My fellow South Carolinians:

Two weeks from today the Democrats of South Carolina will go to the polls and choose a United States Senator to serve them during the next six years.

In these times, South Carolina can confer no higher honor or place no greater responsibility on one of her citizens than by bestowing upon him the power and prestige of a United States Senator.

During the next six years, grave issues will be settled in the United States Senate; issues on which the peace of the world may turn; issues which will determine whether our Nation's economic strength will be preserved or frittered away; issues which will tell whether constitutional government will endure in America or be supplanted by national socialism; and whether local self-government and home rule will remain the priceless heritage of the American people.

I offered for the Senate believing that my experience as a teacher, State Senator, Circuit Judge, veteran of the last war and as governor for the last four years equipped me to properly discharge the duties of this high office during this critical period and render service to the people of South Carolina and the nation.

In this campaign, I have submitted a platform setting forth measures I will advocate, the principles of government to which I subscribe, and the policies I will follow as a member of the greatest
deliberative body in the world. This platform and a review of my record of public service have been circulated in every county and if you have not read it, I hope you will do so.

I believe the people of South Carolina are sick and tired of wishy-washy leadership, and they want those who represent them in the Senate to stand for something. No man or no United States Senator can serve two masters. He cannot serve those in Washington who are determined to destroy our way of life, and at the same time be true to the principles of the Democratic Party of South Carolina.

President Truman has repeatedly stated that his election in 1948 was a mandate for him to carry out his program. On the basis of what he claims is a mandate, Mr. Truman is pressing ahead with his efforts to break down separation of the races in the South, and destroy our customs and traditions by executive fiat, judicial decision, and legislative action.

The overwhelming majority of Democrats of South Carolina voted against Mr. Truman and his program. On the other hand, my opponent in this race for the Senate helped Mr. Truman get the mandate he now claims he has, to destroy our way of life.

When my opponent supported Truman he not only repudiated the platform and principles of the Democratic Party of South Carolina, as adopted by the 1948 state convention, but he also violated the candidate's pledge which he took when he became a candidate for the Senate in 1944.
My opponent made a deliberate choice to be a Trumanite. He is now asking the Democrats of this state to reward him for his disloyalty to the Democratic Party of South Carolina by giving him another six-year term in the Senate.

Everyone knows that if the people of South Carolina should reward my opponent for his support of Truman in 1948, it would give aid and comfort to the forces which are seeking to destroy Southern Democracy; it would give the nation the inevitable impression that we in South Carolina did not mean what we said in 1948 when we voted against Truman, and in 1950 when our state Democratic Convention said there would be no retreat; it would destroy our fight to restore the national party leadership to real democrats, who believe in the principles and traditions which made our Democratic Party great through the years; it would put the Truman halter on South Carolina, and our people are not going to stand for that.

After the Florida Democratic primary and my opponent's voting companion in the Senate, Senator Pepper, was defeated, the junior Senator from South Carolina became jittery. What happened in North Carolina Saturday has made him desperate.

He has pitched over-board his so-called Christian Campaign, behind which he sought to avoid discussing his public record. He tried to make it appear that because I was bringing to the attention of the people of South Carolina some of the shocking facts of his record, that I was engaging in mud-slinging.
If the recital of a man's public record sounds like mud-slinging, the fault is his, because he wrote his record. If a candidate's public record cannot be discussed in a campaign because it is bad, then the worse a man's public record, the safer it would be from discussion.

My opponent stated at one of the campaign meetings last week that when he gets started he can really rave. Well, no one has challenged that statement.

But raving at me does not answer the facts which I have brought out. I have never engaged in personalities in a political campaign and I shall not do so in this campaign. But I again call on my opponent to explain why he permitted a pardon racket to operate out of his office while he was Governor; why, after promising the good church people and those who believe in temperance that he would not sign a liquor bill, that he turned around and signed an almost wide-open liquor bill; why he used the state militia of this state as a personal political device to try to exercise dictatorial powers over the state government, over elections, and over labor disputes; why he had his picture taken toasting the confirmation of J. Howard McGrath as Attorney General, when he knew this man was the author of the Truman FEPC Bill and that he would use the powers of his office, as he did do recently in the Supreme Court, to break down our segregation laws; why he did not raise his voice in protest against the Truman order wiping out segregation in the armed forces, and bringing about a mixing of the races in all units over the protest of our generals; why during
his six years in the Senate he has accomplished so little, yet voted
to raise his salary to $12,500 plus $2,500 a year in tax exempt money;
why he voted to increase President Truman's salary to $100,000 and
give him $50,000 a year in tax exempt money; and most important of
all, why he deserted the Democratic Party of South Carolina in its
greatest hour of need, and supported for President the man who is
determined to break down segregation in South Carolina and force
racial intermingling in our schools, our textile mills, and industrial
plants, our national guard companies, and our places of amusement and
recreation.

That is what the people of South Carolina want him to explain /
and that is what I am going to continue to insist that he explain. He
is not going to get me to get off of his record by resorting to raving,
personal epithets, and trying to distort the real issues of this campaign.

I have promised the people/ I would discuss any issue my opponent
raised on the stump against my public record, and that I have done and
will continue to do. The people of South Carolina expect him to do
likewise.

In this fight for South Carolina Democracy, I warned outside
influences would undertake to dominate this senatorial election. You have
read the statement by Senator Gillette, an Iowa Democratic senator,
that Senate investigators were being sent to South Carolina to meddle
in this primary. They were not being sent here to investigate expendi-
tures by both sides, but only the side that was for States Rights and which
had opposed the election of Truman. Not since Wade Hampton's cam-
campaign in 1876/ have federal agents been sent into South Carolina/to intimidate one side in an election in this state.

When I read Senator Gillett's announcement, I immediately wired him as follows:

"If you will have your investigators contact me or my head-quarters/we will be glad to co-operate with them in every way possible. I would appreciate your sending me the names of those who filed complaints/which you may were to the effect that the so-called Dixie-crats were sending large amounts of money into this state. This is not only an untruth, but it obviously comes from those who seek to slur Democrats who believe in State's Rights/and resent the Trumanistic smear term, "Dixiecrats."

"While your investigators are in South Carolina, I insist that they be instructed to investigate the activities of the National association for the Advancement of Colored People, the CIO Political Action Committee, and the Democratic National Committee/to dominate the July 11 primary election.

"I will be glad to turn over to your committee/the facts that the CIO Political Action Committee has raised a slush fund of one million dollars/to win seats in Congress for their candidates; that Mr. Truman told the CIO Political Action Committee it was rendering a public service in raising this slush fund.

"We also will be glad to turn over to your investigators/the facts as to the visit to this state of Jack Kroll, the National Director of the CIO Political Action Committee, who is directing the spending of
this slush fund and his public announcements against me and his support of my opponent.

"I again assure you of my desire to co-operate with your committee and their investigators and in turn I hope your committee will co-operate with the Democratic Party of South Carolina in preventing these outside organizations from dominating our state primary through the use of great sums of money, in getting thousands of people who do not believe in the principles of our party registered and voted en bloc to thwart the will of the real Democrats of this state." That is what I wired Sen. Fulbright.

It is obvious that minority bloc organizations for whom Mr. Truman stabbed the South in the back in order to promote this so-called Civil Rights program have applied their pressure in Washington to get federal interference in the South Carolina Senate race.

Mr. Truman has personally injected himself into this campaign by using the White House as a sounding board to attack Governor Wright's and my democracy, which both of us will match with his Kansas City Pendergast brand anytime and anywhere.

What these minority blocs and Mr. Truman over-look is the spirit of our South Carolina people. Our people could not be intimidated in the past, and we will not be intimidated now.

In its issue of June 17, 1950, the LIGHTHOUSE AND INFORMER, a negro newspaper published in Columbia said in an editorial, and I quote:

"If they (meaning the negroes voting this summer) will have the good judgment to put their votes together, they can say who shall and who shall not represent South Carolina in the U. S. Senate for the
next six years." This statement is clearly a bloc threat.

They can only dictate who shall represent South Carolina as United States Senator if the white Democrats help them by splitting up in the face of this open threat.

The real issue becomes clearer to our people every day. The Democrats of South Carolina now realize that if they split up at the polls, and do not repudiate Trumanism by their ballots, the organized negro vote will become the balance of power in this State as they have in New York and other states. They also realize that those elected by bloc suffrage will be obligated to these blocs, who will not hesitate to remind them of such obligations. As your United States Senator, I will owe allegiance only to the people of South Carolina who elect me, and will not be obligated to any bloc or organization in Washington, or New York, or any other state.

Now in conclusion/a word of warning to our friends and supporters in every county who are working so hard for victory in this election. Don't become over-confident. I know stories are appearing in the press and over the radio that the results of the Florida and North Carolina elections point to victory for us in South Carolina. Remember that it was the same bloc organizations which were defeated in Florida and North Carolina that are working against us in this state and now will re-double their efforts to win in South Carolina. Our opposition is desperate and they will resort to anything in their frantic effort to stave off defeat.

This means that those who believe in State's Rights and who
cherish the principles of South Carolina democracy/must continue to work during these last two weeks/and see to it/that our full strength gets to the polls. If we do this, victory will be ours on July 11/and the nation will know once again/that the spirit of true Southern democracy/still lives/in South Carolina.

Thank you and good night.