

Ladies + Gentlemen

At the very beginning of my campaign for the office of mayor of this city, I told you that it was my purpose to be educational and informative in the discussion of the political issues facing our community. I have presented a program constructive in its purpose and broad in its objectives. My first proposal to you, the people of Minneapolis, was when elected mayor of this city I would establish a committee of representative citizens to study and analyze our governmental structure in order to determine whether or not reorganization is necessary. ~~I have not gone into this campaign with any foregone conclusions as to governmental organization, but I am convinced it is about time we find out for once and for all whether or not there is anything wrong with our governmental structure, and if there is, it becomes our duty to correct it in terms of the needs of our community.~~ My opponent in this campaign has been silent upon this topic of governmental organization, and at no time has discussed with you the duties of the mayor's office, the present organization of our municipal government, his relationship ^{to} ~~with~~ the city council and the boards and commissions of which he is a member.

The second point in my program centered around the need of postwar planning and the action that must now be taken if we are to prevent a serious crisis of unemployment, inflation and political disaster. I presented to you, the people of Minneapolis, a ten-point program emphasizing the need for immediate consideration of far-reaching plans on the part of our city government in cooperation with business, labor and social agencies. ~~I emphasized the need of the mayor of this city to offer leadership in enlisting the support of community enterprises around the program suggested by our City Planning Commission.~~ In a recent speech I called your attention to the need for city planning -- the rebuilding of our city, ~~as a postwar~~ . I called to your attention

that on February 17 of this year our Planning Commission presented a program calling for the establishment of a postwar development council. To this date the mayor of this city has not made one move to set in motion the organization suggested by the Planning Commission.

I have discussed with you the problem of juvenile delinquency, setting forth a seven-point program designed to meet the rising tide of delinquency through the cooperation of government and community agencies. I have discussed with you in an informational and educational manner the responsibilities of the mayor's office as under the terms of our present city charter. ~~I have pointed out the relationship of the mayor's office to the City Council, to the boards and commissions, emphasizing its weaknesses and its strong points, and producing evidence to show that the mayor of this city is not without power and prestige if he will but use the authority vested in him.~~ Finally, recognizing the changes brought by the war in our economy, I have ^{talked} ~~discussed~~ with you ^{several} ~~on~~ ^{about} occasions the relationship of modern government to business and labor. It is my firm conviction that public officials can no longer be blind to the tremendous changes that have taken place in our industrial life and ultimate effect upon our whole community.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, it has been my purpose through this campaign to bring you information about the city you live in...to give you information about the administration of your government...to show to you the importance of leadership in the office of the mayor -- and again I say, it is precisely in this office that leadership has been most lacking in a day when it is most needed. ~~(The Mayor of Minneapolis, under the provisions of our City Charter, can be a leader, can be vigorous in his leadership, can coordinate and integrate the machinery of city government. The mayor of this city does have a position of influence on numerous boards and commissions. He could and should~~

represent the whole city. He could and should present to the *branches* of our government the overall view of the city. In plain words, it all depends on whether the mayor wishes to exert the influence and prestige of his office, or whether or not he wishes to take the course of least resistance; whether or not he is willing and able to work for, plan for, and fight for a greater Minneapolis.

Recently many of you have heard and read a great deal about the record of the administration of the present mayor. For just a few minutes let's look at this record! Let's examine the record in the light of promises, accomplishments, claims and substantiating evidence. First of all, has the present mayor said one word about governmental reorganization? Has he ever made a reply to the former governor of this state who asked the mayor to do something about modernizing Minneapolis city government?

Not only did he not speak out for governmental reorganization, but even more, he had not the courage to defend our present governmental system.

Then again what has our present mayor had to say about the postwar period? His silence leads one to believe that we should not be concerned as to whether or not our young men and women in the armed services of our country have an opportunity for a decent job and a decent home when they return. ~~Again let me state that~~ The mayor of this city has not

taken one constructive step to implement or set in motion the proposals of the City Planning Commission. He has not called one conference on ~~manifested~~ postwar planning. ~~He has not emphasized the least concern as to the~~

~~future economic or social welfare of our city.~~ Consider this in the light of the action of other mayors of other cities. ~~They have looked to the future!~~ They have organized their community not only for war,

but also for the postwar period. Yes, the mayors of such cities as Syracuse, New York, Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, and others too numerous to mention, have moved ahead on a program of action and planning. They are preparing now for the inevitable day of demobilization of our

armies and reconversion of our industries to peacetime production. The ^{mayor} City of ~~Minneapolis~~ ^{mayor in} stands out as the one example of a major city in this country which has not taken one step to meet the problems that will soon be upon us. Let no one plead that he is too busy for such an important undertaking. Surely if the Mayor of New York, and the Mayor of Chicago, and of Los Angeles, huge metropolitan areas, can find time for postwar organization, then we in Minneapolis have the right to expect similar service and enterprise from our mayor.

Daily the newspapers of this city report the statements of our mayor in defense of his administration. We hear about the airport project. We hear about law enforcement. We hear about civilian defense, and we hear about the Sister Kenny Institute. Tonight, in the few minutes that I have remaining, I want to discuss two of these issues with you. First of all, let's take a look at the mayor's record ^{with} ~~in~~ regard to the airport project. The mayor of this city has criticized my charges of his "do nothing" philosophy wherein I ~~have~~ cited that he has been absent from the majority of the meetings of the boards and commissions. Let me re-cite to you the record of one particular board which is instrumental and is today important in the development of our Twin City Airport Terminal. I refer specifically to the Park Board which has recently released a comprehensive report relating to the Airport Terminal. This board had a total of 48 scheduled meetings since the mayor assumed office. He has been absent 32 times. This means that the mayor failed in his duties with respect to the Park Board two-thirds of the time. These meetings are not unimportant. Not only does the Park Board deal with recreational facilities, but it has been instrumental, as I have stated, in the planning of the airport project. Yet, having been absent almost two-thirds of the time, the mayor of this city claims that he, through his leadership, is responsible for the Twin City Airport Project. The Planning Commission has also been interested in the airport project. Yet the mayor of this city

has been absent 37 times out of a total of 48 sessions, or almost three-fourths of the time.

Let me be more specific. On January 16 of this year, the Mayor of Saint Paul called the first meeting to discuss airport legislation. The Mayor of Saint Paul had time to be present, but the Mayor of Minneapolis, according to our press, was not there. On February 6 of this year the governor of this state took a hand in the airport question. Governor Stassen held a conference at the State Capitol inviting the representatives of the Twin Cities to discuss with him, and the legislators, numerous bills pertaining to the Twin City Airport Project. The Mayor of St. Paul had time to be there, but the Mayor of Minneapolis was absent! On March 26 the State Senate Aviation Committee held hearings on the proposed legislation to establish a Twin City Airport Commission. Again the mayor of this city was too busy to be present. Do you call this leadership? Is this what the mayor means when he states that he was instrumental in securing the airport project? Finally a recent issue of the Time magazine listed those cities which would have a great future in air commerce and transportation. The name of Minneapolis was conspicuous by its absence. Does this exemplify leadership on the part of the present administration?

Again I say, it is only fitting and proper that those persons in business and civic life in this community be given proper recognition for the service they have rendered in promoting the Twin City Airport Commission. ~~Why hasn't our mayor had the courage and the decency to give honor and commendation to those who gave freely of their time and energy in this worthy enterprise? Surely the Airport Terminal is not a one-man show, and the record reveals that if success had depended upon the one man who now claims credit for this accomplishment, we would be without a Twin City Airport Commission.~~

Then again, in the Minneapolis Star Journal of June 2, 1943, the mayor of this city charged me with exhibiting "pure ignorance" as to the

matter of juvenile delinquency. He asserted that I am trying to mislead the voters. He insists that our problem of delinquency is a minor one. Let's examine this statement in view of the record. If delinquency is a problem of little significance was it necessary then for the mayor of this city, a few weeks before the primary election, to appoint a committee of 100 outstanding citizens, a committee which up to this date he has not called together ^{for the mayor} for positive action? But apparently the mayor feels that delinquency is a problem. ~~Then again~~ if we have delinquency necessitating a 100-man committee, how can it be that the mayor's claim of law enforcement is valid? You can't have almost perfect law enforcement and juvenile crime at the same time. It must be either that the laws are not being enforced, which precipitates a problem of delinquency, or we must not have a delinquency, ^{PROBLEM,} and the laws are being enforced. I ask the mayor to make up his mind which of these situations he thinks really exists!

Now let us look at the record and see whether or not my comments on juvenile delinquency exhibit, as the mayor says "pure ignorance." First of all, for your information, the program that I presented to deal with the problem of juvenile delinquency is the result of consolidation and conference with leading authorities at our university in the field of Sociology. I do not believe that the mayor would wish to state that our sociologists, who had devoted a lifetime of study to social problems, exhibit pure ignorance. Even more important, let us look at the figures and the facts relating to delinquency. A recent report, for example, published by the Juvenile Protection Committee of the Minneapolis Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, notes that officials of the school board, the park board and property owners in general, have expressed alarm about the serious increase in vandalism and destruction of property. Thousands of dollars of the taxpayers' money, the report goes on to say, is being wasted in the replacement of arc lights, broken school windows, and park board property. The figures concerning delinquency are even more revealing. In 1941, for

example, there were 2100 complaints recorded against young people in our city. By 1942, however, this figure had risen to over 2600, an increase of 21% in one year. ~~Whereas~~ Whereas 1044 were referred to the Juvenile Courts in 1941, there were 1216 last year. Here is an increase of over 15%. Most alarming, however, is the increase in juvenile delinquency among girls. There were 358 delinquency ~~complaints~~ complaints recorded against girls in 1941, but in 1942 there were 603 -- an increase in a period of only one year of almost 70%. The number of delinquency cases among girls actually referred to the courts was 79% greater in 1942 than in 1941. There is no way of telling how many young people who evidence delinquency have gone unapprehended. I ask the mayor of this city where he gets information showing that delinquency is up only 5% in 1942. The information I have given you is from the public records of the Hennepin County Probation Office, and relates to the City of Minneapolis specifically.

Yes, as I have said, delinquency is directly ~~connected~~ ^{connected} with law enforcement, and yet the mayor of this city has the audacity to claim that under his administration the laws have been enforced. Let us look at the record again. On December 23, 1942, former Governor Stassen warned local authorities to enforce the law, or the State would move in and do the job! The mayor of this city replied that the governor's statement did not apply to Minneapolis. Only five days later, on Sunday, December 28, a place known as the Hub Cafe at 1007 Sixth Avenue North was raided at 4:00 in the morning. 100 persons were present. This, mind you, only five days after the mayor of this city informed our governor that Minneapolis was a "clean city." My opponent has yet to explain what he has done about the 17 affidavits placed on his desk by a Mr. Bourke of this city -- 17 affidavits testifying to the purchase of liquor on Sunday in Minneapolis establishments. I ask you to recall the campaign of the present mayor in 1941. He pledged to you, the people of Minneapolis, not only to drive

the racketeers out of the city, but to close up the joints, to do away with the slot machines, and all the other gambling devices. Does the mayor of this city believe that he has done this? All you have to do, my fellow citizens, is to go into any tavern, any recreation establishments on Hennepin Avenue, and you will find slot machines a-plenty. I don't believe that I need to cite to you specific examples of liquor and gambling spots. You know what is going on in this city. Your children know what is happening. For every place that has been raided, another has been opened. And strange to say, the places opened have not been closed, but have been allowed to flourish. I say to you, and I say to the mayor, the laws are not being enforced! Gambling and illegal liquor operations are ~~driving~~ thriving in this city. What is even more important, it is organized gambling and vice, and it is not being driven out of the city by our present administration! It is interesting, however, to note that just before election a few spots have been closed. Not closed by the mayor, but strange to say they just simply closed up for the duration -- of the election. In the presence of the mayor of this city I told him the places I am now referring to, and I can tell him many more that have not closed.

It is interesting to see that our mayor makes much of the cooperation which he has extended to the FBI and the Army and Navy Intelligence. It is much more interesting to note that it was necessary for the FBI and the Army and Navy Intelligence service to have to come into our city in order to establish ^{law enforcement} ~~even the minimum~~ standards which would permit the members of our armed forces to be on our streets. Again let me take you back to the election of 1941. Our mayor, at that time Alderman of the 8th Ward, in his campaign endorsed the Police Chief Amendment which would blanket into office the then Acting Chief of Police. Yes, my opponent in his campaign of 1941 publicly endorsed blanketing into Civil Service appointment of the Police Chief of Minneapolis Police Force. However,

~~his first official act in regard to the Police Department was not to select a Chief of Police from the police force of this city, but to go elsewhere out of the city for his man. That episode in our municipal life is still one of the great mystery stories.~~

Ladies and gentlemen, we will continue to look at the record in my next broadcast. I notice that the tactics now employed by my opponent in this campaign are identical to those used against his opponent of 1941. The malicious and vicious whispering of untruths and deliberate falsehoods, the open charge that I have the support of racketeers -- these things were stated by the present mayor in his campaign of 1941, and they have been re-stated in this campaign of 1943. I have told you, the people of Minneapolis, about my visit to the mayor's office when he charged me with having the support of racketeers. I have told you that he said in reply to my demand that he either substantiate his claim or retract it, that "this is politics." It may be politics to the mayor -- but to me it is slander, falsehood, and a deliberate lie. I again ask that the mayor of this city either retract his charge, or give to you, the people of Minneapolis, evidence to substantiate his claims. It is time that we enlighten the political life of this community about the mire of smear and deceit. Yes, I propose to keep this campaign clean and constructive. I propose to discuss issues and policies -- not personalities. I propose to present a program of action looking toward the future. And finally, let there be no mistake about this -- if you elect me mayor I want the responsibility for law enforcement, and I will enforce the law. I am convinced the Police Department wants to enforce the laws and desires a mayor that will back them up in their action. I know that the public desires that the laws be enforced. I give you my solemn pledge, and let this be a warning to those who now degrade our government and our city by making unholy alliances that permit illicit

End
if necessary

operations -- I give you my pledge that the laws will be enforced. The good people of Minneapolis wish to see this city clean and our government efficient. A government responsible to the people will do this job, but you, the people, must be militant in your support of a candidate who is willing to fight for what he knows to be right.



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