HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE Suite 740, Roosevelt Hotel Washington 9, D.C. ADams 2-3411

FOR RELEASE: Saturday AM, Feb. 6,1960

Excerpts from Remarks
By Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
at the
Western States Conference, Democratic Party,
Albuquerque, N.M.
Feb. 5, 1960

"As representatives of Western States you know better than anyone else how dismally the Republicans have failed to manage the resources of the nation. Not only our national resources, but human resources as well.

"The Republican policy of 'no new starts' applies not just to reclamation, power development and other water control projects. It extends clear across the board -- no new starts in education, no new starts in social welfare, no new starts in foreign policy, no new starts on defining objectives and goals, no new starts in anything.

"Drift, delay, put off, turn down -- this negative action of the Republicans all adds up to waste and more waste. Indeed, they are the Great Wasters.

"Resource management, resource mobilization -- these concepts get little recognition from the Republican leadership. And it helps explain why this great nation is falling behind on so many fronts.

"The last seven years have seen too many problems that didn't fit the budgetary straitjacket fashioned by the Republicans or threatened to disturb the air of complacency so diligently fostered by them.

"So the problems were ignored. Or 'cut down to size' and dealt with on a pinch-penny basis. Or stuffed into the closet with all those other skeletons.

"As a result, the great United States of America has coasted for the last seven years. And the momentum has just about given out.

"Wasted resources! Nothing so well symbolizes the end result of no-go, go-slow, not-now, veto Republicanism!

"The Republican leadership is conditioning the American people to accept 3 1/2 million to 4 million unemployed as a 'normal cushion' in the work force.

"The result is that manpower is wasted, talents and skills are wasted, potential public revenues are lost.

"The Republican leadership says that natural resource development here in the West costs too much -- that it is better done on a so-called 'partnership' basis that simply reflects a denial of Federal responsibility.

"The result is that resource development fails to keep pace with a growing population and growing industrialization. In consequence, during the past ten years, while the Far Western states have been at the top of the United States in population growth, they have been practically at the bottom in real per capita income growth.

"The Republican leadership -- faced by the Soviet challenge on the education front -- holds Federal expenditures on education to less than one-tenth of one percent of our total national production!

"The result is that our schools are horribly overcrowded; our school teachers miserably underpaid.

"Even if the Soviet Union had never been heard of, the nation as a whole has no more precious potential asset than achievement of the highest level of literacy and education that a nation as wealthy as ours can afford.

"The Republican leadership ignores or shunts aside the new problems of metropolitan living.

"The result? Our cities are in trouble. Transportation is snarled. Housing is inadequate. Suburban areas are outrunning facilities. Delinquency is on the rise. No plans are made to receive the people shoved off the farms under the Nixon-Benson program and who must live and look for work in strange surroundings.

"The Republican Administration put into effect a hard money, high interest rate, tight credit policy, which is at best only a special privilege to a handful of people and a burden upon the multitude.

"The result? Let's take into account all kinds of private indebtedness, and also the Federal, state and local public indebtedness on which the interest costs are ultimately paid by the people in the firm of taxes. The results are as follows:

"During the seven years of Republican control, the American family on the average -- and this includes the older family as well as the younger family -- has paid out about \$194 more in interest than if the 1952 level of interest rates had been maintained.

"If there should be another Republican administration, and a continuation of this high interest rate policy, the American family on the average, during the 12 years 1953-1964, will have paid out about \$885 more in interest rates than if the 1952 level had been maintained

"Translated into totals for all purposes, the total interest payments of the whole American people, public and private, would be more than 50 billion dollars higher, for the 12-year period, than if the old reasonable rates had been kept.

"This amounts to more than 4 billion dollars a year!

"This would be enough to maintain our military supremacy instead of allowing the Soviets to get ahead of us.

"This annual sum could more than double the annual Federal outlays for education and health, public assistance and other welfare purposes, and national resource development.

"It is time to call a halt to this waste of resources. It is time to put the stopper in the drain pipe.

"But even more than that: it is time to mobilize our resources for the great challenge of the Sixties.

"That challenge is to organize our society to compete with the monolithic, disciplined and onrushing Communist system, and at the same time to preserve the letter and spirit of freedom in America.

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'It is time to put a grand design into our national effort. Let us make clear to the people that we as Democrats are <u>builders</u>-investors -- that we have a grand design and the ability to put it into action.

"The next President of the United States will have to take off the wraps -- to free America's energies and resources for constructive work -- and to tell the American people the plain truth.

"The next President must have more than executive ability. He must have a <u>vision</u> of a stronger, more prosperous and just America.

"He must show our people that America can afford what needs to be done.

"And there are some things America cannot afford, such as complacency in a world of unrest, poverty, disease, and illiteracy --or slogans as a substitute for programs, public relations as a substitute for public service.

"This, too, the next President will have to make clear.

"As a Democrat, let me suggest how our party can make sure the job gets done properly in the years ahead.

"First, our party must stick to its progressive, constructive social and economic program -- and not trim our sails an inch.

"Second, we must nominate a progressive Democrat to carry out that program in the White House.

"America is ready to go back to work. The siesta is over.

"Let us provide the vigorous, energetic, progressive, liberal leadership that history proves is the only kind of leadership under which America advances."

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