

A Few Words for the Local Press Before Leaving (August 25, 1912)

The committee has arranged my work this year so I can have an occasional rest at home. It is not likely that any other candidate will equal the record of four years ago, so there will be no attempt on our part to break records. In the campaign four years ago, I made 560 speeches in 68 days and was on the go night and day. Before that time Mr. Bryan held the record for campaigning.

I have been away from home so much that Terre Haute has grown out of my knowledge. When I worked at Hulman's¹ and fired an engine² I knew nearly every man and woman in the city. Now, many of them are gone. Conditions also have changed. The city is bigger and better but it is no longer the Terre Haute I knew so well — my Terre Haute.

Published in *Terre Haute Star*, August 26, 1912, p. 8. Copy in *Papers of Eugene V. Debs* microfilm collection, reel 18.

¹ Debs worked as a warehouseman and bookkeeper for Hulman & Company, a large and prosperous wholesale grocery operation in Terre Haute, from 1875 to 1879.

² Debs was briefly and famously employed as a locomotive fireman in Terre Haute and East St. Louis, Illinois, primarily firing switch engines in rail yards, from December 1871 until the fall of 1874, when a serious recession forced him to abandon the scoop just shy of his 19th birthday.