

You in South Dakota have clear evidence of the effect ~~which~~ the New Deal and the Fair Deal have had on your state and the welfare of your citizens within the past 15 years. Let me address myself for a few minutes to those of you who are farmers or who are interested in agricultural problems.

I know what I am talking about. I grew up in a farming community in South Dakota, here in your state. I was a young man in South Dakota when the depression and the drought combined to play havoc with the farm families. I learned a great deal about agricultural problems from first-hand experience --- as much as some men learn in the ivory towers of state colleges. I know what it means to own a farm or try to live on a farm with declining farm prices, with mortgages past due, with poor soil conservation and soil erosion, and with big debts.

Agriculture is a basic industry in South Dakota. The state's 68,705 farms cover 43 million acres. Your 254 thousand farm people make up 45.8% of your population. Let us not forget that in 1932 the cash income for South Dakota farmers was \$59,630,000. Last year, in 1949, that income was \$527,389,000.00 --- an increase of almost nine times.

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It is true that last year's figure was less than the \$641,576,000 of 1948.
Or the \$671,099,000 of 1947; but let us not forget that even in the so-called
"boom year" of 1929, the highest level reached was \$234,778,000.

This is the welfare state of which you are to be frightened!

In January 1933, as the New Deal came into power, more than \$246 million
in
dollars ~~was~~ mortgages was outstanding in South Dakota. In January 1949, after
16 years of the Welfare State of which you are supposed to be frightened, farm
mortgage debts in South Dakota was reduced to \$67,847,000 in spite of the
fact that the value of the dollar decreased.

Since 1933 the Farm Credit Administration has given assistance to
37,105 South Dakota farmers to buy farms through loans of approximately \$110
million dollars. In South Dakota more than 68,000 familie-type farmers, unable
to obtain credit through normal channels, received more than \$5 million dollars
in loans from the Farmers Home Administration. Since 1935 these loans have
~~increased~~ encouraged and made possible the ownership of family-sized
farms. This has strengthened the institution of private property and free
enterprise in South Dakota.

This is the Welfare State of which you are to be frightened!!

Inc A + B

Inc A & B

Today more farmers are able to produce their own food by their own labor and on their own land than ever before. Here is the essence and the finest expression of free competitive enterprise that this or any country could offer. This was made possible through the program of the New Deal - through the welfare state, if you please.

Is it economical? I ask, could we afford to do anything else? These investments have done more to preserve free enterprise and the American way of life than any other single investment of like amount that I can think of. The alternative is a land system under which the banks absentee landlords and gentlemen farmers in the city own all the good farms.

But I must confess to you that in addition to promoting family farm ownership, the Roosevelt and Truman welfare programs are guilty of another grievous sin insofar as the farmer and his family are concerned. Did you know what they have done? They have very nearly destroyed the market for kerosene lamps on farms! Now, isn't that awful?

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Yes, through the REA, South Dakota farmers acting together to form cooperatives, have strung in the first 14 years, 30,313 miles of rural lines. They have brought service to 52,558 farmers who never enjoyed the benefits of electricity before. When the REA was set up in 1935, less than 3.5% of South Dakota farms had electricity in any form. — by June 1949, almost ~~over~~ 39% of all farms served by REA.

The average monthly farm consumption of REA financed lines in S.D increased from 65 Kilowatt hours in Dec 1941 to 154 Kilowatt hours in Dec 1949.

Today, South Dakota farmers are participating in the agricultural conservation program of the Production and Marketing Administration. Soil has been conserved and restored. Farms have been improved. Farmers have been enabled to obtain fair prices for their crops. Farm mortgages have been reduced. Tenants are now able to buy farms and make rented land their own. Farmers and farm people appreciate the benefits of electricity as much as you and I in the city. Today the farmers of ^{South Dakota}~~Virginia~~ are able to get telephone service through the use of REA funds by cooperatives. Incidentally, this market for telephones and electrical appliances will compensate the city folk many hundreds of times over the kerosene lamp market.

old age insurance
~~OASI~~ BENEFITS

In 1949 4700 people received \$1,060,000.00

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE:

12,000 received \$5,483,260 (62% came from federal funds)

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN:

5,289 children received \$1,444,490 (59.6 federal funds)

Assistance to the Blind:

212 people -- \$88,295 (63.1 federal funds)

Maternal and Child Health:

\$57,397 (100% federal funds)

Crippled children:

\$85,668 (100% fed'l funds)

Child Welfare:

\$38,627 (100% federal funds)

AMOUNT OF FEDERAL MONEY ALLOTTED IN
SOUTH DAKOTA SINCE 1933

Exclusive of Vocational Education for Veterans and
School Lunch Programs.

Land Grant College Funds and Vocational Education - South Dakota

Land Grant College - South Dakota State College

Total - approximately \$10,000,000
(ten million)

Vocational Education Funds

1933	\$63,544.69
1934	57,479.10
1935	79,461.59
1936	79,461.59
1937	79,461.59
1938	135,101.51
1939	179,775.95
1940	179,775.95
1941	179,775.95
1942	173,862.88
1943	155,838.28
1944	155,838.28
1945	155,838.28
1946	155,838.28
1947	155,838.28
1948	206,881.40
1949	206,881.40
1950	206,881.40

Total	\$2,607,536.40
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N.B. From 1942 through 1946 - there was an additional allotment of \$1,000,000 for wartime projects.



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