I have come to Greenville today to be present at the Lions' circus, which
is being held to raise money for charity, and particularly to help the blind.

Tomorrow I am going to speak to the farmers at Greer.

Recently you have seen some pieces in the newspapers and heard some news
over the radio on my speech to the real estate people in Myrtle Beach.

You know as well as I do that there are special interest groups in our
country. These special interest groups, which some real estate operators are
among, are not concerned with the welfare of the people. They are concerned with
their own welfare—that is, their own profit. These pressure groups will go to
almost any end to feather their own nest. They see in the people a golden
opportunity for their personal enrichment.

I call such an attitude greedy. We do not need, nor do we want, greediness
in South Carolina. Obviously, those selfish individuals among the real estate
people were hit hard. The real estate people who have assisted in keeping rents
at a reasonable figure are to be commended.

I have said that I would be Governor of all the people of South Carolina.
The Governorship of South Carolina means more to me than executing the laws and
serving as head of the State. To me, it has a very great moral responsibility.
This responsibility requires that I do all I can to further the welfare of the people of South Carolina. That is why my address was made at Myrtle Beach. I hoped then, and I still hope, that the real estate people will help in this cause.

It is a refreshing change for me to be in Greenville at the Lions' Circus. Lions are not profiteers. Profiteering is against everything a Lion stands for. You who hear me are familiar with the noble work which the Lions Clubs are doing in South Carolina, especially with regard to helping the unfortunate and the handicapped. Let me tell you what the word Lions means. "L" stands for liberty, "I" stands for intelligence, "O" stands for our, "N" stands for nation, "S" stands for safety. Lions means "liberty, intelligence, our nation's safety."

That is a splendid motto for the Lions Club. It would also make a splendid one for all of us.

Liberty -- We Americans have always treasured liberty above everything else. It is a heritage handed down to us at a high cost in blood. We have just finished fighting another in the series of wars we have had to fight in order to keep our liberty. Now, as the United Nations meet again, we are distressed by indications of the possibility of another war. We all hope that it will not come. But the enemy is counting on our being too tired to fight again. Russia thinks that we are prepared for peace at any price. But we Americans will never buy peace at the price of liberty.
Intelligence — We have never needed the application of intelligence more than we do now. In these days, however, intelligence is not of much value unless it have accurate information as a starting point. Having seen how information was distorted in the press, both in Europe and in Asia, during the war, I want to pay particular tribute to American radio and newspapers for their fairness.

We can truthfully say that we Americans are better informed than any other people in the world.

Our Nation's Safety — Our interests and welfare have been, and always will be, tied up with international understanding. The spectre of isolationism has been laid in the grave forever. The United States leads the world in the formulation of international agreements. Of all the nations of the world, our motives are the least suspect. We must take care to maintain our unique reputation.

Our nation's welfare must be the first concern of us all. As there are pressure groups which seek to extort special privileges in the nation, so there are pressure groups which seek to commit the United States to a foreign policy which will lead to their special advantage. We must not tolerate them. We must insist that the United States follow a foreign policy which will benefit the greatest number of people. Pressure groups have no place in Washington, and they especially have no place in the conduct of our nation's international affairs.
We must be strong enough at all times to fight for our liberty. We must use our intelligence and accurate information to the fullest in order to keep the nation safe. We must maintain the security of the United States by working with other nations. And we must make sure that we follow an international course which the people -- not special interests -- decide, for the voice of the people is the voice of God.

I think that there would be less trouble among nations if they followed the principles of Lionism. I will quote the Lion's Code of Ethics:

1. To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

2. To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

3. To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

4. Whenever a doubt arises to the right or ethics of my position or action towards my fellow men, to resolve such doubt against myself.

5. To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true
friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

6. Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give to them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.

7. To aid my fellow men by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

8. To be careful with my criticisms and liberal with my praise, to build up and not destroy.

From its beginning in 1917, the Lions Clubs have expanded to more than 6,000.

They have nearly one-third of a million members in 18 nations. The major part of their work is assisting the blind and helping conserve sight. But Lions Clubs perform a great many other civic services. In communities all over America, Lions Clubs have been responsible for such civic improvements as new and improved streets, roads, and bridges; airports, parks, and playgrounds; auditoriums and fairgrounds.

Here in Greenville, now, the Lions Club is sponsoring the Lions' Circus. The profits will go for a worthy cause. I congratulate the Lions for sponsoring it.

I hope that everyone who hears me will come to see it.

End