

## I. Introduction -

During this Holy Week in which we have been attending our various churches

the moral and spiritual problems which confront the world today have been

re-emphasized. It is necessary, however, that we do not only practice our

faith by participating in religious activities,... but that we also dedicate

our very lives to the re-establishment of moral principles, if we are to

be able to bring the world out of this period of disillusionment and

demoralization. This principle is brought home to us in a very decisive

manner on Good Friday. It is perhaps, therefore, appropriate that this

evening we should discuss values in the field of domestic and international

policy which are of vital importance to all of us. These values are of

moral as well as political and economic significance.

II. On previous appearance, at CIO convention almost 5 months ago - I had a

chance to meet many of you personally. I'm happy to recognize many of the

faces here tonight. I talked to many of you then -- and I'm glad to talk

to all of you again. I'm sure that you know how powerful the labor force

is today -- it's one of the major groups which takes part in attempting to

find solutions to the many problems all of us face ---- (ad lib. reference

to non-political openings.)

*Holy Week -  
Rededication  
to moral  
purposes  
+ objectives*

*Previous  
C.I.O.  
convention here*

III. I'm going to be perfectly frank with you friends tonight . I'm not ignorant

of your situation on the Range -- I've spent a lot of time around here in

the last 6 or 7 years -- In that time I gained invaluable experience working

with you people -- sharing your problems -- I've heard a lot of talk to the

opposite -- that I don't know what's going on up here ---- Let me tell you that

I do!! The Range is known for its progressive thinking and action throughout

our whole great state of Minnesota, --- and along with this was gained valuable

recognition throughout the whole country -- this is evident by the intense

concern with which you folks think and act. This concern was demonstrated

2 years ago when you went to work and elected one of your own men from the

Range -- my good friend JOHN BLATNIK!!! and I'm filled with confidence that

you'll return that same man to Washington again -- He's an invaluable

representative to you people as well as to the whole country -- One of our

major concerns here is with iron ore itself and how you folks mine it and

ship it -- and I hope that one of these days I won't have to come up here

and look at a lot of empty holes -- and then have a tourist guide tell me --

"This used to be the Iron Range!" I'm interested in seeing people come up

here on ships from all over the world through the St. Lawrence waterway --

and they're going to see more than iron ore mining up here. One of the

evils of the present and past is and has been that you folks have been put

*Iron  
Range  
Progressive  
great  
interest in  
schools.*

*Blatnik*

into the position where you have had to depend almost entirely on high-grade iron ore -- but now science is making it possible for the development of a process which is going to at least supplement our declining high-grade production. Our friend, John Blatnik has been working hard for these things -- St. Lawrence waterway -- development of low-grade iron ore -- new industries for this area. Johnny has a jump on me -- he's in Washington working for you. But you can depend that I'm working, in every way I can, in my way -- for those very same things! Incidentally our friend John Blatnik couldn't be here tonight -- but I extend his greetings to you.

IV. When we think of the Range we think of labor -- and since 1936, we think of the Steelworkers. We all know what labor's past struggle has been. We know its present position. But do we know its future? Let me tell you that labor is doing something about the future!

#### V. LABOR

A. Industry -- council plan of CIO one example of how.

1. Adopted -- Chicago convention 1944. (representatives from Range Area)
2. Positive program for national economic planning in basic industries.
3. Embraces participation by representatives of labor -- management -- agriculture -- consumers -- government -- working together in a national planning board and in industry councils in various basic industries -----

4. It's a plan for industrial democracy on a par with our political democracy.

5. It is our American approach to the great issues of industrial production and stability. We don't need totalitarian doctrines and methods to set the example of economic planning -- we just don't do things that way -- ours is a democratic plan!

6. The CIO's Industry Council plan is just one example of a forward looking labor movement. There are other examples. Labor is faced with a danger today -- much has been said about the Taft-Hartley Bill -- actions speak louder than words!

B. Well do I remember reading about the resolution which was passed at the Boston convention of the CIO last October -----

1. "The CIO will not permit the Taft-Hartley Act to become an instrument for destroying existing contract conditions. We will never permit this law to be used as a means for draining the living standards, the energies, the health, of our people. The CIO unions will adhere to their obligations under their collective bargaining agreements. We shall insist that the employers do the same.

The resolution was adopted."



2. Right now we're hearing a lot of favorable propaganda for the

Taft-Hartley Bill -- the source of this propaganda is obvious.

Why are they using this propaganda? To create and pave the way

for a mighty vicious enforcement of that slave-labor act once

they get a chance -- and it's up to you and me to make sure

they don't get a chance! Because, with the aid of a Republican

president and a Republican controlled Congress, that act will

be used to knock out any gains which have been made through

collective bargaining and destroy any adequate program of

welfare and security benefits.

VI. Labor has been commended many times for its efforts during the war when it

produced the materials which licked Fascism. Every word of that praise, and

more, is justified. (Bring in \$200,000,000 production story.) Now we are

faced with the responsibility of fostering a European Recovery Program --

one which will --

A. Provide the opportunity for labor to take part in the passage and

operation of <sup>an</sup> economic program for winning the peace and economic

rehabilitation of the world.

1. It is too bad that some of our Congressmen and Senators have not backed ERP -- but instead have either misunderstood or have deliberately tried to wreck the program.

2. I support ERP unequivocally. (possible Ad lib)

a. It will bring us economic gain through increased production, which will certainly benefit folks on the Range.

b. And it will help win the cold war against European aggression -- which we most definitely oppose.

B. I call on you to join with those of us who so strongly favor immediate passage of a strong ERP.

VII. I support, and I'm sure you do, an extension of co-ops -- and cooperative enterprise. A lot's been done here on the Range by co-ops .... and I want to see that program continue.

A. Examples (2) of how co-op movement has succeeded. Instances which I have seen.

1. (Ad lib)

2. (Ad lib)

and there are plenty of similar instances right here in Northern Minnesota.

We need to move ahead on

✓ Soc Sec. Housing

✓ Educ - Health

✓ TVA'S

✓ Labor Legisl-

✓ Coops

Remember 1947 - Nat Income.

Marshall Plan - E.R.P.

✓ Good for Europe

✓ Good for U.S. - moral + Economic

Im for it 100%

---

B. Co-ops give us all a chance to work together --- to save money ---

to join our fellowman in gaining something which is certainly

beneficial to us all.

C. The development of co-ops exemplifies the American Tradition of

encouraging truly free enterprise, a chance for ordinary folks

like you and me to be free to join together for the purpose of

going into business and conducting that business to meet our needs.

VIII. These problems -- low-grade ore development, St. Lawrence Waterway, Maintenance

of labor's strength,.. European Recovery,... Strengthening of Co-ops, ---

and a host of others -- which I don't need to even mention -- all challenge

us to become more aware of what is going on in the liberal movement today.

A. I'm sorry to say that some people aren't aware of the disastrous

effect the division of liberal forces has worked upon our movement;

It is splitting the party of the liberals -- the party of the

common people.

B. You and I well know the weaknesses we have within our own party.

But we are in no position to split asunder our last stronghold of

liberal thought and policy.



We must dedicate our lives to  
human freedom - to the emancipation  
of mankind here + abroad

① Free from Fear -

Freedom from the Fear + Reality  
of Boom + Bust

Freedom from the ~~Fear + Reality~~  
of economic collapse + Political  
decay -

(X) Here on Iron Range - Development of  
new industries - Low-grade Iron ore  
processing - St. Lawrence Waterway

We need Nat. Economic Planning

1. Industry Council Plan of C.I.O.  
for all Basic Industries

Labo. - mgmt - govt - consumers Agree  
all Participate

- C. Much can happen between now and July when the national conventions of the two old parties are held .. It is easily possible that the complexion of our own party may undergo a few shades of change -- Of one thing we are sure, however -- the complexion of our opposition party will never change.
- D. But of more importance in Minnesota is the fact that a national third party is challenging the liberals to protect themselves against a dangerous and completely devastating split... the third party idea is poorly times... We don't need such a party now, at a time when its only affect can be to wreck our chances for a liberal congress... We need our own party strengthened...rejuvenated,.. and revitalized... The sooner the people who have followed this wistful fancy realize it -- the sooner we will be able to pursue our program of liberal action. It's as simple as that -- and let me assure you that we are at work strengthening our party in Minnesota .... This party is going to play a key role in the coming state and national elections -- And you.. my friends.. have it within your power to play a responsible role in achieving our goals.. Let us ~~not~~ <sup>+</sup>ruin the chance ~~xxxxxxx~~ we do have by dividing our force at this crucial hour.

Mayor Thomas  
mayors of the Iron  
Range cities

Good to Be back in Hobbins + Iron Range.  
The Home of Strong People.

# I Public Forum — Our Democracy

- Holy Week - Good Friday -

- Rededication to Moral Purposes.

Democracy + Spiritual Qualities.

Importance of Individual

Today the Rights of Individual being  
Trampled upon —

(A) Totalitarianism — Civil war abroad

(B) Challenges at Home — Jewish People in Palestine

... - Housing problems

- Civil Rights issues

- Economic difficulties

- Exploitation of Our Physical Human Resources.

Soil - Forests - mines

~~Challenges~~

Education, Health, Social Security,  
old age.



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