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MEWS from the HUMPHREY for SENATOR

VOLUNTEERS

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BENSON REFUSES PLEA TO BOLSTER SAGGING EGG PRICES

An appeal from Minnesota's poultry industry leaders for temporary government purchase of eggs under the school lunch program to bolster collapsing egg prices has been turned down by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, Senator Humphrey revealed last night during a talk at Buffalo, Minnesota.

Senator Humphrey called Secretary Benson's action "one more example" of the Secretary of Agriculture's "lack of concern and understanding about problems of midwest agriculture".

"The only help Secretary Benson will ofer is to say 'I told you so', proudly pointing to the fact that the Department's Poultry and Egg Situation report published last May said 'The outlook for 1954 is for a less favorable year than 1953'", Senator Humphrey said.

"We are not interested in when Secretary Benson forecast a collapse in egg prices; what we want to know now is what he is going to do about it."

At the request of leaders in Minnesota's poultry industry, Senator Humphrey wired Secretary Benson early this month urging that emergency purchases of eggs be started with available funds held by the Department for just such purposes, with the eggs to be served in the nation's school lunch program.

Authority exists for such purchases to ease the poultry industry over the present depressed period, Senator Humphrey said.

"But Secretary Benson refuses to use either the authority or money at his command, preferring instead to rely upon a recommendation of his own hand-picked advisory committee last April that solution of its own problems should be left to the poultry industry", he declared.

"In case Secretary Benson does not know it, egg markets have been plunging downhill since last April and egg producers urgently need temporary help.

"The least that Secretary Benson can do is consider Minnesota's request in the light of presently existing conditions, not in light of some recommendation made five months ago".

Senator Humphrey emphasized that Minnesota producers had asked only temporary help to ease them over a critical period.

"But we have been denied even that temporary assistance, under the school lunch program. Yet Secretary Benson uses these same funds to buy Kadota figs because there is an over-supply. It just does not make good sense to me."

Senator Humphrey protested what he termed Secretary Benson's "insinuations" that government egg purchases for the school lunch program would mean "dictatorial control" over the poultry industry.

Secretary Benson's reply rejecting the appeal for aid said, in part:

"We agree with the expressed desire of the majority of the members of this great industry that turning over their affairs again to government dictation and control is not in their best interest."

"Since when is selling eggs to the school lunch program 'turning over their affairs to government dictation and control?" Senator Humphrey asked.



There is nothing that we Americans can pray for with more fervor than peace. And our greatest assurance of this peace is our ability to withstand and thwart totalitarian aggression. We cannot affort to gamble with the adequacy of our armed forces. It would be a gamble ble with the peace and the very survival of our civilization.

when the new Administration came in, it announced that there was going to be a "New Look" in our defense establishment. This was going to be a sort of "bargain basement" type of defense --- we were told that we were going to get more defense for less money. Therefore one of the Administration's first moves was to cut Air Force funds by \$5 billion and reduce Air Force goals from 143 to 120 wings. It was obvious to me that what we were getting was less for less and I voted against this move.

I have always wondered whether Secretary of Defense would have applied the same principles of the New Look to his conduct of General Motors as he did to our defense forces. Can you imagine one of us walking into a show-room and demanding that we be sold a Cadillac at Chevrolet prices. We'd be thrown out on our ear. We would not, of course, hope to make a bargain such as this. The American people expect to get what they pay for.

Although the Nation was assured that the 1953 Air

Force cut would not mean the loss of any combat planes,

it was revealed on September 3, 1953 that orders for 1000

planes including combat craft had been cancelled. Experts

now say that this set back Air Force development by two

years at a time when the Soviets were building the largest

eir fleet in the world. The Administration and the Repub
licans in Congress seemed little disturbed by the unanimous

opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that any retreat from



the 143-wing Air Force goal involved risks to our security "beyond the dictates of national prudence."

Today, in 195h, the world situation continues tense. A good port of Indo-China has been lost. The Communist world continues to keep millions of menacing troops under arms. What are the opinions of our military leaders about our military strength? Army Chief of Staff General Ridgway told Congress that the Soviet bloc's military strength is growing faster than the West's. Naval Chief Admiral Carney has stated that our present forces are not adequate to meet our world-wide commitments. Finally, the leader of MATO, General Greather, believes that despite atomic weapons, more Army troops will be required. Yet the Administration's reaction to this expert advice calling for the strengthening of our Armed Forces was to cut the Army back from 19 to 17 divisions.

I was opposed to this reduction in the Army and I



worked and voted against hobbling the development of our Air Force in 1953. I love American democracy and freedom too much to trust its defense to a bargain-basement, cut-rate, New Look in National Defense. The weakening of our Armed Forces, both in 1953 and 195h, is a threat to our National Security. It is an inviting temptation to aggressors to once more plunge the world into the holacaust of war.

From: Volunteers for Humphrey Citizens Committee

> United States Senator Rubert H. Humphrey brought his campaign for re-election into Delano Honday afternoon, reviewing his record in the Congress and asking for a vote of confidence.

If a Democratic majority is elected to the Gongress in November, Senator Humphrey promised, they will give "top priority" to:

- 1. Restoring farm price supports to 90% of parity.
- Raising individual income tax exemptions so everyone may share equally in tax reductions.
- 3. Adoption of a food stamp plan to make use of food abundance among men, women, and children on public assistance or old age pensions.
- 4. Benning Secretary of Agriculture Benson from interfering with the right of farmers to elect whomever they may choose to farmer-committees, in either township or county committees.
- Granting of pay raise to postal employees and other federal workers to meet higher living costs.

Senator Humphrey's visit to Delano for a street meeting was arranged by Vic Jude, Wright county DFL chairman. The visit marked the start of a fast tour of Wright county, with similar meetings in Montrose, Waverly, Howard Lake, Gokato, Maple Lake, and finally a dinner and evening rally in Buffalo Lake.

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(Editor: Highlights of Buffalo Lake talk have been sent you in a previous release.)

From: Volunteers for Humphrey Citizens' Committee

> United States Senator Hubert H. Humphrey brought his campaign for re-election into Waverly Monday afternoon, reviewing his record in the Congress and asking for a vote of confidence.

If a Democratic majority is elected to the Congress in November, Senator Humphrey promised, they will give "top priority" to:

- 1. Restoring farm price supports to 90 per cent of party.
- 2. Raising individual income tax exemptions so everyone may share equally in tax reductions.
- 3. Adoption of a food stamp plan to make use of food abundance among men, women, and children on public assistance or old age pensions.
- 4. Banning Secretary of Agriculture Benson from interpering with the right of farmers to elect whomever they may choose to farmer-committees, in either township or county committees.
- 5. Granting of pay raise to postal employees and other federal workers to meet higher living costs.

Senator Humphrey's visit to Waverly for a street meeting was arranged by Vic Jude, Wright county DFL chairman. The visit was part of a fast tour of Wright county, with similar meetings in Delano, Montrose, Howard Lake, Cokato, Maple Lake, and finally a dinner and evening rally in Buffalo Lake.

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(EDITOR: Highlights of Buffalo Lake talk have been sent you in a previous release.)

United States Senator Hubert H. Humphrey brought his campaign for re-election into Howard Lake Monday afternoon, reviewing his record in the Congress and asking for a vote of confidence.

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- 3. Adoption of a food stamp plan to make use of food abundance among men, women, and children on public assistance or old age pensions.
- 4. Banning Secretary of Agriculture Benson from interfering with the right of farmers to elect whomever they may choose to farmer-committees, in either township or county committees.
- 5. Granting of pay raise to postal employees and other federal workers to meet higher living costs.

Senator Humphrey's visit to Howard Lake for a street meeting was arranged by Vic Jude, Wright county DFL chairman. The visit marked the half-way point of a fast tour of Wright county, with similar meetings in Montrose, Delano, Waverly, Cokato, Maple Lake, and finally a dinner and evening rally in Buffalo Lake.

United States Senator Hubert H. Humphrey brought his campaign for re-election into Cokato Monday afternoon, reviewing his record in the Congress and asking for a vote of confidence.

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- 3. Adoption of a food stamp plan to make use of food abundance among men, women, and children on public assistance or old age pensions.
- 4. Banning Secretary of Agriculture Benson from interfering with the right of farmers to elect whomever they may choose to farmer-committees, in either township or county committees.
- 5. Graning of pay raise to postal employees and other federalworkers to meet higher living costs.

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From: Volunteers for Humphrey 1722 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota

United States Senator Hubert H. Humphrey brought his campaign for re-election into Maple Lake Monday afternoon, reviewing his record in the Congress and asking for a vote of confidence.

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- 1. Restoring farm price supports to 90 per cent of parity.
- 2 Raising individuals income tax exemptions so everyone may share equally in tax reductions.
- 3. Adoption of a food stamp plan to make use of food abundance among men, women, and children on public assistance or old age pensions.
- 4. Banning Secretary of Agriculture Benson from interfering with the right of farmers to elect whomever they may choose to farmer-committees, in either township or county committees.
- 5. Granting of pay raise to postal employees and other federal workers to meet higher living costs.

Senator Humphrey's visit to Maple Lake for a street meeting was arranged by Vic Jude, Wright county DFL chairman. The visit was one of a series in a fast tour of Wright county, with similar meetings in Delano, Montrose, Waverly, Howard Lake, Cokato, and finally a dinner and evening rally in Buffalo Lake.

United States Senator Hubert H. Humphrey brought his campaign for re-election into Wright County Monday, climaxing a fast tour of the area with a public meeting in Buffalo that night.

Senator Humphrey appeared at a series of street meetings in Delano, Montrose, Waverly, Howard Lake, Cokato and Maple Lake, before coming to Buffalo for a 6:30 p.m. dinner meeting at Etta's Cafe and a public meeting in the high school auditorium at 8 p.m. The Buffalo visit was arranged by Frank Reynolds, secretary-treasurer of the Wright County D-F-L Committee.

Reviewing his record in the Congress and asking for a vote of confidence, Senator Humphrey outlined the Democratic program in a series of street visits.

If a Democratic majority is elected to the Congress in November, Senator Humphrey promised, they will give "top priority" to:

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Senator Humphrey spoke at a series of street meetings in Delano, Montrose, Waverly, Howard Lake, Cokato and Maple Lake before addressing a public meeting in the Buffalo high school auditorium. Vic Jude, chairman of the Wright county B-F-L committee, and Frank Reynolds, D-F-L secretary-treasurer, arranged the tour.

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- 4. Banning Secretary of Agriculture Benson from interfering with the right of farmers to elect whomever they may choose to farmer-committees, in either township or county committees.
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(EDITOR: Senator Humphrey's remarks at Buffalo meeting are summarised in news story enclosed in this envelope.

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