

ORIGINAL READING COPY

USED BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN

REAR PLATFORM REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
AT TOLEDO, OHIO - SEPTEMBER 6, 1948

11:55 p.m. E.D.T.



Rear Platform Remarks of The President  
At Toledo, Ohio  
September 6, 1948  
11:55 p.m., e.d.t.

TOLEDO

1. This is a fine crowd for this time of night.
  
2. I have appeared before six Labor Day audiences  
in Michigan today and I am glad to finish up the day  
in the great State of Ohio.
  
3. This may be the end of Labor Day,  
but I am just beginning the most important labor  
of my life.



4. I intend to cover the length and breadth of this land  
to take to the American people a Message  
of the utmost significance.

5. That Message concerns November second.  
The question before you people is whether  
you want to go forward with the Democratic Party  
or backward with the Republicans.



6. These are not just words.  
Let me give you two vital illustrations of what I mean.

7. Most of you people here are working people -  
just as I have been all my life.
  
8. You are interested in security and good wages  
in your jobs - and in the prices you are paying  
to support your family.
  
9. The Republican 80th Congress has struck you people  
deadly blows in each of these major fields.



10. First - Is the Taft-Hartley Act.

a) The Taft- Hartley Act was passed by the  
Republican Congress for the sole purpose  
of weakening the strength of labor unions.

b) Big Business was getting worried about the strength  
of your unions and t he Republican Congress  
joined with Big Business in a plot to weaken unions.

c) I vetoed that Bill and did all in my power  
to stop it but the Republican Congress passed it  
over my veto.



d) What's more - it is just the opening gun  
in the Republican plan to go back to the days when  
Big Business held the upper hand and forced the  
working men to take only what they wanted  
to give them.

e) I don't believe you men are going to take that lying down and with your help we'll get that unfair law off the books and get a fair labor law instead.

11. ~~Sw~~cond - The Republican Congress refused to do anything about high prices.

a) I have tried time and again to get the Congress to pass a price control law so you people won't have to suffer from high prices.

b) They refused every time. By last July prices had risen so high I thought they couldn't refuse again, so I called a special session of the Congress.

c) I appeared personally before the Congress and pleaded with them to help the American people.



d) I sent up a Bill that would have controlled prices.

It could have been done, and I showed them how

it could be done.

e) But they refused again. Big Business does not

want lower prices, and again the Republican Congress

knuckled under to the wishes of Big Business.

f) There's the record. Plain for all of you to see.



You people are faced with a choice.

- a) You can choose the Republican party  
and live in fear. Fear for your jobs,  
fear of a depression, fear for your families.
  
  - b) Or yo u can choose the Democratic Party  
and live in confidence. Confidence in  
keeping the gains you have made,  
and confidence that you will go on to a happier  
and more prosperous future.
  
  - c) I know what your choice will be.  
And if you all will register now and vote  
on November second, we will demonstrate  
that the people of this country are still in control  
of their own destiny.
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