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TITLE: MIDWEST DAIRY PROGRAM DRIVE IN NEW CONGRESS URGED BY HUMPHREY

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(For release on Tuesday, p.m., October 19, 1954)

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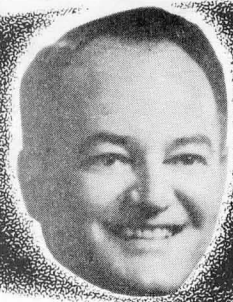
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Sent by Larry Anderson & JoAnn Alberg, Friday, October 15



NEWS RELEASE

from the HUMPHREY for SENATOR VOLUNTEERS

1722 HENNEPIN AVENUE, MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

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MIDWEST DAIRY PROGRAM DRIVE IN NEW CONGRESS URGED BY HUMPHREY

Minnesota's dairy producers were urged by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey in a luncheon talk at Gonvick today to "unite behind a concerted drive in the new Congress for a new dairy program designed to meet the needs of the midwest".

Calling for unity of dairy groups "to protect our vitally important dairy industry so essential to the midwest's economy", Senator Humphrey offered as suggestions for consideration in such a unified program these eight objectives:

1. Restoration of price supports to 85% of parity -- "at least an existence level" -- until increased consumption offsets any need for such economic protection.
2. Elimination of milk marketing barriers invoked by eastern milk-sheds against midwest fluid milk shipments into higher-cost eastern metropolitan areas.
3. Adoption of an effective surplus disposal program based on payments similar to wartime consumer subsidies, "to get America's dairy abundance out of storage into stomachs".
4. Expansion of use of dairy products in public institutions, veterans hospitals, the armed forces, and the school lunch program.
5. Increased emphasis on fluid milk markets to lessen dependence on manufactured products as the outlet for midwest dairy production.
6. Greater research funds devoted to developing new outlets such as increased use of dairy products in bread and other bakery goods.
7. Adoption of some form of food stamp plan for enabling low income families such as persons on public assistance to get minimum health requirements of milk and butter.
8. Expanded use of powdered milk in overseas famine relief programs.

Senator Humphrey congratulated the Administration for "its belated but appreciated pre-election decision to increase the dairy ration requirements for our armed forces".

"It does seem significant to me, however, that nothing of this kind was done throughout a full year of Administration complaints about dairy surplus, despite the fact that many of us repeatedly had called for such increased use in the armed forces and introduced bills in the Congress to require it", Senator Humphrey said.

Senator Humphrey said the Administration "seemed determined to reject any and all of the many suggestions that were advanced for improving the dairy situation, so that it could hold its surplus stocks over the head of America's farmers as a bludgeon to force down price support levels".

Senator Humphrey said dairy producers were "economically entitled to from 90 to 100% of parity" for milk products, but "would likely settle for 85% of parity if the other steps I have recommended are put into action to lessen the necessity for dependence on price supports".

*Ap. File - Oct 19
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DISTRIBUTION

TITLE: SENATOR HUMPHREY URGES GEARING FARM POLICIES TO FAMILY FARMING

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Labor Papers

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Sent by Larry Anderson, Friday, October 15, 1954



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1722 HENNEPIN AVENUE, MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

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WEDNESDAY A. M.
OCTOBER 20, 1954

SENATOR HUMPHREY URGES GEARING FARM POLICIES TO FAMILY FARMING

America's farm policies must be geared to social objectives as well as economic objectives, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey declared last night in an address at Fosston, Minnesota.

Foremost among such social objectives, Senator Humphrey declared, "must be encouragement and preservation of America's traditional rural pattern of the family-farm type of agriculture".

"Just as opportunities must be preserved for the independent business operator to keep him from being swallowed up by corporation opposition, so must opportunities be preserved for America's family farmers to survive economically -- to keep our agriculture from becoming only a mass-production operation by absentee landlords on corporation-owned farming enterprises", Senator Humphrey said.

Senator Humphrey urged exploring "ways to direct government administrative policy toward serving family farmers, without eliminating incentives toward self-advancement economically". He called attention to the fact that Congress repeatedly had declared such policy as the objective of farm legislation" ever since the days of our homesteading laws".

Senator Humphrey also called attention to action of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, at its conference in Des Moines last week, in adopting a resolution calling for a program of direct government subsidies to small farmers.

In its resolution, the conference board of directors contended that the family farm could not survive unless an effective farm program protected the farmer from "the disadvantages under which he labors".

"The individual farmer is limited in his ability to guard against price fluctuations by curtailing production, stimulating demand, or by moving into more profitable lines of production, as do other industries", the resolution stated.

"We are of the opinion that carefully planned direct subsidies for famers are a workable solution to the problem of decreasing farm income. We are not, however, in favor of subsidies for huge farming operations and we recommend that they be withheld on operations which exceed a specified maximum number of units".

Senator Humphrey told the gathering of Polk County farmers at Fosston that he had urged in 1953 that the Department of Agriculture create an advisory board composed of such church groups "concerned primarily with preservation of family farming and improvement in rural living", but was rejected by Secretary Benson.

"Secretary Benson was willing to name a multitude of advisory committees dominated by packers and processors, but unwilling to provide a voice among his consultants to speak out for America's family farmers", Senator Humphrey declared.



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