

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

TESTIMONIAL DINNER

MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

DECEMBER 2, 1965

Tonight we honor three of Montana's most important natural resources: Mike Mansfield, Lee Metcalf and Arnold Olsen.

I have come to Great Falls not only to join in your salute to these fine Democratic leaders, but to tell you that the air is crisp and clear all across America these days. ✓

And, my friends, the weather reflects the mood of our people.

We Americans are on the move!
We are getting things done!

We Americans are on the move. We are getting things done.

Montana is sharing in this new progress.

You have added 2,200 miles of new roadways, built more than twenty new post offices, started construction on Libby Dam, built new water and sanitation systems in outlying communities.

Malmstrom Here in Great Falls, Malmstrom Air Force Base is not only an important source of local revenue, but an important link in our overall national defense. And only a few blocks from here are the offices of Opportunity Inc. Inc., working in conjunction with the Office of Economic Opportunity to bring new progress to all areas of this state.

Recently, an advanced research project of the Department of Defense -- a 10 million dollar facility --

was announced for Billings.

Did you know this?: for every dollar of federal tax money your state sends to Washington, it gets back two dollars and forty-seven cents. *not bad!*

The war on poverty is now underway in 18 Montana counties and the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation.

Community Action programs were started within the first year of the national program. This year, some 600,000 dollars was made available to Montana communities.

Educ You in Montana are generous with your schools. For every one thousand dollars of personal income, you spend one hundred and seventy-seven dollars. (The national average is one hundred and forty dollars). *8/44*

This Administration is also helping you maintain a good educational system for all the children of this state.

Under the new Elementary and Secondary Education Act, you will receive more than 4-1/2 million dollars next year.

Much of this amount will help 15,000 youngsters from needy families. And under the Higher Education Act,

Montana colleges and universities will receive more than two million dollars in 1966. *\$2,000,000*

Montana has received 79 grants for ^{water} pollution abatement that will benefit one out of every two of your citizens. All

told, 1,082 miles of Montana streams will be cleaned up.

And our new Farm Bill will mean additional income to Montana wheat growers. *\$11,000,000 Mon.*

We have learned much since the years of the Great Depression about the relationship of the federal government to its citizens. We have demonstrated that depressions can be averted, poverty reduced, and the rate of economic growth kept high.

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✓ We have demonstrated that the federal government can work cooperatively with state and local governments as well as with private and public non-governmental agencies -- with business and labor, farmers and conservationists -- to fully develop America's human, material and natural resources.

Wright

✓ We are now in the ~~57~~th consecutive month of economic expansion. This period of prosperity is the longest -- and the strongest -- in American history.

✓ There are now 76 million Americans in the labor force, and unemployment is at its lowest level in eight years.

76 million

✓ We are a young and dynamic and progressive people. We look to the future, not the past.

7/13

"We must move forward
with strong and active faith"

-6-

~~We Democrats~~, ^{we} under the leadership of President Johnson, are embarked on one of the great adventures in our history -- to realize a Great Society that will expand the horizons of our freedom and opportunity.

↳ The heart of the Great Society is based on the Jeffersonian belief that "the care of human life and happiness is the first and only legitimate object of good government."

Jefferson

We are building not a welfare state, but a state of opportunity.

↳ We are making basic, long-term investments in our most important national resource: the American people.

↳ Under the leadership of President Johnson -- and Mike Mansfield and Speaker McCormack -- the 89th Congress has achieved the greatest legislative record in history.

People
89th

Agrie
L We are bringing to rural America the 1965 farm bill, the strongest and most substantial in our history.

This bill provides for a four-year farm program -- the longest in the history of farm legislation -- to achieve stability in the farm economy. ~~This bill~~ ^{It} will increase

\$11 million more in meat
income for wheat farmers, livestock and feed grain farmers and dairy farmers. It will enable our farmers to arrange

less expensive long-term credit for the purchase of needed equipment. *sun met calf, manful* I am proud to say that, Congressman Arnold

Olson helped lead the fight to get this bill enacted.

Educ
L We have enacted important legislation to meet the needs of 47 million youngsters now in elementary and secondary schools. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Vocational Education Amendments, the Manpower Training and Development Act, the Higher Education Act,

the Teaching Professions Act is a bold effort to give each child a strong start in life . . . and the knowledge to live in a complex world.

Medicare
We have brought new progress to our 19 million senior citizens. Congress has passed Medicare -- an historic bill, co-sponsored by Senator Lee Metcalf. And we have extended Social Security benefits to provide a seven per cent increase, averaging four dollars a month, in old age and survivors benefits.

Health
We have also passed the Heart Disease, Cancer and Stroke ~~Amendment~~ Act, creating a five-year program of grants to medical centers for research against these killer diseases.

This Congress has also enacted legislation to help all sections of our country develop their economic potential and participate in the mainstream of our vigorous economy.

We now have on the books the Appalachia Regional Development program to help 15 million persons in a region long suffering and long neglected . . . a three year extension of the Manpower Development and Training program to teach new job skills to a half million jobless workers . . . and the Public Works and Economic Development Act to provide economic and technical assistance for depressed communities.

We have also doubled our investment in the Economic Opportunity program to help hundreds of communities to organize their own wars on poverty, and encourage the poor to mobilize for their own help.

This Congress will also be remembered for the voting rights law. President Johnson has said that "all Americans must have the privileges of citizenship regardless of race." The Voting Rights Act keeps promises made one hundred years ago.

Agrie Lee Metcalf
make-armed down 10 -

Agrie - 4yr
wheat-montana
\$11,000,000

This Congress passed legislation to keep our economy strong -- and to maintain our commitments to national security and international citizenship.

Education
Elementary
Higher
Voc
manpower
training

This Congress is also working to keep the American countryside a mosaic of unspoiled mountains, forests and prairies. Last year 178,000 acres were protected against

Medicare

wetland destruction, nine million acres of National Forest wilderness were set aside to preserve its natural state for

Soc. Sec
7% increase

public enjoyment . . . and nine new wildlife refuges were activated.

Heart cancer stroke

All told, this Congress has passed some one hundred pieces of major legislation.

War on Poverty

We are building an America -- strong and free -- to carry burdens at home and in the world. We have not chosen our burdens, they have chosen us.

Economic Develop
act

If nothing else, this nuclear age has taught us that man cannot be separated from his fellow man.

Voting R/S

What is the reality of our time?

It is this: For the first time in human history, man possesses the power to totally destroy himself.

It is equally this: For the first time in human history, man possesses the wealth and knowledge to extend mankind's benefits to all mankind.

Ours is the responsibility to continue our nation on its path toward creation of a society of true justice and full opportunity.

Ours is the responsibility to, increasingly, extend to our fellow men the helping hand which will lift them, too, toward a life of choice and of abundance.

Ours is the responsibility, above all, to pursue the peace.

For, today and tomorrow, peace is synonymous with life. The pursuit of peace is a task for generations.

The pursuit of peace means aiding the victim against the aggressor, lest that aggressor feed his ambition and take a fatal second step.

The pursuit of peace means practicing democracy as well as preaching it.

We are determined that freedom's holy light shall never be the light that failed. And we are equally determined that we shall will to our children a better world than the one willed to us.

We can create in America our state of opportunity. We can right old wrongs and build a tomorrow better than today.

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It has been said that society is produced by our wants, and government by our hopes.

We Democrats share the hopes of our people. Let us make those hopes a reality.

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VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY - SPEECH

Great Falls, Montana

December 2, 1965

Thank you very much my good friend Lee Metcalf. Here's Hubert. I want you to know, as a matter of fact I just jotted down a note a moment ago, Lee, just to say to you, "Lee, I finally made it." Because for better than a year Lee Metcalf and Hubert Humphrey have been talking about this dinner and this get-together out here in Great Falls, Montana.

Bishop Sterling and Bishop Schuster, the members of the Democratic Committee and the many fine Democrats that have worked so hard to make this dinner a reality; Gene Daly, that has been a toastmaster second-to-none. He's really great, I'll tell you. And James Paul to whom we've already paid his well deserved tribute - I might say - for this great dinner; Fred Barrett, who is proving himself already to be a great State Chairman. He's making short speeches and getting right on with the job, and Joe Rutan, who is your County chairman here, and Mrs. Frances Logan, and my old friend here, Leif Erickson.

You know, by the way, it has been quite an argument going on who discovered America and I want to tell you it just depends upon where I am as to what I'm saying. I'm sort of like that old school teacher that needed a job pretty bad and the school board called this teacher in and said, "Now we've got a school board here that is pretty well divided." He said, "Some of the school board feels that you ought to teach geography as the world is round and some of them feel you ought to teach geography as if the world is flat. Now what is your response?"

She said, "I can teach it either way."

Well there are so many I should like to pay my respects to. I looked over here and saw my old friend Leo. It's sure great to see you again. And Johnny Mahan out here and many others. We're going to take Johnny down to Washington. Going to make a first-class bureaucrat out

of him right quick. Truth is he's going to serve on a very important committee and we're delighted--or I should say agency--and we are just so pleased that he is appointed by our President to be a part of this Johnson Administration. And I know you are pleased, too.

May I just take a moment to thank the wonderful Delphian Choir for their fine music. And it's just so nice to have these young people here. When I walked into this hotel this evening I saw three or four beautiful young ladies. Muriel grabbed me by the arm quickly while I was shaking hands and they were young Democrats. My goodness, with young ladies like that every man in the state ought to join the party. Out at the airport we had two high school bands to greet us there and many of your townspeople and many people from all over the State of Montana. We had the fine welcoming committee and I just can't tell you how much it means to Muriel and Hubert Humphrey to have this kind of friendly reception. After all we are just midwesterners and we are just people and folks. You just can't help but feel good when people want to see you. And show, or at least pretend that they do and you sure did a good job of it. You made us feel mighty well.

Well, well I notice everybody was in character tonight. That short telegram from Mike Mansfield and that rather -- should I say extended message-- from my old friend Arnie Olsen. I want you to know that it is no lie as I was listening to Arnie's telegram I just took page one, page two, page three, right out of my speech. It only proves that Arnold's awfully smart. He was going to say the same thing I was.

I consider Arnold Olsen one of the finest members of Congress and I just wish so much that he could be here with us tonight but I am delighted he sent us that telegram and you just make sure that you re-elect him, will you?

It's been some time since we've been back in Great Falls. I

remember coming here---I believe it was in the cold winter of nineteen hundred and sixty. But it was a very friendly reception. Last October I stood out at the airport at Glasgow, Montana. They blew away the air base there and practically half of the group that was in my plane but we did all right. I gather they--no matter how much wind there was either coming out of the sky or out of the candidates, we got the votes. And I can remember visiting your state legislature at Helena and being over at Billings and Butte, these wonderful great cities of Montana---this large state. I believe it's the fourth largest state in our union. This great state that has such a promise for the future, such tremendous achievement in these recent days. It thrills us to be with you. I just couldn't be happier than to be here with you tonight unless I were home with our four granddaughters. That's the only thing that could make me happier. Now you know when Lee was getting that big hand of applause from all of you and richly deserved, this good and wonderful senator, I heard him say to me, he said, "Hey, look at there, Hubert, Donna isn't clapping." And she says, "I don't have to, I know he's good." And I know he is, too. And I just want to say right now that the state of Montana has two of the greatest, the most able, the most dedicated, the most progressive, and yet the most constructive United States senators of any state in the union.

There isn't any doubt in my mind what's going to happen out here in 1966, not one bit. And I'm not going to say to you like Harry Truman used to say. You know he'd just tell you if you don't do this and do that why you know what you can do. I just sort of paraphrased that you see. Because no one could do it like Mr. Truman. But I want to say right now that if the people of this state are as intelligent and as judicious and as wise as I know them to be and think them to be they're going to give Lee Metcalf a majority that will stand as one of the record majorities of any candidate in the history of Montana.

Yes, I came out here to speak a little about your natural resources, and I want to say a word of tribute to three of Montana's most important natural resources: Mike Mansfield, Lee Metcalf and Arnold Olsen. None better than that. Oh, I know you have every right to be proud of your minerals and your waters and your mountains and your lands and your agriculture and your industries. But when you get right down to it what makes a state great? It's people. And the three men that I have mentioned here are people that represent the greatness of this state and I come here to Great Falls, Montana, tonight not just to flatter because that is unnecessary. I come here to pay respect and tribute to men that are helping to build the United States of America as the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

You know we've had a wonderful day. Muriel and I started out early this morning out of Washington D. C., and I went to Richmond, Virginia, where we addressed---where it was my privilege to address the southern conference of colleges and universities. A great educational conference. There must have been 1,500 to 2,000 educators, students and business people deeply interested in education. Eleven southern states present at that conference. A little later after that conference and it was a wonderful meeting we journeyed to Denver, Colorado, where I met with a goodly number of fine Democrats. Oh, it was an uplifting experience I must say. And I might say also it was a bit of a touching experience because we touched them up a little bit for some contributions to the good old national committee, meeting with the presidents' club. Can you ever forget those remarks of our late and beloved President Kennedy when he came into a great banquet hall one night and there were literally thousands of people. They'd all paid \$100 a plate to come to that dinner and he said to them in these words, "I'm deeply touched by what I see here tonight but I gather you were touched a little earlier than I was."

Well, I did a little of that in Denver and had a fine and wonderful visit with many of the good people there, meeting with some of the young people of that community --- some of the volunteers for the VISTA program, this is Volunteers in Service to America, young men and women who are giving of their lives to help the needy. And as we traveled across this great land of ours the air has been crisp and it's been clear. Just sort of like Democrats, you know. Just felt that way, and I want to tell you that this weather we've experience and the weather that we've found here reflects the mood and the people of this country. The people are strong. The people are good. The people are healthy. The people are optimistic. And the people of this land are unafraid. What a rare and wonderful privilege it is my dear fellow Americans to be Vice President of the United States and to know that you represent the people that I have spoken of, the greatest people on the face of the earth.

I suppose every message ought to have a text and sometimes when I've been at my church the minister, the pastor, has selected not only one but two. I do the same tonight.

My first vote was cast in 1932 for Franklin Delano Roosevelt. I can't forget that, that was a great privilege. Those were very historic and dramatic and yet painful days. Franklin Roosevelt, one of the great leaders of our nation, of the world, a man who helped us fight our way out of the depression, gave us leadership, a man who was the commander-in-chief of the greatest armies that the world has ever known and the greatest victory on the battlefield that any nation has ever known. Franklin Roosevelt truly a casualty, as much as any man that was shot down in the field of battle and I'm sure you remember, as I do now, that scene at Warm Springs, Georgia, in April of 1945 when our beloved late President Franklin Roosevelt was trying to regain his health, tired and

weary, the victim of fatigue an unbelievable commitment of his life to the welfare of this nation and the world. And as he sat there he was writing the Jefferson Day message, and as he was writing that message he slumped over in his chair and his secretary came and tried to arouse him and he was gone. And the pen fell from his hand into the dirt and as she looked down on the paper these words were penned, "the only limits to our tomorrows are the doubts of our today. We must move forward with a strong and an active faith." If ever there was a testament for Americans that is it.

The only limit on tomorrow or the tomorrows, the only limit is our doubt of today. Any hesitation, any doubt that we have. And then he said we must move forward. He didn't say we ought to, that we should or maybe we will, he said we must move forward, and how. Not just hoping or just wishing or possibly accidentally. No, we must move forward with a strong and an active faith. I think it sums up everything that we're trying to do and it sums up the method with which we approach our problems of today and our challenges.

This is the very same man that inspired our present president--- the man that President Lyndon Johnson looks to as his inspiration and as his political hero was the man that helped Lyndon Johnson when he was but a young man. And that man was the late President Franklin Roosevelt. And I believe that what President Lyndon Johnson is doing today in his effort to build in this country or to ask you to help him build the Great Society is to carry on the unfinished work of Franklin Roosevelt, yes of Harry Truman and you and I know the unfinished work of our late beloved president John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

We're really living in an exciting time. I know many people think that it is a little bit more than they can bear. Every once in a while you find somebody that shouts, "Stop the world I want to get off."

Just tell them to wait awhile there's going to be a chance for some people to get into some capsules and even leave this world. We're going to have two of them do it on Saturday, but they'll come back. But the truth is that we're going to be right here on this earth and this is where we're going to make the Great Society, right here on this earth and this is, I think, one of the greatest adventures in our history. Because the wonderful thing about a democracy is it's never completed. Every generation has its own challenges. Every people, every age group has its own contribution to make and even though we may think that we live in the best of days there will be yet better days. I tell young people when I speak to them, and I love to talk to them, I say, "Look there's always somebody coming to you telling you about the good old days. I'm here to tell you there were none as good as this one right now."

Isn't this just about the best night you've ever had as Democrats?

And possibly more importantly, there isn't anything we can do about the yesterdays. They are gone. What's really important is what we do about this hour, this evening, this day and what plans we have for tomorrow. So as we speak of the Great Society then we speak of an adventure in tomorrow and we seek to realize the kind of a society that will expand the horizons of our freedom and our opportunity. Now if somebody should ask you what is the one word that will fully characterize the Johnson administration, I want to give it to you. That one word is "Opportunity". We're doing our level best to remove the roadblocks in the pathways of opportunity. We're doing our level best, each and everyone of us in our own way to open up those gates of opportunity and to try to strengthen the people that are on that roadway and behind those gates, to strengthen them in every way so that they can move down the pathway of opportunity. Now some people may not

take advantage of it but I think it is our duty to see that they have the chance, and this is what we are seeking to do.

The heart of the Great Society is based on a Jeffersonian principle and this is the second bit of testament that I should like to read. Thomas Jefferson said, that the care of human life and happiness is the first and the only legitimate object of good government. Now you add that up to what Franklin Roosevelt said that we must move forward with a strong and an active faith and you'll see that we move forward for the purpose of the care of human life and happiness because this is the first and the only legitimate object of good government.

So as a Democrat, I have no apologies to make now or in the future for the efforts that our party has made to extend more of the blessings of the good life to more and more people. I'm proud of the record. I'm proud of the record of our party. I'm proud, may I say in a humble way and yet in a most grateful way, not only for the record of those that have been our elected leaders but even for that one who in 1952 and 1956, while not winning an election, won the hearts and the respect of the American people---the late, beloved Adlai Stevenson. You see what we're doing is we're not building a welfare state where everything is just a handout or where you just reach up and pluck it off the trees, that isn't what we're trying to do because we're too vigorous a people. We're too vital. We're too competitive for that. We're the kind of people that want to do things. We're on the move. So it is not a welfare state that we seek to build but a state of opportunity. As I said a moment ago, where we can do things ourselves and we're making some basic long-run and long-term investments in our most important natural resource.

I mentioned the three great natural resources you had here in your two senators and your congressman and I'll tell you that the greatest

national and natural resource that this nation has is its people, the American people. It was Woodrow Wilson who once said that America is not as rich as the money in its banks or the stock of its corporations or the income of its industries. America is as strong and as rich as its people. Its people educated, its people with faith in democracy. And under the leadership of this President of ours, a President who knows how to get things done, and under the leadership of the majority leader of the United States Senate, Mike Mansfield, and under the leadership of that great Speaker of the House of Representatives John McCormick, I submit that the 89th Congress has achieved the greatest legislative record in the history of this republic. And one of the builders of that record is right here. Right here in your Senator Lee Metcalf. We've demonstrated that there can be a working partnership in this country. We've demonstrated that the federal government, which is your government, the government that Lincoln characterized "of the people, by the people and for the people" that that government can work with state government and with local government and with the private sector and with the voluntary non-governmental agencies---that it can work with business and labor and farmers and conservationists to fully develop America's human material and natural resources and this is what we are trying to do. As I spoke to those educators this morning I reminded them once again that the real wealth of America is its intellectual wealth. The real power of America is its brain power and its spiritual power. If you have spirit and faith, if you have intellect and understanding and knowledge, you can build anything and we are building on that basis today. We can be mighty happy tonight. This is the Christmas season that is about to come upon us. It's a time for rejoicing. It should be a very wonderful period of happiness and it ought to be a continuation of the spirit of Thanksgiving. We're in our 58th consecutive month now of economic growth

and expansion and ~~dnn~~'t take it for granted. Don't think that this is just an accident, that somehow or other it just came along with the seasons because the fact is that never before has any modern industrial nation known this long a period of sustained economic growth. The fact is, never has the United States of America had such a long uninterrupted program or process of economic expansion and growth. In one year, in one year the stock market values alone under the administration of President Lyndon Johnson has increased 200 billion dollars. That's no small sum. Two hundred billions of dollars. Our gross national product has gone up from approximately 500 billion in 1961 to over 600 and 50 billion in 1965. And by the end of 1966 and into the first half of 1967 it is estimated that the gross national product, the value of goods and services produced in this country, will be 700 billions of dollars. This is an amazing record. And, how did it happen? It happened because you've had presidents--and by the way just let me take you back to get the proper perspective--from 1952 to 1963----recessions. You remember 1960 in Montana? I think your miners do; I think your farmers do; I think your bankers do; I think your retail merchants do. Unemployment. Recession. Doubt. Worry. Concern. And since 1961 every single year better. Unemployment today is the lowest its been in better than eight years. Seventy-six million people in our gainfully employed industrial labor force, seven and a half million more today employed than four years ago. And profits, dividends and wages, without burdening you with details of statistics, at an all-time high. Investment that makes for jobs at an all-time high and the prediction for next year---1966---as good or better than this year. And why? Because in the White House and in the leadership of the Congress are people who have placed their faith in this country and its people, who have opened up the gates of

the dynamism of our system and our economy. We've reduced taxes--- even this year again, income taxes, personal and corporate, investment tax credit, new depreciation schedules so that the businessman and the investor and the corporate director could modernize his plant. And what has it meant? The release of unbelievable energy in our economy that has given America every month and every year since January 1961, a better account, a better record for the American people and for the free world. I think that's a good record.

Now let me just show you what you've been doing about this. You've been sharing in this a little bit in Montana. After we get through with all these generalities somebody's going to say, "All right, Mr. Vice President, that's nice to know, maybe that's what happened to you folks in Minnesota but let's hear about Montana." And that's a reasonable request. Like old Al Smith used to say, "Let's look at the record." And we can look at it and we can look the opposition right in the eye and say, "How do you like it?" And they will like it because it's good for them, too. By the way, this prosperity is universally shared. Everybody's in on it. Montana is sharing in this progress. You've added over 2,200 miles of new roadways and most of it with a generous federal assistance. You've built more than 20 new post offices. Started construction on Libby Dam. Built new water and sanitation systems in outlying communities. Here in Great Falls you have the Malmstrom Air Force Base which is not only an important source of local revenue but more importantly is an important link in our overall security and national defense. And only a few blocks from here are the offices of Opportunity, Incorporated, working in conjunction with the Office of Economic Opportunity to bring new progress to all areas of this State. Recently, Lee Metcalf informed me that an advance research project of the Department of Defense --- a 10 million dollar facility was announced

for Billings, That's not bad. How'd you get that, Lee? He's very good at it.

The war on poverty is now under way in 18 Montana counties and the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation. This year some 600-thousand dollars was made available to Montana communities in this Community Action Program of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

And here in education in Montana you can be proud of your schools because for every one-thousand dollars of personal income in your state you spend a hundred and seventy seven dollars for education. The national average is only 140 dollars out of each one thousand. You do better. And, let me tell you that will pay you dividends. There's never been a state that has become bankrupt or insolvent by investing in education. And new industry today takes a look before it ever comes to any community to take a good look at its school system---its universities, its educators. And where they find the better schools, the better teachers and the better universities that's where Mr. Big Business, that's where Mr. Corporation, comes and says "We're going to invest in this particular state because we know that there will be an intelligent labor force able to do the job of modern industry."

I'm going to talk to you a little bit about the record of this 89th Congress but one of the bills that was passed---and who do you think had about as much to do about it as anyone else? I would say the two men in the United States Senate that did the most on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act were Wayne Morse of Oregon and Lee Metcalf of Montana.

And you're going to receive in this state four and one-half million dollars under the terms of that Act for your schools. Much of this will help the 15 thousand youngsters from needy families. Operation Catchup. And under the Higher Education Act--and again, professor---

and I might add that other professor that you have here from Montana, Mike Mansfield, always has a hand in on these things--under the Higher Education Act, Montana colleges and universities will receive more than two-million dollars in new money in the year 1966. That's not bad.

Montana has received 79 grants for water pollution abatement that will benefit one out of every two of your citizens and all told there will be over a thousand miles of Montana streams that will be cleaned up. This is because there is a working partnership between the federal government and the people.

And the farm bill. Well, we're going to say a little something about that. But let me just give you one figure. There isn't any state in the Union that has a greater interest in wheat production than the State of Montana. And you produce a mighty good quality of wheat. This one farm bill, and I watched Lee Metcalf on the floor of the Senate when I presided there, fight for this farm bill--fight for the wheat farmer--fight for all farmers--that one bill will produce 11 million dollars new cash income for wheat farmers alone in the State of Montana. Yes, my friends, this Congress has been at work and some of the legislative proposals that had been sort of jammed up for better than a quarter of a century all at once came through. There was a master architect there in the White House that knew how to get things done and he had good lieutenants over in the Senate and the House of Representatives and besides that I'll tell you something else that he had. He had a comfortable working Democratic majority. Just keep it that way. That does help. That does help. Yes, this Congress has passed legislation designed to help keep our economy strong. I've mentioned some of it as it related to this State. But let me just say that everyone of us in this audience, particularly as we come into the great bread basket of America, we know that depressions are farm led and farm fed. And everyone of us knows that

every administration has been pledged to what we call parity of opportunity for rural America. And we're fast approaching that day. And no administration has done more to redeem its platform pledges than this administration. I ask any Democrat, Republican or Independent to take a look at the Democratic Platform of 1964---written in Atlantic City--you take a look at it. The promises that President Johnson and your candidate for Vice President made to you, and the promises that your Democratic Congressman and Democratic Senator candidates made to you----you take a look and you can go right down the line: Promise one - Kept! Promise two - Kept! Promise three - Kept and fulfilled! And when we're through with the Second Session of the 89th Congress we're going to have a batting average better than Willie Mays and a pitching average better than Sandy Koufax. And just to show you how loyal I am we're going to lay a couple of home runs out like Mudcat Grant did, too. Yes, I was a bit of a partisan about that World Series. I'll admit that.

You know I received a letter from a lady out in Los Angeles and she said, "Mr Vice President, I worked for you and President Johnson. I campaigned all over southern California for you and I just want to tell you something. I've been listening to you on the radio and on the television. I've been reading what you've been saying in the sport pages and I would like to remind you that you are not Vice President of Minnesota. You are Vice President of the United States". And then she said, "I am for the Los Angeles Dodgers." That was rather plain talk and I did get the message.

Well, we kept our promises to American agriculture. We passed a four-year agricultural bill and we finally have passed a measure that is designed to see that American farm products can be competitive abroad and that the farmer that produces here for our domestic economy can be paid a fair price for what is produced and consumed here at home. We've

made for better credit so that a farmer could modernize his plant. We've also provided in this farm bill for things that make up the rural life. For water systems; for electricity; for telephones. So that rural life can be even more blessed than urban life and indeed it is and can be.

Education. I told you what happened to education here in terms of these great acts for Montana. But think of it all over America. See what we're trying to do. There is no way, my dear friends, my fellow Americans, that we can be competitive in this world and be world leaders without our people being upgraded in their performance. I mentioned a moment ago these astronauts that will be put in orbit---will be launched on Saturday. And I hope and pray that that effort will be successful. Thus far, Thank God, I say reverently, we've had no accidents. Let us hope tonight that it will be a safe journey for these two brave men. These men couldn't do what they are going to do if they were just half trained. They have to be physically fit, mentally healthy. They have to be trained and educated and skilled and competent and know their business. We need every American that way today. There's one standard for America today and that's excellence. Excellence. There's only 195 million of us. There are many countries bigger. And there are countries more populated. And there are countries that are learning how to build terrific destructive weapons. And what we need on our great republic today are people who are better----better in every way, morally, spiritually, economically in terms of their knowledge, their education, their experience. And your President, your Congress and the leaders in the private sector of our American life are trying to upgrade this whole performance---this whole performance level of our people. And right in the vanguard of that effort is education. Education. We need better schools. We need more of them---elementary and secondary schools. We have in America today --- listen to this figure--- over 20 million

illiterates, 20 million illiterates in this nation. Ladies and gentlemen, an illiterate cannot communicate in modern industry. An illiterate cannot compete with automation. An illiterate is not really a fully productive citizen. at least in modern competitive industry. An illiterate cannot answer those full-page ads in the New York Times. And last Sunday there were 20 pages --- full-page ads asking for employees, competent employees. We're going to have to upgrade those 20, better than 20 million. We're going to have to provide them with the basic tools of communication---reading, writing and arithmetic and some knowledge of the world in which they live. And then we are going to have to see that they are trained with a skill that is marketable, that is needed. Why, I read here the other day where there are industrialists in Pennsylvania and Connecticut---and Muriel said to me on the plane, she said, "I just can't imagine why they are doing this," but they are---in the Wall Street Journal, in the Eastern Press, read it. Some of the great industries in the east today are talking about the importation of labor from Spain and from Turkey and from other parts of the world. They say they can't get it here. They can if we upgrade it. There are two million young men in this country between the ages of 16 and 21 that are today unemployable because they are not trained. They are not educated. They are school drop-outs and more than that they have no skill, no work discipline. This is what the War on Poverty is all about. This is what the Job Corps is about. This is what the Neighborhood Youth Corps is all about. Oh, I know you read---you read stories---you read about a Job Corps camp and you'll hear that they had some trouble, a little riot. Well, they had a riot at New Port, Rhode Island, and they weren't Job Corps boys last year either. They were the sons and daughters of the richest families in America. I'm not trying to be critical. I'm reciting a fact. They've had a few little uprisings,

may I say, and a few little tumultuous exercises around some of our college campuses, too. But I want to say this about the young men that are in the Job Corps camps. I had a man say the other day--in fact, I saw an article--it said 30 per cent enrollees drop out. I wrote him back and said, "I want to thank you for that heartening message." I guess he thought this was going to be a shocker to some of us. But, my dear friends, every boy in a Job Corps camp is a dropout before he gets there and the 70 per cent that stayed---the 70 per cent that stayed and received education had their teeth checked, a physical examination, a decent diet, somebody that gave him a decent book, taught him how to read and write, showed him how he might be able to play in modern recreation--wholesome recreation---taught him a trade, worked with an industry. That's 70 per cent. If we can rescue 50 of that 70 per cent we've made progress in America. That's what I mean about upgrading human resources. So we have elementary and higher education, secondary education, vocational education, manpower training and development. I was talking with Bob McNair, the governor of South Carolina. He told me of an experience in his state. He told me of the experience of two thousand, hard-core unemployed that had been unemployed for four years or more and were unable to get a job. So they put them into manpower training and development. They worked with industry. They went to the industries in their state and said, "Help us, teach us, tell us how to train and what to do in our training program. Make this training practical and realistic." And they put them through the manpower and training program which this senator's committee processed, which this Congress passed. And after 90 days after they had completed their job, their training--their manpower and training development course, 90 days afterwards---75 per cent of the two thousand had gainful employment. Jobs; breadwinners; paying taxes; self-sustaining citizens. It can be

done, it can be done. And we're going to see that it is done. This is our job.

And we're not going to be satisfied with little pockets of depression or recession in this country. One of the most wonderful things about America is that despite its wealth, with all of this fabulous wealth, with this incredible power that we have---and there has never been anything like it, never---that despite all of that we have a conscience. We're concerned. We still worry about, and rightly so, the fellow that didn't quite get an even break, those that were left behind. And I know many people have--oh, they have all kinds of explanations---well, they said they weren't any good, that they wouldn't work and said da-da-da. I just hear them all talk. Well, that may be true, I don't know, everybody has their own rationalization why the other fellow didn't succeed or why he didn't succeed. All I know is that there are one-fifth of the people of this nation that have an income under three thousand dollars a year in our cities and under two thousand dollars a year in our rural areas, and that is not enough. And these are the people that we call that are either on the borderline of poverty or deep in it. And we're beginning to wage war on that poverty. I don't know when we will win it. But I know that this is a war that everybody ought to be in. There isn't any room in this war for anybody to demonstrate against it. And there isn't any room in this war for conscientious objectors. The War on Poverty is one that everybody ought to have a part in because America needs every citizen that it can possibly have and needs them operating to the best of their capacity. And we're going to win that war. We're not going to try to make poverty more tolerable or respectable. We're going to try to get at the root causes. And when we do so we're going to make some mistakes and I read about it every day. Oh yes, they made a mistake, the War on Poverty. They, wasted some money here and they

wasted some there. That's what they say. Well, my dear friends, let me tell you something. We've been trying to find the answer to cancer in this country for 50 years and cancer is a killer and so is poverty. So is poverty. It kills the spirit. It leaves people hopeless and helpless and despairing. It leads them into trouble. And it leads you into trouble. But what do we do? We haven't found the answer to cancer yet. We've come close sometimes. We've had some relief. But do you go around and condemn the doctors? Say, well you're a fake? Do we tear down the laboratories and condemn the laboratory technician? Not on your life. I'll tell you what we do. Somebody gets up in Congress and says, "Let's appropriate another half a billion dollars." The medical association says we must mobilize the resources of this country and find the answer. The Vice President of the United States says to you now that we must mobilize our forces and find the answer to poverty and start to lick it and win, right now. And this is not all just being noble. It's also just practical horse sense and economics. You know if six people go to the restaurant and everybody has an understanding--- it's what we used to call back home "Dutch treat"-- and one walks out and says "You know I have to go hang up my coat" or goes to the men's room and doesn't come back the five have to pay for the six. It's better if all six remain at the table until the bill is collected, isn't it?

My fellow Americans, if there are five people at the table of America's economy and one walks out or is left out yet all five have been eating at the smorgasboard of American plenty the four pay for the five and the cost of relief and assistance, of crime and disorder and violence and distress in this country is an unbearable cost, particularly when you can do something about it. And we're going to do something about it. We're going to attack these little pockets of

recession in Appalachia. We're having, as Lee knows, a new regional region up in the Upper Great Lakes area. Wherever there are people without work. Wherever there are industries that are not working at capacity there's going to be an effort made. Not just by government. This can't be done by government alone, but government working as a partner with industry and labor. Sitting around the table, working out the plans government can help. It can't do it all and it shouldn't but we are willing to help. And may I say, that American industry and American labor and American agriculture have responded as real strong working partners. Oh, we've done some other things, too.

You correct me if I'm wrong on this Lee, but I believe you were co-sponsor of the Medicare Bill. The first bill that I ever introduced in Congress in 1949 was a bill to provide hospital and nursing care for persons age 65 and over under the terms of the Social Security. I remember it, believe me, I think they burned me in effigy in about I don't know how many states. Why that was the most radical proposal anybody ever heard of. And every name that could be conjured up at the moment that would demonstrate that you weren't a good American was used. I have no apologies for the bill that was introduced in the month of May, 1949. Not a bit. It wasn't my idea, I'll tell you that I, I frankly got the idea from Harry Truman because President Truman had a commission you may recall that examined into the health needs of our country and that was one of the programs that they recommended. And we've been at the business of trying to refine that legislation. I don't blame the Congress for not passing the Humphrey Bill, it maybe wasn't very good. I think the idea was good. But as those of us who have been in Congress know when a bill comes out of committee if it still has your name on it it is a singular triumph for you, as a matter of fact. And that's the way it ought to be. Everybody ought to contribute to this legislation.

But we started back there in 1948 with Harry Truman's commission on the health needs of our country, with legislation introduced every year from 1949 on and finally in this year of 1965 we are now going to be able to provide hospital, nursing home care, surgical and medical care for 19 million of our senior citizens under the terms of Social Security.

And I want to say to the younger members of the audience it's going to help you, too. Because one of the high liability risks in the private insurance field are the elderly and when that group is no longer included then the liability or the risk goes down for the rest. It's just like being able to remove the bad drivers from the road---you wouldn't have to pay so much auto insurance. And this is the moral thing to do. This is the right thing to do. This is good economics, good morals. Social Security benefits increase seven per cent. Why not? Everybody else has had a little increase. And your Congress saw to it.

Well, these are just a few of the things that were done. I thought that everybody in America was entitled to the right to vote. And so did you. So did Abraham Lincoln. So did the Congresses after Lincoln when they passed amendments to the Constitution---the 13, 14th and 15th amendments. And we woke up to find out in America that not only were people not permitted to vote they weren't even permitted to register. College-trained people, professors in great universities. Why? Because they were sun-burned. Or because they didn't look like the registrar. Because they were colored, because they were Negro. And I think one of the greatest addresses that's been delivered to the American people since the time of the Gettysburg Address was the statement and speech of President Lyndon Johnson before the joint session of Congress on the Voting Rights Bill of 1965.

And at long last we're going to have people in America vote not because they're white or black, not because they're fat or thin, tall or

short, not because they spell their last name this way or that way, but they are going to have the right to vote because they have the highest honor that any government gave anybody, to be a citizen of the United States of America.

I think you have been seeing the pictures, the photographs of Viet Nam. Your government didn't ask the men that they sent over to Viet Nam, they are the best that we have, the finest professional soldiers that this nation has -- they didn't ask them "What's your last name, spell it, what's your religion? Oh, you're colored?" Not on your life. Have you been seeing them? Do you realize that some of the most brave and courageous officers some of the most brave and courageous non-commissioned officers of this government today and the battlefields of Viet Nam are Negroes? Dying for your country. Well I've always said and I'll repeat it: that if your government can ask a man to pay his taxes regardless of race, color or creed, if your government can take a man into the armed forces and say look you can eat at the same table regardless of your color or creed and you'll sleep in the same bunkhouse regardless of your color or creed---if you can do all of that in war you can do it in peace and like it. And we are doing it right now under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

So what are we doing? We're just building a better America That's what it's all about. And it's a long process. There'll be some gains and maybe some losses but we're steadily moving ahead. In some instances we're only taking feeble steps but we're moving. We're getting started. We're building an America strong and free. Why? To be able to carry the burdens here at home and the burdens abroad because make no mistake about it: if this nation isn't willing to stand up for freedom who is and who will? If this nation with its wealth and its power and its technology---if this nation cannot give leadership in this world-- then who do you expect will give it?

There's a great contest on today in the world and that contest is not only over political systems it's over philosophy and indeed theology. We happen to believe that man is important. We happen to believe in a very spiritual way that God created man---that man was created in the image of his maker. We believe that every human being has a spark of what we call the soul of the spirit---the infinite. And this is what we mean when we talk about human dignity. And this is why we say that man shall not be governed without his consent. And this is what we have as the premise of democratic faith in society. We believe that governments were established to serve men and men were not made to serve governments. And that is what the contest is about all over the world. That's what it is. It isn't how you produce potatoes, it isn't how you produce a tractor or automobiles--oh, that's somewhat involved---but what is really involved is man's relationship to his fellow man, man's relationship to his God. What's involved is philosophy, ideology, belief and I happen to believe that the only way that we can protect our beliefs and our principles and our ideals is to be worthy of them and to be willing to sacrifice for them.

We are living in a nuclear age they call it---the age where man can destroy all that he has created. Make no mistake about it. We have that means at our fingertips right now. Now only to destroy it but literally to burn it off the face of the earth but that same man and that same mind of man that made possible these incredibly destructive instruments of death can also make the inventions and the instruments of peace and a better world. It all depends upon what he wants to do. It depends upon his will. Now I know that peace is not obtained by the wishing for it. I know that you don't get peace because a Vice President or a President or a minister of the gospel gets up and says we ought to have it or that it is right. You earn it. You work for it. You sacrifice for it. You even die for it. As a matter of fact, right this very hour

men are dying for peace. Our men are not in Viet Nam to conquer. They are not in Viet Nam, if you please, for dominion or sovereignty. They are not there to establish an American base. They are there for but one purpose: to resist aggression, to demonstrate once again that appeasement will not be the pattern of our time. The appetite of the aggressor can never be satisfied. And all we are asking is that people be left alone, that they have a chance to make their own lives---the chance that we want for our own people here. And we believe that we've learned out of this century---out of the experiences of Hitler, Tojo and Mussolini---that you cannot appease the aggressor and have peace. In fact you lose the peace. So what is the reality of our time? The reality that the real truth of this day and age is this: For the first time in human history, man possesses the power to completely destroy himself. And it is equally this: For the first time in human history man possesses the wealth, the knowledge, the know-how to extend mankind's benefits to all of mankind and all of civilization. We no longer need to have hunger in this world, my fellow Americans. There was a time when God's children could perish from famine because man did not know how to produce the food. But not now. We do know, we do have the technology, we do know how to do it and there will be no forgiving us if we fail to meet that need. This is what I mean when I say that we have the technology to extend the benefits of modern civilization to all of mankind. Ours is the responsibility to continue our nation therefore on its path toward the creation of a society of true justice. And that's a beautiful word--justice. That's what a free society is all about and a full opportunity. And ours is the responsibility increasingly to extend to our fellow men here and elsewhere the helping hand which will help lift them towards a life of choice and of abundance. And ours is the responsibility of above all to pursue man's noblest objective---peace. For today and tomorrow peace is

synonymous with life, for without peace there is no life and the pursuit of peace is the task of children yet unborn.

And the pursuit of peace means what I said a moment ago, aiding the victim of aggressionist that aggressor feed his ambition and take a fatal second step that will destroy the world. The pursuit of peace means, of course, practicing what we preach, practicing democracy here and elsewhere. I think I can say for you tonight that we're determined that freedom's holy light will never be extinguished. And we're equally determined that we shall will as our testament to our children a better world than the one that was willed to us. You see I really believe that we can create a better America, a better state of opportunity. I believe that we can right old wrongs now we know how to do it. And that we can build a better tomorrow. It has been said that society is produced by our wants and governments by our hopes. So may I say to you in the words that I began this message tonight---The only limits to our tomorrows are our doubts of today. We must move forward with a strong and an active faith. Thank you very much.

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