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INTRODUCTION OF HAROLD BARKER

by Mayor Hubert H. Humphrey

Good evening

File
Radio speeches!

American politics has had as its basis the two-party system.

The efficiency of our government and the integrity of its administration is in a great part dependent upon the competition which exists within the party, and between the two political parties. This is the American way. It is our own means of guaranteeing government by the people and for the people.

Tonight it is my privilege to introduce to the radio audience the endorsed candidate of the Democratic Farmer Labor party for the office of governor. The gentleman who is about to speak to you is a resident of Elbow Lake, Minnesota. His name is Harold Barker.

Mr. Barker has for many years served as publisher of the ELBOW LAKE HERALD. He is a lifelong resident of Minnesota, and has served with distinction as one of our state legislators, having been elected four times to the House of Representatives and served the people of this state for eight years.

Mr. Barker was Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1937. In this session he led the fight for an equitable system of taxation and adequate taxes upon the production of iron ore. As a state legislator, he was the author of the first Minnesota old age pension bill. He has a broad understanding of the many economic and social problems which confront this great state. He is recognized as one of our most informed citizens upon the subject of social security legislation. As a member of many important committees in our state legislature, he has acquired a vast amount of information concerning the economic resources of the state of Minnesota.

As a representative of independent business, he keenly appre-

ciates the importance of economical government and sane and constructive regulations. While his profession is that of journalism, which within itself brings to a man a wide acquaintanceship with men and events of our generation, he has the complete confidence of persons representing business and organized labor. His knowledge of labor management problems is within itself an outstanding qualification for the position of chief executive of this state.

~~In times like these it is imperative that the public be represented by men who are fair and objective in their judgment in all economic and political matters.~~

Harold Barker appreciates the value of progressive education and is pledged to a program of development of our educational system throughout the state. As a member of the Highway Committee of the Minnesota state legislature, he appreciates the importance of adequate transportation for a state that is growing in population and in its economy.

The Democratic Farmer Labor party is justifiably proud of its endorsed candidate for governor. Not only has he served his country in peace time, but as a veteran of two wars, having volunteered for service in World War I and World War II. He has had over five years duty with the armed forces of the United States.

He comes from a family that has lived in the highest and noblest traditions of American life. His forebearers have served with distinction in defense of their country from the days of the American Revolution up through World War II. Not only has Harold Barker been a member of the armed services, but he has a son who likewise enlisted in the United States Army for World War II.

Mr. Barker understands the meaning of freedom. He came

out of this war with a pronounced distaste for totalitarianism and dictatorship in any form. As one who has served with patriotic devotion the cause of human liberty and freedom, he has a keen appreciation of the true meaning of democracy.

Political parties should demonstrate a sense of public responsibility when they offer candidates for public office. The Democratic Farmer Labor party feels that in Harold Barker it has presented to the people of Minnesota a man experienced in government, a citizen who loves America for what it is and appreciates its system of enterprise and its form of government. His years of loyal service to the state of Minnesota, along with his extensive activities as an editor and a journalist, equip him with information and knowledge that is so vital for leadership.

I deem it a privilege and honor to present to you Harold Barker, legislator, soldier, businessman, and the endorsed candidate for the office of governor by the Democratic Farmer Labor party.



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