It is a pleasure for me to be back in Spartanburg. When I ran for Governor, the Democrats of this county gave me a fine majority and I have always been grateful for your support.

No section of South Carolina or the South is making more progress than our great Piedmont. You have a fine balanced economy between industry and agriculture and it is growing more so each year.

As I have traveled over the country I have taken much pride in telling the people that one county in my state, the county of Spartanburg, shipped more fresh peaches than the State of Georgia.

When I was chairman of the Southern Governors Conference, I distributed to my fellow Governors some of the
products of our looms and of our fields. None were appreciated more than our peaches. I even tried to get Governor Herman Talmadge to quite calling themselves the Peach State on the Georgia license tags. Although Herman is a cousin of mine/I made no progress but we did secure a lot of good promotion for one of your fine products.

I am glad to be back in Spartanburg for another reason. I want to publicly commend your own member of the South Carolina Executive Committee, Jesse Bobo, for the fight he made at that historic committee meeting on September 3 to give the people a primary to elect a successor to our friend, the late Senator Burnet Maybank. If we had had more Jesse Bobos on that committee we would have had a primary
and we would have elected a Senator in our regular democratic way -- the way we have been selecting Senators for a half a century.

The defeat of the Bobo resolution was a deadly blow to our democratic way of holding elections in South Carolina. I never dreamed that a group of ring politicians would become so arrogant and so powerful as to undertake to deny the people the right to vote in a primary and by committee action name a United States Senator for six years.

Jesse Bobo knew a primary could and should have been held. He was advised by some of the best lawyers in South Carolina. His resolution was supported by such men as Bob Figg, of Charleston, who argued our segregation
case in the United States Supreme Court, Tom Pope, of Newberry, and others. This campaign has completely exploded the claim that the committee could not have ordered a legal primary. We have not charged that what the committee did was legally wrong. We have said, and repeat again, that the committee could have legally held a primary and it was morally wrong not to do so.

Senator Brown cast two votes against the Bobo resolution; his vote as an ex officio member of the committee and his proxy as a member of the committee from Barnwell county. He also influenced the ex-officio votes of the national committeewoman and vice chairman. Without these four votes, which should have not been cast to deny the people a primary, Mr. Brown was to get the committee nomination,
Mr. Bobo would have needed only three of the 31 more votes to win his fight. It is remarkable that in the face of the pressure and politics exerted on that committee by the Barnwell group that he came so close to protecting the right of the people to vote. I again commend him.

My opponent stands before the people of South Carolina with a six year nomination which he won by reason of his own vote and the votes he could control on that committee.

My opponent has been running for the United States Senate for 30 years but he never could get a nomination until he and his group manipulated his committee nomination of September 3. He was rejected by the Democrats
of South Carolina in two primaries when he opposed the late Senator E. D. Smith and Senator Olin D. Johnston.

And now the Senator from Barnwell has the audacity to insult the intelligence of the Democrats of South Carolina by telling them they must be regular and vote for him in Tuesday's election.

There is nothing regular about his nomination. It was highly irregular. It is the most brazen attempt to the people the right to vote that has ever taken place in South Carolina.

If the Democrats should ratify the action of the 31 members of the State Committee by electing the Senator from Barnwell to the United States Senate, they will endanger free elections and good government in South Carolina far years to come.
You can teach a parrot to say party loyalty but loyalty to what? In this election they are asking you to be loyal to 31 men who tried to disfranchise you in the election of a United States Senator.

Thirty one men can not make a United States Senator. Only the people can make a Senator and on next Tuesday they are going to exercise that right and send me to Washington to fight for real democracy and give our state the kind of effective and progressive representation they want in the United States Senate.

I have promised the Democrats of South Carolina that I will resign in 1956 and turn this office back to the people. In that primary they can nominate and elect the Senator they want to serve
them the remaining four years of the Maybank term. I will, of course, be a candidate for reelection and if I have failed the Democrats of South Carolina they can nominate someone else. In that primary in 1956 my opponent, Senator Brown can be a candidate. If I have not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the people that I am making them a good Senator they can elect him or someone else.

But my opponent does not believe in primaries because he cannot control them. He insists that the Democrats approve what he and his group did in Columbia and send him to the Senate for six years. Well I can tell you tonight the Democrats of South Carolina are not going to do it!
I entered this campaign after Democrats all over South Carolina, those who have supported me in the past and those who have opposed me, urged me to lead this fight for the right to vote. I yielded to their request because like them I felt a great principle was involved. A principle which is the very heart of democratic government in South Carolina and that is our primary system of electing/office holders.

I have refrained from engaging in personalities. Some of you, I am sure, heard my opponent speaking in this very Court House about two weeks ago, heard his attack on me because I dared to lead this fight to break up his scheme for a six year term in the Senate without
a vote of the people. While I do not intend to permit anyone to shift the attention of the people to the principle for which we are fighting to personalities I will not permit my opponent to impugn my motives and misrepresent the facts to the people of South Carolina.

My opponent in his speech here, and a recording of this speech has been broadcast and rebroadcast, that I sought the nomination he received from the committee. By inuendo he made the same charge against Governor Byrnes. My opponent knows that when he made that statement it was not true. He knows both Governor Byrnes and I, as well as most other leaders in the party and the daily press, including your
own Spartanburg newspapers, demanded an open primary where any Democrat should submit himself and be voted upon.

My opponent has not apologized to you here in Spartanburg and the people of South Carolina for deliberately trying to mislead you and justify his own wrong by saying that Governor Byrnes and I "legged" for a committee nomination to the Senate. That is the kind of politics you expect in Barnwell but I was surprised that my opponent would try to get by with it here in Spartanburg county.

That was not all. Speaking here in Spartanburg he said he was a States Righter and supported that movement in 1948. After my opponent, and some of his supporters, began their campaign
campaign to try and fool the people into believing I was not true to the Democratic party in 1948 because I led the South's fight for states rights. I reminded the people that Senator Brown had public stated he voted for me for President and against Harry Truman and I was guilty of disloyalty to the party then he was also.

My opponent rushed into the press with an insulting statement and said he had never voted for me, that he did not bolt the national democratic party when Truman ran.

Well, you people here in Spartanburg heard him say he was a states fighter in 1948 and we have produced other documents to show that he told the people he was.
me and Governor Fielding Wright for President and Vice President and said we were the best Democrats in the race.

My opponent either voted for me, or he voted for Truman, or Dewey or Wallace for President. It may be that he, like another distinguished South Carolinian who is supporting the Barnwell King in this campaign, got caught in the rain and did not vote. If he did not vote, then my opponent is on record not once but several times in saying he was a states righter and voted for me in 1948. I will leave it to the people to decide in which instance he is telling the truth.

Everyone knows that in 1948 I received my marching orders from the Democratic party of South Carolina. I led their fight, and the fight of
the South, against the Truman FEPC and anti-segregation program which culminated in the recent Supreme Court decision against segregation in our public schools and which is of such great concern to us at this time in South Carolina.

My opponent refused to come to Spartanburg and debate with me the issues of this campaign. He has declined every invitation for our customary joint campaign meetings when the election of a Senator is involved. As I read and hear what he is telling the people to bolster up his falling campaign I do not wonder that he is afraid to meet me on the same rostrum. He is afraid of the people. He does not trust them -- either in a primary or in a joint debate before them
My opponent has not resigned his seat in the South Carolina Senate to run for a seat in the United States Senate. He is holding one job and running for another and he is doing this to intimidate people in this election.

Some of you here in Spartanburg know how you have been told that if you did not support the Barnwell Senator he would still be in the Senate and would control the legislature and those who opposed him would feel the weight of his powerful hand in Columbia. I tell you that if he should get in the Senate his hand would be much more powerful and I am sure the good people of South Carolina do not want a Barnwell Ring operating on a national scale.
Because of his power in the legislature, he has forced our state institutions to mail out his campaign literature. I am told he is using the highway patrol to cart his campaign literature about. My friends, there is no limit to what this crowd from Barnwell will do to put their leader in the United States Senate and give them control over the political life of our state.

When you go to the polls Tuesday, you will be handed a ballot with only one name printed on it for United States Senator -- the name of the 31 man nominee.

Behind the iron curtain we know when the people go to vote they are also handed a ballot with only one name printed on it for a given office. Th
That name is placed there by a small group of commissars and any voter who dares to scratch that name, or write in the candidate of their choice, soon finds himself in a concentration camp.

Thank God we do not live behind an iron curtain in South Carolina. The law gives every Democrat the right to cast a write in ballot.

I am a Democrat and no one can cite an instance in my public life when I have not been true to the Democratic party of South Carolina and the people who have honored and trusted me. But to vote for me next Tuesday, you must take the trouble to write in my name. They may take your right to vote in a primary from you but they can not take your right to vote if you will take the trouble to write in the candidate of your choice.
The Democrats of South Carolina are not so stupid that they do not understand the issues of this campaign, and regardless of what others may say, we are not too illiterate to write.

My friends, this is a great cause for which we are fighting in this campaign and right is right on our side and RIGHT is RIGHT as GOD is GOD, AND RIGHT WILL WIN IN SOUTH CAROLINA NEXT WEEKDAY.