

FROM:
HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE
SUITE 740, ROOSEVELT HOTEL
WASHINGTON 9, D.C.

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY A.M.'s, NOVEMBER 19, 1959

Excerpts from Remarks of SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
Testimonial Dinner for Congressman Denver Hargis
Parsons, Kansas, November 18, 1959

"The sight of the Secretary of Labor eating cake the other day because we have 3 and 1/2 million unemployed must not have tasted sweet to most of those who are hard-pressed even for milk.

"It is simply beyond me how the Republican publicity geniuses sitting in that White ivory tower could even dare to make a joke out of depressed areas such as the Third Congressional District here. Perhaps they, like some tv shows we've been hearing about, know where their canned laughter is coming from.

"But I cannot believe that the American people will even smile at the Republican line that we can live with 3 and 1/2 -- or even 2 and 1/2 -- million unemployed -- and still eat cake.

"It is a particularly distressing side-show to a man like Congressman Denver Hargis, who has worked so long and hard to give Americans a sense of responsibility about unemployment and distressed areas.

"The Denver Hargis you saw lead the Coffeyville "pave the streets" program, foster improvements for the city's lighting and power system, modernize the police department, bring a new sewage disposal system to the city -- and champion a dozen other programs -- that man is today in Washington serving the best interest of the country as he serves yours.

"He has fought hard and long for the Urban Area Redevelopment bill. A bill that would bring immediate assistance to you -- and which, I am happy to be able to tell you, I co-sponsored in the Senate. It is a bill that would give immediate, practical aid to help rehabilitate unused plants and facilities -- or create new productive facilities wherever necessary. It would provide for the purchase of machinery through small business loans. It would provide loans and grants for needed community facilities. And it would provide for the retraining of workers and financially help them and their families while they re-train.

"This was the bill Denver Hargis fought for. But an outmoded Republican Administration was against the bill. And they had a secret weapon to threaten with -- called VETO -- and managed to hold the bill down.

"But not for long. With men like Denver Hargis in Congress, and -- in 1961 -- with a Democrat in the White House -- we will do something for our depressed areas. This I can promise you.

"The American people have stopped thinking in terms of regional differences, or of differences between farmers and people who live in the city, or of differences between industrial areas and rural areas.

"You and I know that for any of us to prosper -- We all must prosper. This is a lesson -- unfortunately -- our Republican leadership has yet to learn.

EXCERPTS FROM SPEECH OF SENATOR HUBERT HUMPHREY
TESTIMONIAL TO CONGRESSMAN DENVER HARGIS
NOVEMBER 18, 1959 -- PARSONS, KANSAS

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Gene Steele - Member Bd
Martin Byrne - Pres

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Stornad

Hi-Interest
Transportation
costs

Excerpts from Remarks
Kansas Farmers Union Speech
Manhattan, Kansas, Nov. 19

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Hewell George

Denver Hargis (3rd)

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Last week the Republican Administration announced a so-called "new" five-point program for agriculture, a five-point program that isn't worth five cents to the farmer. It is simply a restatement of the tired old ideas and programs that the Administration has tried or paid lip-service to in the past.

79% Parity
38¢ Food
1000 (can)

One after another, the Administration's farm programs are taking a heavy toll on American agriculture. They are driving the young from the land and putting corporate economic power to work on the soil. And corporate control over land, just as over human beings, leads to exploitation.

young from the land
corporate control

Community Life

The Administration's farm program is disrupting small-town community life and driving people to the cities, where of course the Administration has no program to deal with the increasing complexities of urban life.

Today youth finds no hope in the land. What American agriculture needs is a charter of hope and opportunity. This charter should provide opportunity to share in the general economic growth and the opportunity to build the soil and conserve for the future.

Charter of Hope

Now, about this latest "plan" announced by the Republican administration.

"GOP PLAN"

Its major proposal is to apply the disastrous Benson corn program to wheat. With this gimmick, wheat supports would be established as a percentage of the average market price for

21) Farm Bureau -
+ Rt - to - work

21) "Food For Peace"

What is wrong with this system? Why would it be bad for wheat farmers? A look at the no-control, low price support corn program will tell you. This year 4.4 billion bushels of corn were produced -- 600 million bushels more than the record crop of last year. The large production, on top of the existing huge carryover, brings more downward pressure on the market price, and this lower price goes into the three-year market average, pushing the support price down still further -- and production up in the following year.

Such a program is a fraud. City consumers may be fooled into thinking this would be good for the taxpayer and the farmer -- but they wouldn't be fooled for long. And farmers aren't fooled at all.

Why don't we let wheat farmers themselves have a voice in deciding what kind of program they want? Who know the economic facts of life and farm programs better than the producers? Why shouldn't wheat farmers send representatives to sit down with Department of Agriculture officials and work out a reasonable, workable program? I know farmers, and I have confidence in farmers. I know they would work out something that would be good for the producer and the consumer and the taxpayer.

That's why I introduced the Family Farm Program Development Act. This proposal would give farmers real freedom -- the freedom to decide on their own destiny.

And it would provide a new yardstick for determining a fair price -- a price that will yield returns on the farmer's capital and labor comparable to earnings of nonfarm people.

*For
Price*

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Under this bill, we would stop guessing about where agriculture is, and where it is going. We would establish the goals -- goals of production and use, goals of fair prices and incomes, and the goals for a food-and-fiber program, both at home and as an instrument of peace abroad. We would provide the methods to achieve these goals.

Let's stop talking about the wheat surplus as a burden. Let's take a long look at it in terms of both national and world needs. When you do that, it becomes not a surplus but a strategic and vital reserve that lends strength and security to the free world.

We should look at quantities of food held in reserve, and the productive capacity of our land, just as we look at money in the bank. But just like money, it is worthless unless put to use.

Instead of considering our store of wheat as a burdensome problem, a weight on the farmer and a drag on the economy, we should treat it as the source of strength it actually is.

The Administration speaks of the need for finding new uses for agricultural products.

This is far from being a shining new idea. Many of us have been urging that the government undertake a broad, intensive, energetic program to investigate the possible industrial uses that may exist, undiscovered because we have not employed the scientific skill or the money or the determined hard work that is at our command.

Reeard

The Senate has passed a bill that would do this. It is awaiting action in the House of Representatives. If the Administration is sincere in its championship of this cause, it will send a message to the House, urging the passage and final enactment of this bill.

They talk of expanding the Conservation Reserve program, a program that took the concept of protecting productive farm land now so that it would be ready and waiting for the use of future generations, and discredited it, both in the eyes of city people and of farmers. *Conser*

We need a new agricultural resources conservation program that will do something for farmers by permitting them to produce according to the need, and at the same time conserve our soil and water resources against the impending great need of the future. Such a program will give just consideration to the needs of the total farm community in order to preserve the balance between the family farm and rural business and schools and churches. Instead of laying waste rural America, such a program can build and strengthen rural America.

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*Coops - Conservation
Water use!*

Food For Peace



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