

There was a story in the Washington POST
on Tuesday, March 11.

Ruth Barker

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"I remember the day my father said, 'Son, there's no more money. If you want to finish college, you'll have to go it on your own.' I remember spending six months reading in the library because I didn't have enough money to buy books. I remember working in the drug store for 15¢ an hour," declared Senator Hubert Humphrey when speaking to the American University Chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Management on Monday, March 10.

"This was in the 1930's" the Senator continued, "but people were saying the same things about the economy then that they're saying now. 1929 wasn't a bad year. It was a rock'n roll year. Sure, the farmers had a little trouble, and small business was in bad shape, but the economy was fine, according to the administration.

The Minnesota Democrat continued, "It is my view that the government has a tremendous role to play in an economy that is under stress and strain because of economic pressure. Look at the Employment Act of 1946. It states that it is a continuous policy of the federal government to foster free competitive enterprise and promote maximum employment, production and purchasing power. That act established that the government had a unique role and was expected to perform it. The government in recent years has been doing exactly the opposite of that."

"I believe the present recession was designed, planned and organized by the administration," he declared. He quoted David Lawrence, The Journal of Commerce, and Barron's. "If the Administration doesn't believe in the Employment Act of 1946, it should ask for its' repeal. The nation has an economic headache and the White House prescription is inadequate. They've asked for 2½ grains of aspirin when 10 are needed."

He told the 200 students, "There isn't anything we can't cure. We're tied up in intellectual charley horses. We need inspiration, leadership, zeal. We have a country club attitude and we're acting like dilettantes with a martini in one hand and a sprig of grass in the other."

(Humphrey - page 2)

"If America is going to be a first class power, we can't afford to cut back and have the Soviet Union increasing their gross national product every year. They are increasing their production of steel and it's not for yo yo's and scooters. It's for ICBMs and Sputniks."

He declared that the government must increase unemployment compensation and social security benefits and assist small business which is being choked to death. We also need schools, housing and hospitals.

In conclusion he stated, "The interstate highway program enacted by the Congress in 1956 should be stepped up, not stretched out for 26 years as the Administration plans."

Senator Humphrey was introduced by Dr. Hurst R. Anderson, President, The American University.

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