The original documents are located in Box D33, folder "Scarsdale Republican Campaign Dinner, White Plains, NY, October 9, 1972" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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--FOR RELEASE AT 7:30 P.M. MONDAY-October 9, 1972

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford at a Scarsdale (N.Y.) Republican Campaign Dinner at the White Plains Hotel, White Plains, N.Y.

While we set about the business of reelecting Richard Nixon President of the United States, let's consider what it would mean if we could give him a Republican Congress to work with.

As you know, the President has had tremendous success in foreign affairs, where he is pretty much free to operate without the hindrance of an opposition Congress. Just think what he could do in solving problems at home if he had a Congress that would work with him, a Congress that would support his efforts and help him to succeed rather than seek his defeat.

This is why it is so vitally important that you elect Carl Vergari and other men like him to the U. S. House of Representatives. We desperately need men like Carl as part of the Republican team. Again I ask you to think. Think what a great improvement Carl would be over the turncoat who is now occupying this district's seat in Congress.

We need men like Carl Vergari in Congress...

- ... To make sure the President's economic policies are carried forward next year.
- ... To help the President avoid a Federal income tax increase by helping him hold down Federal spending.
- ... To help the President make the war on inflation more effective in the future.
 - ... To help the Nixon Administration clean up the Nation's air and water.
- ... To help the President write his Federal reorganization plans into law and save the taxpayers billions of dollars.
- ...To rid the country of the present scandalous welfare system and replace it with a workfare system.

You are Republicans because the Republican Party is trying to correct what's wrong with America without losing sight of what's right with America. I ask you tonight to help the voters of this district decide who to stand with—the doers or the booers. Get solidly behind your own doer—Carl Vergari.

(more)

We need a Republican Congress to work with the President in the next four years to solve the Nation's pressing domestic problems. This is something you should be able to sell to the voters if you'll only take the truth to them in this campaign.

Let's point out that the American working man and woman is making solid gains under President Nixon's economic program. Let's point out that real wages are going up at the rate of 4.5 per cent a year for all production workers in contrast with the four years before Richard Nixon entered the White House, years when real spendable earnings dropped for all American workers despite heavy increases in paper wages.

Let's point out that the cost of living rose only 0.2 per cent in August while workers' take-home pay made the biggest one-month gain in eight years--that the rise in living costs for the past 12 months was at a rate of 2.9 per cent as compared with a 6.1 per cent rise when the President came into office.

Let's point out that the President has generated an upsurge in the economy which has pushed total employment to nearly 82 million. That's an alltime record. We have created 2.6 million new jobs in just the last 12 months. That's the greatest job creation in a 12-month period since the end of World War II.

Let's point out, too, that President Nixon and a Republican Congress represent the voters' best hope of keeping the McGovernites and all the rest of the social experimenters from taxing them into the poor house.

The President has laid it on the line. Federal spending must be held down if we are to avoid a Federal tax increase. But the Democrats, who busted the budget in the first place, keep trying to put the monkey on the President's back instead of cooperating with him. They are just playing politics—pure and simple, and mostly simple.

The public has a big stake in electing a Republican Congress. It's the American people's only hope of holding down Federal spending and avoiding a tax increase.

Now let me say something about the Federal reorganization plans the Democrats have blocked. I'm personally convinced those reorganization plans, which the Democrats have bottled up, would save the taxpayers billions of dollars. After all, right now we have more than 1,000 Federal programs, including 172 housing programs handled by 16 agencies and 32 sub-agencies and 440 education programs under 31 agencies and 53 bureaus.

The President wants to bring like-programs under one roof and wipe out the waste but the Democratic Congress won't help him. That's another reason America needs a Republican Congress.

So sound the alarm. Get your organization geared up. And work your fingers to the bone for Carl Vergari and the election of a Republican Congress. We need Richard Nixon--yes; and we also need a Republican team to back him if we are to give America the sound government it deserves.



CONGRESSMAN GERALD

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