INFORMAL EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
FROM THE REAR PLATFORM OF HIS SPECIAL TRAIN
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
October 14, 1936, 1:15 P.M.

(The President was introduced by Governor Horner.)

My friends, it is always an inspiration to come back to the home of Lincoln.

Here I am again, after an absence of only about a month. I am glad to be here standing by the side of my old friend, Governor Horner. (Applause) And I am glad he has said a word about courage, but the real courage I want to talk about is the courage of the American people. After those years that we went through, we can feel very proud of the way we have come back with smiling faces and with the determination never to go through that kind of a period again.

There are so many things I would like to talk about that I could keep on campaigning for a couple of months. You are here in the heart of a great agricultural community, a great agricultural State. I am telling the people in the East as well as in the West that the
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prosperity of the farmers of the Nation, makes for the prosperity of the industrial workers in the greater cities. The industrial workers cannot have prosperity unless the farmers do and, at the same time, I think we recognize that in these past three years we have gone a long ways towards reestablishing a parity, of reestablishing the purchasing power of the farmers, a purchasing power which started to slip in 1920 and kept on slipping right down to 1933.

We are determined that we will keep on going, working for a balanced economy. We want you people here in Illinois to be prosperous, but we want the people in the South to be prosperous too, also the people out on the Plains and on the Pacific Coast. After all, when you come down to it, down in the South where I have a farm myself -- incidentally, I don't make much money on it -- if they get a good price for their cotton it means that they can buy more corn and more hogs and more things produced up here. In the same way, if you have some money up here to spend you can buy more overalls made out of the cotton of the South. In other words, it is a rounded whole.
We don't want to accept this theory that some economists have that we have to have a fluctuation -- prosperity and then depression. We want to bring prosperity back and make it stay.

All through the country that I have been going through I find evidence of a real understanding of what your Government is trying to do. I find real evidence of their determination to keep on. That is why, on November 3rd, I am looking forward to receiving the news of the vote of the State of Illinois. (Applause)

(Governor Horner then introduced Mrs. Roosevelt to the audience.)