

From the Office of
Citizens for Humphrey Committee
1625 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota
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For Immediate Release:
August 25, 1960

SENATOR HUMPHREY TO RETURN FROM CONGRESS FOR 9TH DISTRICT TOUR

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey will return from Congress this weekend to spend Monday and Tuesday touring in the Ninth Congressional District.

Senator Humphrey will speak Monday night at a Humphrey-Wiseth bean feed rally in Detroit Lakes, supporting the candidacy of State Senator Roy Wiseth as the DFL-endorsed candidate for Congress from the 9th District.

After the Detroit Lakes rally, Senator Humphrey will go to Moorhead for the night, and participate in a breakfast meeting and press conference there the next morning. He will then drive to Ada for a coffee hour visit with Ada businessmen and farm people from the surrounding area at 10 a.m., after which he will continue on to Crookston with a brief handshaking stop in Baltrami.

At Crookston Senator Humphrey will be honored at a noon luncheon, where he will discuss issues that have been before the present session of Congress.

From Crookston he will go to Fergus Falls, where he will address a "Meet the Candidates" dinner sponsored by the Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce, then visit the Ottertail County Fair where he will speak in front of the grandstand crowd at 8 p.m. as part of the fair program.

Gov Freeman - Conrad Hammer

Roy Wiseth

THE FAMILY FARM - AMERICA'S CORE OF STRENGTH
EXCERPTS FROM AN ADDRESS BY
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
AT THE
HUMPHREY-WISETH BEAN FEED RALLY
DETROIT LAKES, MINNESOTA
MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1960, 6:30 P.M.

Frank Serke

Paul
Hammann
Art Carlson

Barney Allen

Grant Johnson Supt

Mayor
Pharmacist
Johnson

Rev Harris

Tonight I want to make one point clear. I believe in the greatness of America. I believe that our potential to secure prosperity at home and to do good for mankind is unbounded. I believe that the natural wealth in our lands, the skills of our people and the wisdom of our Nation can be blended into a destiny of enduring prosperity, enduring strength, enduring peace.

Tonight I want to turn away from the laments about lagging behind the Russians, away from the whines about weaknesses of America.

Tonight I want to talk about America's strength.

normally
Recreation y. CC
Welfare - medical
educ - 2nd

Farmers for
Humphrey
(Platform
Educ of Kennedy)

Our Nation is strong for many reasons. Our defense force gives us strength. Our tradition of democracy and liberty gives us strength. Our natural resources give us strength. Our diverse skills, our science, our technology give us strength. *Our Faith in God!*

But let us look more deeply into the American Nation for the source of her strength. Where ~~do we~~ *else down* find it?

~~I say~~ Right here! I say that right here we have the core of America's strength, we have the ingredient for America's greatness, we have the key to the goal of an America which stands as the noblest example to the world's new nations.

Right here - in this State, in this county, and represented in this auditorium - we have the family farm *and the local community!*
America would not be strong today, my friends, if we had not developed a free-enterprise, family

farm system of agriculture.

That system has been the basis of all our agricultural progress. It has sparked the westward movement and the pioneering of new American lands.

It has built up the towns and the cities of America.

It has sustained and nourished the American principle of free enterprise.

Today the family farm is a firm foundation of our expanding industrial economy. It is the source of an abundant food and fiber supply necessary for our increasing population, necessary for our efforts to feed the hungry at home and throughout the world, necessary as a defensive advantage against Khrushchev's inadequate food supply in the Soviet Union.

Finally, the family farm is the key to good community life in our Nation. It builds in farm family members attitudes of self-reliance, social responsibility, individual initiative, tolerance, and self-government - attitudes which strengthen sound and progressive democracy.

For any one of these reasons, I would say the American family farm pattern should be preserved.

For all of these reasons, I say the family farm must be preserved.

But there are many who say that the family farm is an old-fashioned and inefficient way of producing food and fiber. They say that there is "no need" to preserve the family farm.

I say there is no need to corporatize or collectivize American agriculture. Family farmers themselves have learned to work together in true democratic tradition. They have developed their own extension of the free-enterprise system in farmer-owned, farmer-controlled cooperative marketing and supply enterprises. This is the reasonable and effective way of preserving individuality and the means to compete in an economy of bigness.

Farm cooperatives are the free world's answer to collective agriculture of the Soviet Union - and a far more successful answer. They are a powerful

example to the world of how free men, working together, can develop democratic institutions that far surpass government-dominated collectivization for efficiency.

Farm co-ops must be recognized as a vital part of our free enterprise system. And they must be zealously guarded and protected along with the family farm system which they serve so effectively.

My convictions about the family farm system and farm co-operatives are deeply held - born of first-hand observation and experience as well as study.

^{yes}
~~Thus~~ I am deeply concerned about the plight of family farmers today. I am shocked by the steady downward trend of farm income. I am angered by the indifference of so many in government and throughout the Nation to the problems on the family farms.

You know the problems. Your pocketbooks and your deflated bank accounts, your higher mortgage indebtedness and high interest rate burden, tell you

more dramatically than any political speaker could tell you how seriously our farm economy has been hurt in these last seven lean years.

The farm auction list in any rural area newspaper tells you as dramatically as I could tell you about our dwindling farm population being squeezed off the land by economic hardship.

You know better than most how strongly I feel on key farm issues. You know the long, consistent fight I have carried on in your behalf. You know it has been a constructive fight, not just a negative fight - you know that I have continually offered new legislation of my own, and worked to mobilize support behind it, rather than just criticize the failures of others.

*My
Proposals
not just
criticism*

I am confident family farmers want such representation in Washington. *Boz Weeseth*

They want someone concerned about the basic trends in the farming pattern of our country.

They want someone who has taken the time to study and understand the fundamental role of food in our economy, and the strength which widely dispersed farm ownership provides for our free enterprise democratic way of life. (*Weeseth*)

They want someone who shares their own concern over the future for young people in agriculture, and someone who can help convince the non-farm people of our nation of their stake in a strong agricultural economy.

They want someone with the imagination and courage to create and try new approaches to achieve

our common objectives - and with a determination to find solutions.

Make no mistake about it: better solutions can be found, and must be found, to the complex economic and social problems confronting rural America and its currently depressed economy. Solutions can be found that are far more in the national interest, and far less costly to taxpayers.

The present mess is inexcusable. A government that cannot find better ways to provide economic justice for its own agricultural producers appears ridiculous in trying to assume world leadership, in telling other nations how to conduct their affairs.

For example, a nation that cannot figure out what to do with undistributed abundance in a world

of the hungry hardly seems qualified to be competing in a race into outer space.

Enough constructive legislation has been presented to Congress in the past few years to turn the tide of American agriculture upward - but it can never become law over a Presidential veto.

need
President

Enough legislative authority is on the books now to bolster the farm economy, if we had a Secretary of Agriculture willing to use his power effectively.

I can no longer accept as true the premise that this struggle is merely over differences as to how we can best achieve the same objectives for farm people.

If we really were in accord on the purpose and objectives of farm policy in this country, reasonable men of good will long ago would have resolved such

differences out of the experience of trial and error in the last two decades.

The fact that it has been impossible to do so brings us face to face with the inescapable conclusion that much more is involved than the best methods to achieve common objectives.

h The truth is that behind all the smokescreen camouflage we are getting from high places, fundamental differences do exist over the objectives themselves - over the pattern of agriculture we should have in America.

And until we flush those differences out into the open, and discuss them frankly, we will remain bogged down on farm policy progress.

The real issue is the right to economic survival of America's traditional family farm pattern of agriculture - the most efficient the world has ever known and a solid bulwark of our free-enterprise democracy.

This is what is at stake: America's independently operated free enterprise agriculture - the owner-operated family farm, where managerial skills, capital investment and actual labor are combined, where ownership carries with it an inherent pride in the care and conservation of our productive resources, where human and social values of rural community life are not subjected to mere material values of a soul-less corporation.

We are being led down a path that threatens this fundamental, basic American pattern with extinction.

We hear less and less concern about perpetuating our family farming pattern, and more and more about giving way to the pressures of mass operations.

We hear more emphasis on mere bigness and so-called efficiency, and less on human values and social problems of rural living.

↳ So-called bigness is not necessarily goodness.

So-called efficiency is not always decency and fair play.

↳ I am against collectivization of our agriculture - either by the Soviet pattern, or the corporate pattern of absentee ownership.

I challenge the current school of thought that bigness may be the answer. Currently the efficiency factor of mass corporate farming activities is essentially cheap labor - just as it once was in the sweat shops of our industries.

I cannot conceive of a permanent, peasant-class "cheap labor" force as the source of our nation's food supply, and the custodian of our productive resources. It would be a dangerous backward step in America's social progress, inviting the seeds of social unrest and revolution. At the very minimum, it would create the necessity of farm workers organizing to bargain collectively for decent pay, eventually wiping out the supposed efficiency factor of cheap labor and at the same time endangering the assured flow of food abundance we Americans now take for granted.

 No one can convince me, for example, that the nation's consumers can ever be as well protected by having productive resources concentrated in the hands

of a few giant corporations as they are today with the widely dispersed ownership of the source of our food and fiber supplies.

No one can convince me, either, that we are really more efficient if we separate capital, managerial skills, and labor into three classes in agriculture - instead of having them all combined in the family farm unit.

None of us wants to perpetuate inefficiency, or tie farmers to units too small to be economically practical. Yet, there is a distinct line between improving the efficiency of family farmers and increasing their opportunities to make family farming profitable, on the one hand, and abandoning the family operated farm concept to be replaced by large-scale industrialized farming operations with absentee-ownership and hired labor on the other.

Serious questions of public policy are involved, if we are to cross that line.

It is not a change of direction toward which we should be allowed to drift or to be pushed, without knowing fully the consequences.

It isn't just the farmer who should be concerned. It is every consumer in America. It is every believer in real competitive free enterprise. It is every American wanting to see democracy succeed in the world.

For my part, my faith is still strong in the pattern of agriculture which has made America strong, and my faith remains unchanged in the objectives under which American agriculture has contributed so much to our economy.

Family farming is the right pattern for our democracy. It is right for the farmers, and in the

best interest of the rest of our country.

But even more, it offers a ray of hope to much of the rest of the world.

As seriously concerned as we all are with our domestic problems in agriculture, the gravest problem of our time is war or peace in the world.

Everything we as a nation do, or fail to do, has an influence on the world's destiny for generations to come - perhaps even on our own survival.

Too little attention is given by our foreign
policy experts to the real role of agriculture in
creating a just and lasting peace.

At long last, we are making some progress in winning recognition of how powerful a force for peace
and freedom our undistributed abundance of food and

fiber can be, when converted into economic development and elimination of hunger, disease and misery in vast areas of the world.

Yet an even more significant contribution is being ignored.

What America's foreign policy needs is a dramatic symbol - a symbol of hope to newly created nations, a symbol of democracy's effective answer to Soviet propaganda.

What more dramatic symbol, what more effective ray of hope, can we offer the uncommitted nations of the world than the example of America's free enterprise family farming system, where farmers own their own land - and have a decent opportunity to share equitably in returns from the produce of their soil and their labor?

How we take care of our own farmers, and our own system of farming, can have a profound effect on the struggle now under way in the world.

Perhaps there would be no Castro in Cuba today, if we had encouraged family farm ownership, and farm cooperatives - instead of backing a status quo of corporate bigness in farming operations that exploited the Cuban workers.

Other areas of the world are revolting against exploitation by bigness, and insisting upon opportunity for individual independence and dignity.

We have in our grasp the opportunity to lead them by our example, to prove democracy's effectiveness in offering equal opportunity for all.

Let me conclude on this note:

Perhaps some will say that I have offered too little, today, in the way of specific suggestions to correct our farm plight.

But to you and me, the specifics are the easiest part of it - if we can create a real understanding in the nation as to the fundamental objectives we seek to achieve - and must achieve.

Those objectives are fourfold:

1. To assure the American people continued abundance of food and fiber.
2. To offer America's farmers an opportunity to achieve economic equality with other segments of our citizens.
3. To preserve and protect America's traditional pattern of family-owned, family-operated farms

as the type of agriculture best adapted to our democratic way of life, and to encourage farm cooperatives as a democratic extension of the free enterprise system to serve farm families.

4. To make greater use of America's undistributed abundance as a force for peace and freedom in a world of the hungry, and hold forth the American pattern of family-owned and family-operated farms as a ray of hope to the millions of struggling peasants in the underdeveloped areas of the world.

Those are the goals. They cannot be achieved without dedicated work in Washington. I pledge myself to the task.



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