrat in the Congress or in the State Senate or in the Assembly and once in a blue moon this good old County of Dutchess used to go Democratic. In the interest of good government, I think it would be a fine thing if it could be a bit more Democratic again now.

And that leads me to emphasize not in a party sense but in an American sense the need that all of us have to think day and night in terms of our own historic form of government. It is true, as we all know, that in many other parts of the world serious and sometimes successful attacks have been made on it. New forms of government, based on the theory of might rather than the theory of right, have waged wars against innocent peoples.

But in the long run I believe, for example, that the Germanic and Italian peoples, with their proud heritage of freedom, will return, with the rest of the world, to self government based on free elections.

Events abroad seem far away to us. But time and distance have been greatly shortened so that we must always remember that peace in our land may depend on our thoroughly recognized ability to defend ourselves.

And you and I are thankful tonight that we have peace throughout the length and breadth of this land. And what is more, the people, by their strength, intend to keep this country at peace.

To you, the men and women of my own home County, I speak for the last time here on Market Street on the eve of an election. All my life I have been, yes, all my life I shall be, devoted to the welfare and interests of Dutchess County.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

*Copy of original which had a contrast
with ink bottle. TSP*

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 4, 1940

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To you, the men and women of my own home County, I speak for the last time here on Market Street on the eve of ^{an election} ~~an election~~. All my life I have my life I shall be devoted to the welfare of Dutchess County.

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HOLD FOR RELEASE

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NOVEMBER 4, 1940

CAUTION: The following address of the President to be delivered before the Nelson House, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

NOTE: Release to editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 9:30 P.M., E.S.T. November 4, 1940. The same release of the text of the address also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT PREMATURE PUBLICATION.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT

P.P.F.
1F

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 4, 1940

MY NEIGHBORS OF DUTCHESS COUNTY:

My reason for speaking to you tonight is not to ask your votes on the morrow. It is rather to tell you of a little of the past and a little of the future.

It is just thirty years ago that I first campaigned in our County -- when I was running for State Senator and old Dick Connell of the News Press was running for Congress. In those days we did have a Democratic paper in Dutchess County; and Dick Connell ran for Congress so often that he finally got elected. He always said that his success was due to the fact that in previous unsuccessful campaigns he stopped at every school house he passed and made a little speech on democracy and the American Flag to the pupils.

He claimed that enough school children grew up over a period of years to know him, to remember the incident, and to vote for him.

He won in that year of 1910 against the father of your present Congressman.

In those days this Hudson River section of ours was closer politically between the two major parties than it has been in recent years. Speaking not in a partisan way but as one who, you know, has been always interested locally in civic betterment, I am inclined to think that close competition between the two parties in these river counties was a very good thing. Each party was striving to outdo the other, not in promises alone, but in the actualities of good government.

In those days, thirty years ago, I am inclined as an observer to believe that county and local government in Dutchess and the other counties was stimulated by the closeness of the races that were made.

The same thing was true in those days in regard to State and even National politics. We were not committed to any set way of voting. We used to have an occasional Democrat in the Congress or in the State Senate or in the Assembly and once in a blue moon this good old County of Dutchess used to go Democratic. In the interest of good government, I think it would be a fine thing if it could be a bit more Democratic again now.

And that leads me to emphasize not in a party sense but in an American sense the need that all of us have to think day and night in terms of our own historic form of government. It is true, as we all know, that in many other parts of the world serious and sometimes successful attacks have been made on it. New forms of government, based on the theory of might rather than the theory of right, have waged wars against innocent peoples.

But in the long run I believe, for example, that the Germanic and Italian peoples, with their proud heritage of freedom, will return, with the rest of the world, to self government based on free elections.

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And you and I are thankful tonight that we have peace throughout the length and breadth of this land. And what is more, the people, by their strength, intend to keep this country at peace.

To you, the men and women of my own home County, I speak for the last time here on Market Street on the eve of a campaign. All my life I have been, yes, all my life I shall be devoted to the welfare and interests of Dutchess County.

DRAFT #3

SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 4, 1940

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My reason for speaking to you tonight is not to ask your votes on the morrow. It is rather to tell you of a little of the past and a little of the future.

It is just thirty years ago that I first campaigned in our County -- when I was running for State Senator and old Dick Connell of the News Press was running for Congress. In those days we did ~~not~~ have a Democratic paper in Dutchess County and Dick Connell ran for Congress so often that he finally got elected. He always said that his success was due to the fact that in previous unsuccessful campaigns he stopped at every school house he passed and made a little speech on democracy and the American Flag to the pupils. He claimed that enough school children grew up over a period of years to know him, to remember the incident, and to vote for him.

^{He}
~~I~~ won in that year of 1910 against the father of your
present Congressman. ^H In those days this Hudson River section
of ours was closer politically between the two major parties
than it has been in recent years. Speaking not in a partisan
way but as one who, you know, has been always interested
locally in civic betterment, I am inclined to think that
close competition between the two parties in these river
counties was a very good thing. Each party was striving
to outdo the other, not in promises alone, but in the
actualities of good government.

In those days, thirty years ago, I am inclined as an
observer to believe that county and local government in
Dutchess and the other counties was stimulated by the
closeness of the races that were made.

The same thing was true in those days in regard to
State and even National politics. We were not committed
to any set way of voting. We used to have an occasional
Democrat in the Congress or in the State Senate or in the
Assembly and once in a blue moon this good old County of
Dutchess used to go Democratic. In the interest of good

government, I think it would be a fine thing if it could ~~be~~
Democratic again now. *be a bit more*

And that leads me to emphasize not in a party sense
but in an American sense the need that all of us have to
think day and night in terms of our own historic form of
government. It is true, as we all know, that in many other
parts of the world serious and sometimes successful attacks
have been made on it. New forms of government, based on ~~a~~ *the*
theory of might rather than the theory of right, have waged
wars against innocent peoples.

But in the long run I believe, for example, that the
Germanic and Italian peoples, with their proud heritage of
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government based on free elections.

Events abroad seem far away to us. *But* ~~because~~ time and
been distance have ~~been so~~ greatly shortened. *that we* We must always
remember that peace in our land may depend on our thoroughly
recognized ability to defend ourselves.

And you and I are thankful tonight that we have peace
throughout the length and breadth of this land. And what
is more, the people, by their strength, intend to keep this
country at peace.

To you the men and women of my own home County,
I speak for the last time here on Market Street on the
eve of a campaign. All my life I have been, yes, all
my life I shall be devoted to the welfare and interests
of Dutchess County.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
Delivered from a platform erected in front of
The Nelson House, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
November 4, 1940, 9.30 P.M.

MAYOR SPRATT, MY NEIGHBORS OF POUGHKEEPSIE AND DUTCHESS COUNTY AND
OUR NEIGHBORING COUNTIES:

My reason for speaking to you tonight is not to ask your votes on the morrow. It is rather to tell you of a little of the past and a little of the future.

It is just thirty years ago that I first campaigned in our County -- when I was running for State Senator and old Dick Connell of the News Press (applause) -- old Dick Connell was running for Congress. You know, in those days, thirty years ago, we did have a Democratic paper in Dutchess County; (applause) and Dick Connell ran for Congress so often that he finally got elected. (Applause) (He always said) Dick used to say to me that his success in that year of 1910 was due to the fact that in previous unsuccessful campaigns he had stopped at every schoolhouse he passed and he made a little speech in those schoolhouses on democracy and the American flag to the pupils. He claimed that enough school children grew up over a period of years to know him, to remember the incident, and (to vote for) finally to elect him.

(At the point the loud-speaking system failed and the President halted his address for a few moments, until it was repaired.)

Just let me say what I said last: Dick Connell talked to enough school children in all those years to get elected to Congress.

And (he won) in that year of 1910, Dick Connell won against

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My reason for asking to see you tonight is not to ask you
voice on the matter. It is to ask to tell you of a little of the
past and a little of the future.
It is just a few years ago that I first met you in our
County -- when I was running for State Senator and you were
of the law firm (I believe) -- the High School was working for the
County. You were, in some ways, a very young man, but you had
certainly seen in Indiana County (I believe) and you were not
County as then that we finally got elected. (I believe) He always
said that High School was the success in that year of 1910 was
due to the fact that in various successful campaigns he had stayed
at every schoolhouse he passed and he made a little speech in those
schoolhouses on democracy and the American flag to the pupils. He
claimed that through these small children was a great deal of
so know him, to remember the incident, and (to vote for) High School
about him.
(At the point the loud-speaking system failed and the
President raised his voice for a few moments, until it was
repeated.)
Just let me say what I said last: High School failed to
enough school children in all those years to get elected to Congress.
And (as was) in that year of 1910, High School was elected

the father of your present Congressman. (Cries of "Put him in the river.")

You know, in those days this Hudson River section of ours was closer politically between the two major parties than it has been in more recent years. Speaking not in a partisan way but just as one who (you know) has (been) always been very much interested (locally) in civic betterment locally, I am inclined to think that close competition between the two parties in these river counties was a very good thing in those days. Each party, Republicans and Democrats, each party was striving to outdo the other, not in promises alone, but in the actualities of good government.

In those days, thirty years ago, I am inclined as an observer to believe that county and local government in Dutchess and (the) in these other counties was stimulated by the closeness of the races that were made.

And, you know, the same thing was true in those days in regard to State and even national politics. We were not committed to any set way of voting. Why, we used to have an occasional Democrat in (the) Congress or in the State Senate, as I discovered, or in the Assembly, and once in a blue moon this good old County of Dutchess used to go Democratic. (In the interest of good government, I think it would be a fine thing if it could be a bit more Democratic again now.)

And that leads me to emphasize, not in a party sense but in an American sense, the need that all of us have to think day and night in terms of our own historic form of government. It is true, as we all know, that in many other parts of the world serious and sometimes suc-

cessful attacks have been made (on it) on democracy. New forms of government, based on the theory of might rather than on the theory of right, have waged wars against innocent peoples.

But in the long run I believe, for example, that the Germanic peoples and Italian peoples, with their proud heritage of freedom, will return, with the rest of the world, to self-government based on free elections. (Applause)

Yes, events (abroad) in Europe seem far away to us. But time and distance have been greatly shortened so that we must always remember that peace in our land may depend on our thoroughly recognized ability to defend ourselves. (Applause)

And you and I are thankful tonight that we have peace throughout the length and the breadth of this land. And what is more, the people, by their strength, intend to keep this country at peace. (Applause)

And so to you, the men and women of my own home County, I speak for the last time here on Market Street on the eve of an election. All my life I have been, yes, and all my life I shall be devoted to the welfare and the interests of Dutchess County. (Applause)

Good-by.

* * * * *

STATEMENTS FILE

Shorthand By Kannee

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NOVEMBER 4, 1940

CAUTION: The following address of the President to be delivered before the Nelson House, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., MUST BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE until released.

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WILLIAM D. HASSETT

MY NEIGHBORS OF DUTCHESS COUNTY:

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He ran in that year of 1910 against the father of your present Congressman.

In those days this Hudson River section of ours was closer politically between the two major parties than it has been in recent years. Speaking not in a partisan way but as one who, you know, has been always interested locally in civic betterment, I am inclined to think that close competition between the two parties in these river counties was a very good thing. Each party was striving to outdo the other, not in promises alone, but in the actualities of good government.

In those days, thirty years ago, I am inclined as an observer to believe that county and local government in Dutchess and the other counties was stimulated by the closeness of the races that were made.

The same thing was true in those days in regard to State and even National politics. We were not committed to any set way of voting. We used to have an occasional Democrat in the Congress or in the State Senate or in the Assembly and once in a blue moon this good old County of Dutchess used to go Democratic. In the interest of good government, I think it would be a fine thing if it could be a bit more Democratic again now.

And that leads me to emphasize, not in a party sense but in an American sense, the need that all of us have to think day and night in terms of our own historic form of government. It is true, as we all know, that in many other parts of the world serious and sometimes successful attacks have been made on it. New forms of government, based on the theory of might rather than the theory of right, have waged wars against innocent peoples.

But in the long run I believe, for example, that the Germanic and Italian peoples, with their proud heritage of freedom, will return, with the rest of the world, to self government based on free elections.

Events abroad seem far away to us. But time and distance have been greatly shortened so that we must always remember that peace in our land may depend on our thoroughly recognized ability to defend ourselves.

And you and I are thankful tonight that we have peace throughout the length and breadth of this land. And what is more, the people, by their strength, intend to keep this country at peace.

To you, the men and women of my own home County, I speak for the last time here on Market Street on the eve of a new election. All my life I have been, yes, all my life I shall be devoted to the welfare and interests of Dutchess County.
