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Speech at Omaha, Nebraska, October 9, 1936

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SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

OCTOBER 9, 1936

First a word to you as Nebraskans. I hope it will be heard by the citizens of the other forty-seven States because I know that what I am going to say represents the conviction of the great majority of those who are devoted to good government, clean government, representative government.

On this platform sits a man whose reputation for many years has been known in every community -- a man old in years but young in heart -- a man who through all these years has had no boss but his own conscience -- the Senior Senator from the State of Nebraska, given to the Nation by the people of Nebraska -- George W. Norris.

Outside of my own State of New York, I have consistently refrained from taking part in elections in any other State. ~~I am in no way expressing antagonism to either of the gentlemen who in this State are the legally chosen nominees for the United States Senate on the Republican and Democratic tickets.~~

But Senator Norris' name has been entered as ^a ~~an Independent~~ candidate for Senator from Nebraska. And to my rule of non-participation in State elections I have made -- and so long as he lives I always will make -- one magnificently justified exception.

George Norris' candidacy transcends State and party lines. In our national history we have had few elder statesmen ^{like him have} who preserved the aspirations of youth as they accumulated the wisdom of years.

~~He~~ George Norris is one of the major prophets of America.

Nebraska will be doing a great service, not only to itself but to every other State in the Union and to the Nation as a whole if it places this great American above partisanship and keeps George Norris in the Senate of the United States.

Help this great American to continue an historic career of service.

In 1932 I pledged my Administration to a farm policy that would help the farmer. Tonight every man and woman on an American farm who has read today's market reports knows that we have done what we said we would do.

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