

HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE

Suite 740 Roosevelt Hotel

Washington 9, D. C.

ADams 2-3411

FOR RELEASE: Sunday A.M.'s
January 17, 1960

EXCERPTS OF REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

ALASKA STATE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE DINNER

Ketchikan, Alaska, January 16, 1960

"When I voted in the Senate repeatedly for Statehood for Alaska, it was because I was convinced it was in the clear interest of the Union as well as the interest of the Territory that Alaska become a State. It definitely was not to bring down on you an avalanche of Presidential candidates of assorted parties clamoring for your support.

"Nevertheless that seems to have been an inevitable result. You can consider it as an extra added penalty or privilege, as you will, that goes with the responsibilities of Statehood. So here I am, in the parade of candidates, semi-candidates and crypto-candidates from whom you have been receiving visitations.

"As the first declared Democratic candidate, I am happy to be addressing the Democratic leaders in a Democratic convention in this new Democratic State. I am proud to be here by your invitation, tendered through your Chairman, Felix J. Toner, and at the urging of my good friends and your Senators, Bob Bartlett and Ernest Gruening, your Congressman, Ralph Rivers, your fine Governor, William Egan, his Secretary of State, Hugh J. Wade, and others.

"You are about to select the first delegation from the State of Alaska to a Presidential nominating convention. And at that convention, I'm to make my inaugural appearance as a candidate for the Presidential nomination.

"And to come right out flat with it, this candidate is after the votes of your delegates at that convention.

"In that quest I take for my text tonight the full development of all our natural resources for the benefit of all our people.

"In those resources lies much of the great strength Alaska has brought to the Union, and in their development lies the future of Alaska itself.

"I've had some good education in resource development in the Senate, and your Bob Bartlett and Ernest Gruening and other Alaskan missionaries have been among my best teachers. I've even had special political education denied some of my colleagues. Don't forget I'm a Senator from Minnesota -- a northern state with some of the same kinds of resources of land, water, climate, minerals and timber as you have. In the "New Deal" days, some of my constituents heard the call of Alaska. They wanted to get to Matanuska. A whole caravan of fine citizens went, and made good here. In fact they have been coming singly and in caravans ever since, to build your State. Perhaps that revelation won't do me much good back home, for the short-sighted think it is politically inexpedient for a Senator to help in exporting constituents. But there is no denying that Minnesota's loss was Alaska's gain.

"The present Republican Administration has not only neglected your resources; it has made a policy of neglect. In stifling Federal programs designed to foster resource development, it has committed a crime against the public and the Union. And specifically, the "no-new-starts" policy, whether dressed up as "anti-inflation", "anti-expansionist" or in any other sloganeered disguise, is an affront to good sense and an offense against Alaska and your future.

"More than any other state of our great country, Alaska, which needs resource development, roads, transportation of all kinds, should get behind a progressive Democrat for the Presidency.

"Alaska needs the dynamic progressivism of the Democrats and cannot afford the dynamic apathy of the Republicans.

"The Republican policy of no new starts (except maybe in election years) simply won't do the job Alaska needs done. You can't build Alaska with a "no-go, go-slow, not now, veto" Administration.

"In closing hours of last year's session of Congress, we had a chance to make a beginning of that unfinished business by voting to override President Eisenhower's veto of the Public Works Appropriation Bill. That was the first Eisenhower veto we overrode, and I enjoyed it as much as your Senators. By passing that bill, we assured some long-overdue resource development in many places, including the start of Rampart Dam surveys on your Yukon River.

"And since you can prove a politician's philosophy only by his votes when he must stand up to be counted, I invite you to review all eleven years of my voting record for full development of our natural resources. I pledge you to keep the record that way, be it in the Senate or the White House.

"It seems to me that when we bought Alaska from Czarist Russia some 93 years ago, we got the biggest real estate bargain of the age. For some seven million dollars, we bought a treasure house of natural resources. We still have them, but they will do you no good, and the nation no good, until we unlock them by vigorous, intelligent development programs. But first we must get rid of an Administration so short-sighted and so narrow-minded that it believes we "can't afford" to unlock the treasure!

"We must get rid of an Administration that stifles Alaska with tight money. We must get rid of an Administration that stifles Alaska with discriminatory transportation rates. We must get rid of an Administration that prefers budget balancing to national expansion and development.

"There are acres of diamonds under our feet if we can but only see them. Alaska is our great testing ground of what America can do in the emerging areas of the world. The Democrats will not shirk this responsibility.

"There is no purpose in my calling off before you the roll of your resources. You know more than I do about your vast land, water, fish, fuel, mineral, and timber treasures. I have no favorites. But granting Alaska statehood, while retarding its development with a hit-or-miss, "give away", grab-and-run Federal resource development program, will not bring Alaska the permanent prosperity it could and should have.

"Likewise it does nothing for the rest of the Union. It is just plain mismanagement of the national estate.

"All this talk of "Peace and Prosperity" makes pretty political slogans, but we want real prosperity. For you that means wise resource development, which will wreck nobody's budget. Profitable resource development is real economy.

"Among your manifold resources, one attracts me particularly as the starting point for profitable Federal investment. That is your wasted river resource for hydro-electricity. Low-cost power -- and Alaska has it for the taking -- is not only an ever self-renewing resource in itself, but also the key that can unlock the rest of your resources.

"Alaska's rivers have the greatest hydro-electric power potential in this hemisphere. Their tremendous potential, one of the greatest of all Alaskan resources, will in the future provide the power to turn the wheels of industry. This power is a vital and essential requirement for the development of Alaska as a whole and of most of your resources.

"We are well into the electrical age but that is barely perceptible in your new State. Back in "New Deal" days, before the advent of a Republican Administration, we Democrats did manage to get one small Alaskan Federal power project authorized, financed and built at Eklutua. Ernest Gruening, then Governor, and Bob Bartlett, then your Delegate in the House of Representatives, carried the load in that job for the Territory.

"But since the advent of Republican rule in Washington, with its well advertised antipathy to all Federal power, the lights have been dimming low or blacking out in Alaska. The kilowatt demand has soared, power-hungry industry of necessity has gone elsewhere, and your recognized potential resource has remained virtually all potential. I fear it will -- until we Democrats can do something about it.

"In fact the Republicans have just about guaranteed that. They call Federal power "creeping socialism", and they think that settles everything.

"Your neighbors on the West in the U.S.S.R., and particularly in Siberia, are off on an unprecedented hydro-electric development. Your Canadian neighbors to the East are driving their public power program to their great advantage. And we here in Alaska are standing still. We are being fed tranquilizers -- or "happiness pills", as they say in my part of the country -- by the Republicans, instead of solid development.

"I'll not try to list all your fine undeveloped dam sites which could power your industry. Some are a little better on one score, and others on another. Your new State authorities, plus the Army Engineer Corps and the Bureau of Reclamation, have the details, but none of them can move while the Republican Administration says "NO".

"For my money, or for yours, I like the reports on Rampart Canyon damsite on the Yukon River. There the Army surveys show that Alaska could achieve on its greatest stream the largest power producer in the world, at the lowest cost. It would spark the expansion of woodpulp so badly needed for newsprint all around the world. It would spark the development of all Alaska.

"Rampart Canyon is a good place to start. After going through all the power flights with men of little faith in Washington to win Grand Coulee and other great, proven Federal power producers, I don't see why we should be afraid of the big ones.

"We don't need to go looking around for issues in this campaign. Here we have a real one, ready-made. And it fits.

"So I invite you good Democrats, who have already done so much in this field, to join with me in drawing and settling this issue in this campaign. Let's move Alaska into the electrical age, so that our biggest State can keep her rendezvous with her great destiny.

"Alaska's destiny is inseparable from the Nation's destiny. And the Nation's destiny is inseparable from the free world. Here in Alaska, where the United States almost touches the Soviet Union, you can hardly feel remote from national and world events. After all, the only American soil occupied by the enemy in World War II was part of your State.

"Your future in this nation depends on peace. But peace is not to be had for the wishing or for the asking. To win peace in a world bristling with armaments and boiling with revolutions will require determination and wisdom and goodness and patience and fortitude.

"Peace is not passive; it is positive, and requires positive effort. Effort to bring deadly and destructive weapons under control. Effort to banish poverty, hunger, disease and ignorance. Effort to replace the rule of force with the rule of law.

"These are not slogans. Peace cannot be won with slogans; not by good will but by good works.

"The path to peace in this unpeaceful world is beset with costs and with risks. But great as they may be, they are as nothing to the costs and risks of war.

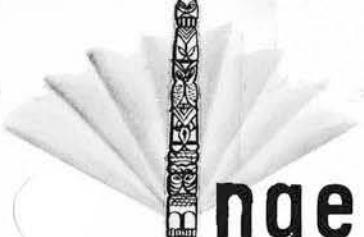
"No man has a right even to think of offering himself as a candidate for the Presidency who is not prepared to tell the American people the plain truth about those costs and risks. It is for failing to recognize them that we now suffer an accumulation of neglect in national defense, in foreign policy, in national affairs.

"Let us not be deceived or deceive ourselves any longer. We have too willingly been deceived too long, while we have frittered away precious time and strength we could not afford to lose. Being second-best in a competition with world communism is not the path to peace, but only to defeat.

"This is the monumental failure of the Republican Administration. It is our mission to retrieve it, by liberating America's energies and resources. The American people have shown again and again that when they are summoned to the heights, they can rise to the heights.

"As we once reached those heights to win a great war, let us now reach them to win a greater place."

000303



ingersoll hotel

GEORGE BRINCK · MANAGER

KETCHIKAN · ALASKA

ALASKA - "The Great LAND" - (Language of the
Aleuts)

Minnesotans - NORWAY - Finland - Sweden.

- ✓ Purchase - Western States predominately favored
all but 3 Dems voted for it!
- ✓ First Political Recognition to Alaska 1888
2 Delegates to Democ Conv
- ✓ Home Rule for Alaska - 1892 (Dem Plat)
- ✓ Wilson "Alaska - Should be Unlocked!
" We must use the Resources of the Country,
NOT LOCK them up!"

Alaska - (The Nation's Ugly Duckling) Great Eagle!

Visit KETCHIKAN . . . First City in ALASKA

Vacationing, Fishing, Hunting, Mining, Lumbering and Pulp

Remarks of

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

000304

Alaska State Democratic Committee Dinner

Ketchikan, Alaska, January 16, 1960

Dunson Skip

When I voted in the Senate repeatedly for Statehood for Alaska, it was because I was convinced it was in the clear interest of the Union as well as the interest of the Territory that Alaska become a State. It definitely was not to bring down on you an avalanche of Presidential candidates of assorted parties clamoring for your support.

*Alaska is a state
Dunson Skip*

Nevertheless that seems to have been an inevitable result. You can consider it as an extra added penalty or privilege, as you will, that goes with the responsibilities of Statehood. So here I am, in the parade of candidates, semi-candidates *Approved - Unapproved* and ~~crypto~~-candidates from whom you have been receiving visitations.

As the first declared Democratic candidate, I am happy to be addressing the Democratic leaders in a Democratic convention in this new Democratic State. I am proud to be here by your

invitation, tendered through your Chairman, Felix J. Toner,⁵ and
at the urging of my good friends and your Senators, Bob Bartlett
and Ernest Gruening, your Congressman, Ralph Rivers, your fine
Governor, William Egan, his Secretary of State, Hugh J. Wade,
and others.

First
Delegation
from State
of ALASKA
You are about to select the first delegation from the State
of Alaska to a Presidential nominating convention. And at that
convention I'm to make my inaugural appearance as a candidate
for the Presidential nomination.

And to come right out flat with it, this candidate is after
the votes of your delegates at that convention.

Start
Develop
Resources
In that quest, I take for my text tonight the full development
of all our natural resources for the benefit of all our people.

In those resources lies much of the great strength Alaska
has brought to the Union, and in their development lies the
future of Alaska itself.

000306

I've had some good education in resource development in the Senate, and your Bob Bartlett and Ernest Gruening and other Alaskan missionaries have been among my best teachers. I've even had special political education denied some of my colleagues.

Don't forget I'm a Senator from Minnesota -- a northern state with some of the same kinds of resources of land, water, climate, minerals and timber as you have. In the "New Deal" days, some of my constituents heard the call of Alaska. They wanted to get

MAT-A-NUSKA
to Matanuska. A whole caravan of fine citizens went, and made good here. In fact they have been coming singly and in caravans ever since, to build your State. ~~Perhaps that revelation won't do me much good back home, for the short-sighted think it is politically inexpedient for a Senator to help in exporting constituents.~~ But there is no denying that Minnesota's loss ^{and is} was Alaska's gain.

MAT-A-NUSKA

Minnesota

The present Republican Administration has not only neglected your resources; it has made a policy of neglect. In stifling Federal programs designed to foster resource development, it has committed a crime against the public and the Union.

Policy of Neglect

And specifically, the "no-new-starts" policy, whether dressed up as "anti-inflation", "anti-expansionist" or in any other

sloganeered disguise, is an ~~assault~~ ^{insult} to good sense and an offense against Alaska and your future.

(Alaska R. Road - ^{Gaut owned} ~~Raise Rates~~)

No hearings!
Action of
Alaska Ship Co
Fed Maritime
Bd

15% - 1958
10% 1960

In case of
26 1/2% in
two yrs

More than any other state of our great country, Alaska, industry, schools, ~~schools, credit~~ which needs resource development, roads, transportation of all kinds, should get behind a progressive Democrat for the Presidency.

Alaska needs the dynamic progressivism of the Democrats and cannot afford the dynamic apathy of the Republicans.

The Republican policy of no new starts (except maybe in election years) simply won't do the job Alaska needs done. You can't build Alaska with a "no-go, go-slow, not now, veto"

Administration.

A task can development requires the Pioneer spirit - not timid, fearful, and tired leadership

In the closing hours of last years's session of Congress, we had a chance to make a beginning of that unfinished business by voting to override President Eisenhower's veto of the Public Works Appropriation Bill. That was the first Eisenhower veto we overrode, and I enjoyed it as much as your Senators.

Alaska Rd Fed Gas tax for yrs - yet no Fed Highway Prog.

000308

By passing that bill, we assured some long-overdue resource development in many places, including the start of ^{the} Rampart Dam surveys on your Yukon River.

And since you can prove a politician's philosophy only by his votes when he must stand up to be counted, I invite you to review all eleven years of my voting record for full development of our natural resources. I pledge you to keep the record that way, be it in the Senate or the White House.

It seems to me that when we bought Alaska from Czarist Russia some 93 years ago, we got the biggest ~~real estate~~ bargain of the age. For some seven million dollars, we bought a treasure house of natural resources. We still have them, but they will do you no good, and the nation no good, until we unlock them by vigorous, intelligent development programs. But first we must get rid of an Administration so short-sighted and so narrow-minded that it believes we "can't afford" to unlock the treasure!

We must get rid of an Administration that stifles Alaska with tight money. ~~Hi-interest~~ — and no vision.

Hi Transportation! Alaska Steamship
Alaska

Debate
Lincoln
negotiate
style

Bargain

Wilson
unlock
the treasure

PAVE ALASKA Highway!
TRUCKS

We must get rid of an Administration that stifles Alaska with

discriminatory transportation rates. We must get rid of an

Administration that ~~has put our nation in a budgetary~~ ~~prefers budget balancing to national expansion~~

~~straight jacket~~ ~~unrelated to the needs of~~
~~and development.~~ ~~our people or the problems of the~~
~~time.~~

There are acres of diamonds under our feet if we can but only see them. Alaska is our great testing ground of what America

can do in the emerging areas of the world. The Democrats will not shirk this responsibility.

(See what Soviets care
to do in Siberia)

There is no purpose in my calling ~~on you~~ ^{people, your} the roll of your resources. You know more than I do about your vast land,

water, fish, fuel, mineral, and timber treasures. I have no

favorites. But granting Alaska statehood, while ~~retarding~~ its

development with a hit-or-miss, "give away", grab-and-run Federal resource development program, will not bring Alaska the permanent prosperity it could and should have.

Likewise it does nothing for the rest of the Union. It is

just plain mismanagement of the national estate. ~~The nation's~~
~~business!~~

could be
like
Norway,
Sweden,
Finland
support
5 million
people

000310

All this talk of "Peace and Prosperity" makes pretty political slogans, but we want real prosperity. For you that means wise resource development, which will wreck nobody's budget.

yes, Profitable resource development is real economy.

Among your manifold resources, one attracts me particularly as the starting point for profitable Federal investment. That is your wasted river resource for hydro-electricity. Low-cost power -- (and Alaska has it for the taking) -- is not only an ever self-renewing resource in itself, but also the key that can unlock the rest of your resources. - Power for industry for better living!

Alaska's rivers have the greatest hydro-electric power potential in this hemisphere. Their tremendous potential, one of the greatest of all Alaskan resources, will in the future provide the power to turn the wheels of industry. This power is

a vital and essential requirement for the development of Alaska

Build the DAMS - Industry follows
~~Three sites along the Yukon River~~ - at Kaltag, Rampart Canyon and a wood chipper creek - *as a whole and of most of your resources.*
could produce some 64,473,600,000 Kilowatt-hours of Prime Power *Per yr.*

We are well into the electrical age but that is barely

perceptible in your new State.

Alaska - with Hydro-Elect Possibilities Second to None - Utility Rates 100 to 300% over other communities - inadequate even for military needs

Republican
Administration

Back in "New Deal" days, before the advent of a Republican
Administration, we Democrats did manage to get one small Alaskan
Federal power project authorized, financed and built at Eklutua.
Ernest Gruening, then Governor, and Bob Bartlett, then your Delegate
in the House of Representatives, carried the load in that job for
the Territory.

But since the advent of Republican rule in Washington, with
its well advertised antipathy to all Federal power, the lights
have been dimming low or blacking out in Alaska. The kilowatt
demand has soared, power-hungry industry of necessity has gone
elsewhere, and your recognized potential resource has remained
virtually all potential. I fear it will -- until we Democrats
can do something about it.

In fact the Republicans have just about guaranteed that.
They call Federal power "creeping socialism", and they think
that settles everything.

Your neighbors on the West in the U.S.S.R., and particularly
in Siberia, are off on an unprecedented hydro-electric development.

000312

Your Canadian neighbors to the East are driving their public power program to their great advantage. And we here in Alaska are standing still. We are being fed tranquilizers -- or "happiness pills", as they say in my part of the country -- by the Republicans, instead of solid development.

I'll not try to list all your fine undeveloped dam sites which could power your industry. ~~Some are a little better on one score, and others on another.~~ Your new State authorities, plus the Army Engineer Corps and the Bureau of Reclamation, have the details, but none of them can move while the ~~Republican~~ Administration says "NO".

For my money, or for yours, I like the reports on Rampart Canyon damsite on the Yukon River. There the Army surveys show that Alaska could achieve on its "greatest stream" the largest power producer in the world, at the lowest cost. It would spark the expansion of woodpulp so badly needed for newsprint all around the world. It would spark the development of all Alaska.

(My SmI Business Report 7 1952)

Rampart Canyon is a good place to start. After going through all the power fights with men of little faith in Washington to win Grand Coulee and other great, proven Federal power producers, I don't see why we should be afraid of the big ones.

We don't need to go looking around for issues in this campaign. Here we have a real one, ready-made. And it fits. - *Republicans*

NO-NO-NO - Democrats - GO-GO-GO!

So I invite you good Democrats, who have already done so much in this field, to join with me in drawing and settling this issue in this campaign. Let's move Alaska into the electrical age, so that our biggest State can keep her rendezvous with her great destiny. *(~~Dem~~ H)*

Alaska's destiny is inseparable from the Nation's destiny.

And the Nation's destiny is inseparable from the free world. Here in Alaska, where the United States almost touches the soviet Union, you can hardly feel remote from national and world events. After all, the only American soil occupied by the enemy in World War II was part of your State.

Your future in this nation depends on peace. But peace is not to be had for the wishing or for the asking. To win peace in a world bristling with armaments and boiling with revolutions will require determination and wisdom and goodness and patience and fortitude.

Peace is not passive; it is positive, and requires positive effort. Effort to bring deadly and destructive weapons under control. Effort to banish poverty, hunger, disease and ignorance. Effort to replace the rule of force with the rule of law.

These are not slogans. Peace cannot be won with slogans; not by good will but by good works.

The path to peace in this unpeaceful world is beset with costs and with risks. But great as they may be, they are as nothing to the costs and risks of war.

No man has a right even to think of offering himself as a candidate for the Presidency who is not prepared to tell the American people the plain truth about those costs and risks.

000315

It is for failing to recognize them that we now suffer an accumulation of neglect in national defense, in foreign policy, in national affairs.

Let us not be deceived or deceive ourselves any longer. We have too willingly been deceived too long, while we have frittered away precious time and strength we could not afford to lose. Being second-best in a competition with world communism is not the path to peace, but only to defeat.

This is the monumental failure of the Republican Administration. It is our mission to retrieve it, by liberating America's energies and resources. The American people have shown again and again that when they are summoned to the heights, they can rise to the heights.

As we once reached those heights to win a great war, let us now reach them to win a greater peace.



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org