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REMARKS BY MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON
CHESTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thank you for welcoming me to Chester. I have been looking forward to this visit with anxiety and anticipation -- anxiety because I am not used to whistle-stopping without my husband, anticipation because in the South I was coming to a region I call home.

During the two days of whistle-stopping on this train, I've met so many wonderful people. I am not like the Chester blacksmith who came out to inspect the first locomotive to come here and then announced he'd seen everything and was ready to die.

I've seen a lot, but I want to go on seeing more. Especially, I am enjoying seeing the progressive new South.

I have a lot of memories that I'm sure you share. I am fond of the old Southern customs of keeping up with your kinfolks -- all your uncles and aunts and cousins -- of long Sunday dinners after church -- of summertime filled with watermelon cuttings and swimming in the creek and visiting for weeks.

I hope that South never disappears and I hope Chester remains a stronghold of that South while it progresses.

Here, as everywhere, I believe what every mother and father wants for their children is freedom from the problems of poverty which cripple in body and spirit, opportunity for education and a promise of national stability and world peace.

The experience my husband offers for this awesome job is 12 years in the House, 12 years in the Senate, 3 years as Vice President, and these last 10 arduous, demanding months as President. I believe it can be said of those, he has brought stability, progress to this country and lifted our faces to the challenge and the expanding horizons of the future. It is a record I am proud of, I believe you approve of, and I hope you will want to help continue.

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