

*Cabell county
critiques for Humphrey*

Hotel Frederick
Huntington, West Virginia
8 P.M.
March 23, 1960

*Bob Burford
County Chr*
000687

*Norman Rood - Chr (attys)
Huntington Forum (Dinner)*

I am delighted to be with you tonight, and to
launch my campaign for your support at the Democratic
National Convention.

*✓ Bob Byrd
✓ Jennings Randolph*

I have, for reasons which you can all appreciate,
had to choose carefully among the primaries open to me.
For anyone but a ~~millionaire~~ *Rich man*, aspiring to the Presidency
of the United States is becoming more and more difficult.

*Cong
Heckler!*

h Maybe the days of log-cabin to White House are over -
but I still hope to prove that I can make it from a
family drugstore.

L I have chosen to carry my campaign into West
Virginia because it presents in sharp and dramatic

Pat Hall

000688

Barboursville

Mr & Mrs Thompson

Milton, W. Va

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fashion the major failure of this Republican

Administration - the tragic waste of idle manpower
and resources at the very period in history when we
need the fullest possible production.

Waste
neglect
fear
Inaction!

I have no vast reserves of money to pour
into this campaign. But I have, out of a lifetime's
experience, a vast exposure to the problems which
face you. I learned my brand of liberalism in the
Dust Bowl and the depression - the school of hard
times and hard knocks.

my liberalism
construction

I have travelled about this state, and enjoyed
its rugged beauty and scenic grandeur. I have had
the privilege of becoming acquainted with many of
your citizens, descendants of our sturdiest pioneer
stock.

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Yet, for all your richness in natural resources
and in people, you are low man on the totem pole of
this so-called ~~affluent~~ ^{prosperous} society. Too many of your
coal mines are closed and silent. Too many of your
~~miners~~ ^{workers} are eating their hearts out in idleness.

Gas and oil have replaced coal in many industries.

Automation and technological progress have made it
possible for one man today to mine five times as much
coal as 70 years ago. The decline of this great
industry has blighted your state's economy. Here are
the figures.

The US Department of Labor listed 172 areas of
chronic labor surplus in the United States in
November, 1959. Of these 18 are in West Virginia.

Some 13% of the state's workers - 85,000 men and women - are unemployed. Here in Huntington, one man in every eight is looking for a job. Logan has 19%, Bluefield 21%, and Beckley 29% unemployed.

Yes, and there are counties where the figure reaches 40%.

Why is this? The decline of the coal industry is only part of the answer. A larger part lies in the shameful decline in our national concern for human values during these past seven years.

The days of the New Deal and the Fair Deal are past. To borrow a phrase from our teen-agers, what we have now is the Big Deal. If you're a Big Dealer, you can sit in the Cabinet or even play golf

with the President at Augusta. If you work for
a living - or, worse still, are seeking the
opportunity to work for a living - you get the
short end of the stick.

The small-minded men in Washington worship
the Federal Budget like a new golden calf, and
daily sacrifice the welfare of our people to it.

They see our agricultural abundance as "a problem
of surplus", not an opportunity to help hungry people.

They even resent the stubborn tendency of our
economy to grow! Whenever it shows signs of
expanding at the old-fashioned Democratic rate of
5% a year, they get out the fire hose and damp it
down with their tight-money, high-interest-rate
policies.

Economic
Expansion

✓ We had a Marshall Plan to aid the war-stricken
countries in Europe. I say to you that it's high
time we had a Marshall Plan to aid our own people,
right here in West Virginia.

The Marshall Plan depended for its success on
two dynamic factors - bold and imaginative statesmanship
in Washington and the readiness of the European
leaders to pick up the ball and carry it through.

✓ We can put these same two factors to work for
West Virginia. You have able Democratic candidates
for the governorship. One of them will be sitting
in the Governor's chair in Charleston next January.
I am sure that one of his first actions will be to
bring the leaders of business, labor, and agriculture

together in conference to fashion a program for
West Virginia's revival.

I'll do my level best to be on hand in the White
House, ready and able to help. In fact, I've already
been hard at work at what I call the eight-point
Humphrey Blueprint for Action. ||

1. First and foremost, I'm pushing for
policies which will step up our economic growth
from the GOP crawl of 2% a year to a dynamic
Democratic thrust of 5%.

He ~~Interest~~
not

2. Second, I'm urging passage of the Area
Redevelopment Act in this session of Congress. Both
the House and the Senate passed such a bill in 1958,
but the President vetoed it.

3. Third, I'm seeking the establishment of
a Coal Research and Development Commission to seek
new uses for your basic natural resource. This
the President vetoed last year.

*your
Senators*

4. Fourth, we need a coordinated municipal,
state, and Federal program to improve public
facilities and highways, so that industry will be
attracted here.

Hi way

5. Fifth, we need more effective legislation
to direct Federal agencies, and particularly the
Department of Defense, to channel government
procurement into areas of chronic unemployment.

*Dept
Def
ense*

Your able Senators, Robert Byrd and Jennings Randolph,
and I are co-sponsors of a bill to establish a

Senate Committee to study the impact of defense procurement on our national economy.

6. Sixth, we should have a Youth Conservation Corps, to give unemployed young people the opportunity for healthy and constructive work. I want to thank Senator Randolph for his fine work, both in committee and on the floor, in securing Senate approval for my bill on this subject.

7. Seventh, we should clear away the road-blocks between the abundance of our Midwestern farms and the hunger of so many West Virginia families - and particularly - the biggest roadblock of all, Ezra Taft Benson. Last year I pushed legislation through Congress authorizing Benson to establish a Food Stamp Plan. I find it really incredible that he has failed

to do so. I have put in a bill this year directing the Government to act, and taking the program right out of Benson's hands to make sure than hungry people do get the feed.

8. Eighth, we should have a standby program of public works, to be triggered automatically any time an area or a community has unemployment in excess of 8% for 15 weeks or longer.

✓ We have the opportunity, with your help. to fashion a real working partnership between Charleston and Washington. We need in both capitals government with a head and a heart.

✓ I know the problems of your people. I know poverty and the soul-destroying ordeal of unemployment. These are lessons which only experience can teach. It is time we had in the high places of government men who have had this

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experience and have not forgotten it.

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