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only Chr Gordon Frederick

Mr Allen Hanley

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS

BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY,

DEMOCRATIC LUNCHEON

HUDSON, WISCONSIN

Monday, February 1, 1960

Walter Monnig

(Col)  
Shiriff Norman Anderson  
County Atty → Kenneth Hayes

Mayor Geo. Mattson

Assembly William Ward

Norman Ritchie

Sen Harold Schultz

Van Meter  
Editor New Richmond  
WISC NEWS

No Americans have a greater stake in the outcome of  
next November's elections than the farmers and small  
businessmen of Wisconsin and the rest of Mid-America.

The administrative machinery and the veto power which  
the Republicans have used to deflate agriculture and business  
in our farm areas must be put in the hands of a Democratic  
President before there can be any real relief.

And I believe <sup>and hope</sup> the people of Wisconsin, upon reflection,  
will come to the conclusion that the best Democratic candidate  
for the Presidency is a Midwest progressive, who knows and  
understands their problems, has lived with them, and is  
determined to solve them in the interests of the whole nation.

Mayor  
Allan

Tom  
Hughes

Walter  
Monnig

from  
Somerset  
vice Chr  
H. Croy  
county

*now what are the problems*

L Net farm income in the state of Wisconsin was a billion dollars -- \$1,005,500,000 to be exact -- below 1952 farm income levels during the first six years of the present Republican Administration. The figures come out of Secretary Benson's own Department of Agriculture reports.

L This was an average of about \$167 million down each year from 1953 through 1958. We don't have Mr. Benson's 1959 figures yet, but we know that national farm income was down in 1959 from \$14.2 billion to \$11.8 billion, or another

16 to 17%.

L And we have a cheery prediction from Mr. Benson's prophets that it is going down another 10% this year, in 1960.

L This means that the farmers of Wisconsin have been and will be spending \$160 million to \$200 million less per year in the towns and cities of Wisconsin during the eight long

years of Republican control.

It means that the storekeepers and the doctors and lawyers, carpenters and electricians, have had that much less volume from which to pay wages to their employees or to spend in the store.

It means that factories have employed fewer workers, workers have had slimmer pay envelopes -- that the economy

of the state in total has suffered several times the loss

of raw materials income sustained by the farmers.

Tragically, it means that over the eight-year period

thousands of farmers ~~will~~ have had to sell out, small business establishments closed and a long-term injury done to the economy of Wisconsin.

This Wisconsin story can be repeated up and down the

*of the*  
*\$1.00 lost farm*  
*income*  
*means about*  
*total loss*

Mississippi Valley -- throughout the Middle West -- as many times as there are states.

Michigan, with a lesser agricultural production, sustained a half-billion dollar farm income loss in the first six years of Republican control.

Minnesota has dropped a half billion dollars and Illinois about \$750 million.

Business has suffered. Revenues to support our schools and public services have suffered. The loss has spread to every kind of business activity.

*The Big market is here if we develop it*

Our difficulties have a few times become so acute that

Midwest Republican Congressmen and Senators have appealed to the White House to get a new Secretary of Agriculture.

But the word has invariably come back, "Ike likes Ezra." And

Dick likes him, too -- regardless of the effort being made  
hurriedly in this election year to create a new image of  
Mr. Nixon as an old critic of Mr. Benson.

Speaking in Des Moines, Iowa, a few years ago, Mr. Nixon  
declared:

"I predict that the verdict of history will be  
that Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson has been  
one of the best Secretaries of Agriculture in our  
history, and that he was the friend of the farmer in  
the program he advocated and put into practice."

In 1955, Mr. Nixon was in Wabash, Indiana, to defend  
and endorse Mr. Benson's thesis that lower farm prices would  
be the salvation of the farmers, the business establishments  
and the economy of this great farm country, proudly announcing  
that:

"... a new flexible parity formula has been  
adopted so that farmers will not be encouraged to grow  
crops already in surplus."



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"I talked with Secretary Benson just before I left Washington (this is Mr. Nixon speaking), and he is tremendously encouraged that we will find additional foreign markets for our farm products ..."

2 In 1956 Mr. Nixon broke a tie in the United States Senate, casting his deciding vote against our 90% farm price supports. Later that year in Columbus, Nebraska, he told an audience that the farm program "is working ... because it cuts to the heart of the problem."

The New York Herald Tribune reported that in his Nebraska speech the Vice President, and I quote:

"... supported Benson's thesis that the Administration's program of flexible price supports can achieve prosperity on the farm in peace time ..."

2 In 1957, when Secretary Benson was again finding heavy seas, the Vice President and Sherman Adams were paraded as Benson supporters. The New York Times, on Dec. 4, 1957, quoted Mr. Benson as declaring that he had "every evidence of the support of the Vice President and Mr. Adams."

And only a few weeks ago, on a national TV program, Mr.

Benson said Mr. Nixon supported his program and he expected  
Mr. Nixon to carry it out if elected President. Mr. Nixon  
has not denied the claim.

Tragically for farmers and businessmen alike in this  
great Midwest area, the drive against agriculture continues.

This year the Administration wants to repeat in respect to  
wheat the program it has imposed on the corn farmers, which  
resulted in lower prices, overproduction and skyrocketing  
surpluses.

Simultaneously, the Administration is attempting to  
jack up the cost of farmers' electricity by doubling the  
interest rate on rural electrification loans. This would  
adversely affect not only the rural electric systems but also  
every small business in Wisconsin or any other agricultural  
area which deals in electrical appliances.

Uncle Sam's rural electrification program -- a constant target of the Republican administration -- created a billion dollar per year demand for electrical appliances. It is an excellent example of a program that has proved good for farmers and small business men alike. But now the Republicans are determined to slow it down and dry it up by syphoning off more interest money for the Wall Street financiers - just as they have cut the national rate of economic growth to half what it ought to be. (Interest - Credit)

To reverse all this -- to put Wisconsin and the rest of the Midwest back in the mainstream of national life -- requires that a Democratic President whose progressivism is based on a thorough understanding of these problems be placed in the White House by your votes.





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