

GTA DAILY RADIO ROUNDUP

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

Prepared by the Public Relations Department

FARMERS UNION GRAIN
TERMINAL ASSOCIATION
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

THURSDAY -- JUNE 16, 1955

WDGY—Twin Cities
12:15 p. m.

WNAX—Yankton, S. D.
9:50 p. m.
(Tuesday Thru Friday)

KOJM—Havre, Mont.
12:55 p. m.

KCJB—Minot, N. D.
12:15 p. m.

KWLM—Willmar, Minn.
12:15 p. m.

KWOA—Worthington, Minn.
12:15 p. m.

KMHL—Marshall, Minn.
12:15 p. m.

KSJB—Jamestown, N. D.
12:15 p. m.

KFYR—Bismarck, N. D.
1:15 p. m.

WDAY—Fargo, N. D.
1:00 p. m.

KMON—Great Falls, Mont.
12:55 p. m.

KIYI—Shelby, Mont.
12:55 p. m.

In this GTA broadcast, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota tells why the wheat farmer should vote "Yes" in the wheat referendum on June 25. Senator Humphrey is another in a group of state and national officials and farm leaders who are speaking over the GTA radio network, urging a big turn-out in the June 25 balloting.

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY: The wheat farmers of the Northwest face a heavy responsibility on June 25 when they are called upon to vote in the wheat referendum. I have joined with my colleagues in the Senate from the Midwestern states in urging wheat farmers to vote "Yes" in this referendum because of my grave concern over the consequences of what confusion and economic chaos could result if the marketing quotas are rejected.

I know the dilemma that confronts the farmers. Lowering of price supports under the sliding scale makes it more difficult for farmers to willingly accept the production adjustments most of them know should be made. I warned against this danger last year in fighting vigorously against lowering of price supports.

Yet I feel compelled now to warn farmers that the situation will likely become far worse if they vote "No" in the referendum on June 25. Each wheat farmer, of course, must study this issue on its merits and arrive at his own decision, but each of you should face all the facts before making up your mind, and part of those facts are how your vote might be interpreted in the Congress.

No one has fought harder for the production of Midwest agriculture in the United States Senate than I have endeavored to do during the past six years. Sometimes we have won. Sometimes, I regret to say, we have lost but I have never given up the fight and I am not going to give up now. Yet, wheat farmers must realize how difficult it is going to be to convince Congress to restore effective price supports if the farmers themselves vote to accept lower prices just to avoid marketing quotas.

The referendum could pull out the underpinning from our entire price-support program if there is a negative vote. Already, I regret to say, some opponents of the price-support program are setting the stage in that direction by indicating that Congress will not let prices fall completely if farmers reject quotas.

Even Secretary Benson, while professing to keep hands off in this vote, has let stories be leaked from the Department of Agriculture that the Administration would support some kind of legislation to soften the blow if the referendum fails.

Let me voice this warning to you right now. Farmers should not let themselves be fooled by such promises. The best way to let Congress know that you want a price-support program improved is to vote "Yes" and show your willingness to help bring production back into line with demand. The worst possible indication that you could give the Congress would be to vote "No," showing that you do not care about the level of farm price supports.

So, in behalf of the farmers of the Midwest, I have insisted that the Senate Agricultural Committee open hearings on revision of the price-support program. The committee has agreed to do this, to re-examine the entire price-support structure and to call for its improvement. The hearings started on June 1.

Your vote in this referendum will have a decided influence on the outcome of these hearings. You will not be voting approval for 75% of parity. You will be voting for continuing the price-support program in the hope that Congress will improve it instead of tossing it into the discard. It is your chance to speak out now for effective farm programs by voting "Yes" on the wheat referendum on June 25.

NOTE: Reprints of this radio broadcast are available from FARMERS
UNION GRAIN TERMINAL ASSOCIATION, St. Paul 1, Minnesota.

*Ap. File -
Radio Recording*

RECORDED STATEMENT BY SENATOR HUMPHREY
ON WHEAT REFERENDUM

He Wheat farmers of the Midwest face a heavy responsibility on June 25, when they are called upon to vote in the wheat referendum.

I have joined my colleagues in the Senate from the Midwestern States in urging wheat farmers to vote "YES" in this referendum, because of my grave concern over the consequences of what confusion and economic chaos could result if the marketing quotas are rejected.

I know the dilemma that confronts farmers. Lowering of price supports under the "sliding scale" makes it more difficult for farmers to willingly accept the production adjustments most of them know should be made. I warned against this danger last year in fighting vigorously against lowering of price supports. Yet, I feel compelled now to warn farmers that the situation will likely become far worse if they vote "NO" in the referendum.

Each wheat farmer, of course, must study this issue on its merits and arrive at his own decision. But each should face all the facts, before making up his mind. And part of those facts are how your vote might be interpreted in the Congress.

∠ No one has fought harder for protection of Midwest agriculture in the United States Senate than I have endeavored to do during the past six years. Sometimes we have won, sometimes we have lost --

but I have never given up, and I am not going to give up now. Yet, wheat farmers must realize how difficult it is going to be to convince Congress to restore more effective price supports if the farmers themselves vote to accept lower prices just to avoid marketing quotas. The referendum could pull the underpinning ^{price} ~~out~~ from under our entire support program.

Already, I regret to say, some opponents of the price support program are setting the stage in that direction by indicating Congress will not let prices fall completely if farmers reject quotas. Even Secretary Benson, while professing to keep "hands off" in this vote, has let stories be "leaked" from the Department of Agriculture that the administration would support some action to "soften" the blow if the referendum fails.

Let me voice this warning right now: Farmers should not let themselves be fooled by such promises. The best way to let Congress know you want the support program improved is to vote "YES", and show your willingness to help bring production into line ^{with the demand}. The worst possible indication you could give Congress would be to vote "NO", showing you do not care about the level of support prices.

In behalf of farmers of the Midwest, I have insisted that the Senate Agriculture Committee open hearings on revision of the price support bill. The Committee has agreed to do so. The hearings

are starting June 1. Your vote will have a decided influence on the outcome of these hearings. You will not be voting approval for 75% of parity -- you will be voting for continuing the price support program in the hope of Congress improving it, instead of tossing it into the discard. It is your chance to speak out for an effective farm program, by voting "YES" on June 25.



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