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SENATOR HUMPHREY TO PUSH FOR FOOD STAMP PLAN IN CONGRESS

Use of a "food stamp" plan to stimulate consumption of abundant food products among America's less fortunate citizens was called for by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey last night in an address at an Isanti County DFL Rally at Cambridge, Minnesota

Senator Humphrey, author of one stamp plan for distribution of surplus dairy products and co-author of two other proposals for similar distribution of other surplus food products in the last session of the Congress, pledged a "determined fight" for enactment of such legislation at the next session

"It is ridiculous for the Administration to refuse consideration of any plan for making wise use of our food abundance", Senator Humphrey said.

"During the last session of Congress, hearings were refused on the Humphrey Dairy Diet Dividend proposal, on the Kerr-Humphrey plan for supplementing the meager allowances to old age assistance recipients and dependent children with \$10 monthly in food stamps, and on the Aiken-Humphrey food stamp plan offering food stamps to encourage consumption of surplus food products among all low-income families.

"The only reason action was not taken was the reluctance of the Administration to support any of these proposals -- or to offer an alternative of its own.

"Congress recognizes the need for wiser use of our food abundance for the benefit of our people. Chairman George Aiken of the Senate Committee on Agriculture recognizes that need -- but has been embarrassed by the inaction of Secretary Benson.

"It is time the Administration quit regarding our surplus food stocks as merely a propaganda weapon to use against our farm programs, and turn their attention instead to constructive planning for putting food on the tables of American families", Senator Humphrey said

Surplus butter and other dairy products would be "wiped out over night" if such health-giving commodities were made available to America's thousands now unable to afford proper diets, he declared.

"Food stamp plans can accomplish the twin objective of supplementing the diets of America's unfortunates, and at the same time stabilize our agricultural economy by eliminating temporary surpluses", Senator Humphrey said.

"If we will just give as much attention to finding ways to use our food as we give to complaining about its abundance, we can find plenty of good uses for it. For example, it is time we made use of our dairy surplus in veterans hospitals; it is time we made sure our boys in the armed forces all got health-giving butter and milk; it is time we expanded our school lunch program, and made more surplus foods available to welfare agencies", he declared.



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