

REMARKS

Mayor Jarvis

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

DEDICATION

OGILBIE-NORTON-FORD TACONITE PLANT

EVELETH, MINNESOTA

JUNE 10, 1966

It is good to be home.

It is good to be with my fellow Minnesotans. It is a pleasure to welcome my Detroit friend, Henry Ford.

I have visited the Iron Range in my years of public service more times than I can count.

I have been here during good years and bad.

It was only a few short years ago when the mines of the Great Mesabi Range were slowing to a halt in production.

Our unemployment statistics grew to 25 and 30 per cent, but those statistics do not tell the story of the human suffering that went with them. What a change today.

I do not say that we have completely solved our unemployment problems at all points on the Iron Range, but we have moved a long way toward that goal.

Today, we can look forward to 5000 new jobs directly related to taconite production and 10,000 additional jobs in support industries. We will be producing in the taconite industry alone 34 million tons of pellets by 1970 and the equivalent of 102 million tons of natural ore.

But, This plant is not just going to process iron ore.

This plant is going to provide a return of dignity and pride to those who have been too long without decent jobs.

It will bring happiness to many people, not the least of whom will be the children who will reap the harvest of its hope.

∟ This means something not just to this great Arrowhead Region, but to the whole state of Minnesota.

∟ It means jobs and payrolls. ∟ It means more sales by our merchants, more shipping from our ports, more profits for business. And, yes, it means more revenue for our government so it can build the great public facilities required for our growing population.

∟ But what we celebrate here is significant far beyond the borders of Minnesota. ∟ It means steel flowing to the remotest part of our country.

∟ It means an assured source of raw materials for the motor vehicle industry that means so much to us.

Tacoma
in
Zondo

∟ It means jobs in Detroit and better automobiles.

∟ But we celebrate more than that here today. We celebrate the triumph of a spirit, that is the basis for all progress in our great economic system.

*celebrating
anniversary today*

What we are really gathered here today to observe is the victory of the spirit of cooperation among business, labor and government ^{+ university} working together for the betterment of all.

∟ We celebrate the faith of the Ford Motor Company in Minnesota. ∟ We celebrate the foresight of the labor movement in this state. ∟ And we celebrate the wisdom of all the people of Minnesota who went to the polls and rendered their decision which brought this tremendous investment to our state.

∟ This plant is testimony of what can be accomplished by free men when they are willing, as President Johnson says, to reason together.

∟ By reasoning together -- and the reasoning got a little heated at times, but there's nothing wrong with that -- by reasoning together, the people of Minnesota came to recognize the common ground of their mutual self-interest, and the

fences of more narrow and divisive self-interests fell
under the weight of that recognition.

∠ That is as it should be.

∠ We are all members of the same economic community,
whether we live in Eveleth or Minneapolis, New York or
Los Angeles, or any of the cities and towns in between.

∠ To put it another way, we are all climbing the mountain
of prosperity together, tied together by a single economic
life line. ∠ When every section moves upward without faltering,
the progress of all is much more rapid. When any section
slips, everybody is held back.

∠ And that's what I think the economists are talking
about when they characterize our national economy as
interdependent, closely knit, finely meshed -- they have a
number of terms for it. They mean simply that we all
need each other.

Working together, we Americans have extended our prosperity to an unprecedented 64 straight months.

During that time we have:

-- created ^{over} 7 million new jobs;

-- brought about an incredible 31 per cent increase in our total output of goods and services;

-- boosted average weekly earnings in manufacturing by 25 per cent, of which 16 per cent represents increased real purchasing power;

-- increased the purchasing power of the average farmer's income by one-third; and

-- raised corporate profits after taxes by 88 per cent. ^{Profit for investment}

Our ^{economic} growth in 1966 is expected to be in excess of 45 billion dollars. And this is a cause in itself for some high-level attention in Washington -- for we want growth, but not growth so rapid as to bring on inflation.

I know Henry Ford's company is helping in the fight on inflation by cutting back on some of its less-urgent capital investment expenditures. It is doing so in response to President Johnson's request to all business to exercise prudence in this period of high-level prosperity, to keep from overheating the economy.

↳ We need each other to maintain our economic prosperity.

- To be competitive at home & abroad.

*The lesson
of our
times*

↳ We need each other to meet the unmet challenges in our society: I mean the challenges in our cities, in our countryside, and in our classrooms.

↳ To build our *a better america* ~~Great Society~~ will require the same spirit of cooperation in our country that made this plant possible.

I think we can do it. *- we must.*

Just as we appear

Mr. Ford, the steel which you extract from this taconite will soon be rolling from Maine to California and from Duluth to Dallas, benefiting all Americans. It will benefit Minnesotans, too. And we have no quarrel with that.

We're glad to have you here.

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ADDRESS
OF
VICE-PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
AT
THE DEDICATION OF EVELETH TACONITE COMPANY'S FAIRLANE
PLANT AT EVELETH, MINNESOTA
ON
FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1966

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Eveleth, Minnesota

Friday, June 10, 1966
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VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you, very much, Mr. Ford. Thank you not only for your generous introduction, but for your presence here today and for your message.

May I first pay my respects to the mayors of Eveleth, ^{and} ~~Mayor~~ Virginia, Mayor Jarvey and Mayor Pearsall. And then permit me, if I may, to once again salute the member of Congress, who has given a lifetime of service to this area, to this State and to this Nation, who, in his relative youth, served with distinction in the State Senate of the State of Minnesota, and one that is respected and admired and loved by the people of this great area of our State, and I of course refer to the man who is known as Mr. Taconite himself, John ^a Blotnik, our Congressman.

(Applause)

And I also wish to pay my respects to another very distinguished Congressman, who, as a State Government official, member of the Legislature, member of the Executive Branch of our State and now a member of Congress, who gave great leadership in this fight for the

development of industry in our State and in particular for the Taconite Industry, Anchor Nelson of our Second Congressional District.

(Applause)

There are many officials with us today and there are some who are not officials and some who have been. I think it should be clearly understood that this plant would not have been dedicated, nor would it have been built, nor could it have been, were it not for the spirit of both partisan and in a very real sense, non-partisan cooperation on the part of the leaders, the political leaders of both of the political parties in our State.

The former Governor of our State has already been introduced, but I would consider it less than fair and decent if I did not pay my respects to him for his work and his leadership in the adoption of the Taconite Amendment, and his deep concern about, and interest in the development of this great facility. And I of course refer to Elmer L. Anderson, the former Governor of this State.

(Applause)

And the man who succeeded him and is our Governor today was an equal stalwart in this worthy endeavor and it is to the credit of both of the men that I have mentioned, the former Governor and the now present

Governor, that they put the interest of their State above their self-interest.

When Mr. Rolvag^a became Governor of the State of Minnesota, he worked hand-in-hand, arm-in-arm with his predecessor, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to Governor Rolvag^a to his leadership, just as we have to others.

And on this platform we have introduced our other State officers present. I take time today to pay them tribute, because truly, they have richly deserved this, this hour and this moment. Had any of them not been cooperative; had they sought some special interest for themselves, we could not have succeeded.

The distinguished Lt. Governor of the State of Minnesota was also a partner in this enterprise, and I salute Lt. Governor Sandy Keith for his work, just as I have the others.

(Applause)

And my old friend, and the long-established and appears to be much longer-established good friend, the State Treasurer, Bill Bjornsen. We fought the good fight together.

(Applause)

And then, the one and only in Minnesota, who has earned the respect and the affection of people,

may I say, Mr. Ford, of both parties, even though on occasion there are seasonal bouts that we have when we try to upset that, the distinguished State Auditor of the State of Minnesota, Stafford King.

(Applause)

And I wish not to forget the members of the Legislature that are here. I look out over this body, and Mr. Ford and Mr. Sloan, and Mr. ^{Conn} Kahn, and the members of the Ogleby-Norton Company and the Ford Motor Company, it just wouldn't have been possible for us to have succeeded in the endeavor, which is being celebrated today, and in the passage of the so-called Taconite Amendment, had it not been for the cooperation of the two houses of our Legislature, and I salute them for their vision and for their earnest work.

And, of course, the Mayo Committee, that is so very charmingly and ably represented here today by Rita Shemitz(?). So, we are one happy family, may I say.

Now, let me spend a few moments with you in words, of, I hope, thoughtful consideration of what we are doing and what this occasion means. I gather that you know it seems awfully good to me to be back home in this part of Minnesota. It is good to be with my old friends, and it is a very singular privilege and pleasure for me to welcome into this part of our State one of the truly great

leaders of our Nation, a businessman second to none, with civic responsibility, the gentleman who has already spoken to you, Mr. Henry Ford II. He is a fine and good man.

I have, of course, visited the Iron Range a number of times in my public and private life, and, Mr. Ford, I wish that you could have been here as many times as I have to get acquainted with these people. I have been here during the good years and the bad, and very frankly, I liked the good years the best.

And it is only a few short years, just a few short years ago when the mines of the Great Mesabi Range, which were the pride and joy of our part of America, were slowing down in their production, and literally, some of them closed.

Mr. Ford, we saw unemployment in this area that you knew about, unemployment statistics that grew to 25 to 30 per cent, but those statistics didn't tell the story, that is, the whole story. They couldn't tell the story of human suffering and of despair and frustration that went with them.

But what a change today, what a happy change. And I don't mean by that, that we have completely solved our economic or social problems, or even completely solved our unemployment problems at all points on the Iron Range, but I will say we have gone a long way toward that goal.

Today we can look forward to 5,000 new jobs in Minnesota, directly related to Taconite production and 10,000 additional jobs in support industries, and as you were told here, this wonderful payroll for this very community running over 11-million dollars a year.

We will be providing the Taconite Industry alone over 34-million tons of pellets by 1970, and the equivalent of 102-million tons of natural iron ore.

Ah, Congressman Blatnik^a, your old friend, Doctor Davis, surely was a prophet, as well as a great scientist and engineer, and how happy these words of production must make him.

But this plant is not only going to produce or process iron ore, important as that is. This plant is going to provide a much more important dividend: A return of dignity and pride to those who have long, too long been without decent jobs and too long had to wonder where the next day's work was going to come from.

This plant will bring an even greater dividend: It will bring happiness to many people and not the least of whom will be children, some of whom I saw at the Eveleth Airport as we came here this morning, children who will reap the harvest of its hope, because I think you heard the message this morning, this is but the beginning, and I want to say to my friend, Henry Ford, we will welcome

any further expansion that you and the Oglesby-Norton Company might want to make up here. Won't we?

(Applause)

And this plant means something, not just to this great Arrowhead Region, but to the whole State of Minnesota. It means, yes, jobs and payrolls; it means more sales for our merchants; it means more shipping from our ports; and it means more profits for our business; and it means, Governor, more revenue for our Government so that it can build the great public facilities required for a growing population.

But what we celebrate here is significant far beyond the borders of Minnesota. It means steel flowing to the remotest corner of our country, and steel means strength. It means industry; it means wealth and it means power.

And this plant means an assured source of raw materials for the motor vehicle industry that means so much to each and every one of us. It means jobs in Detroit and better automobiles, and more of them, and as Mr. Ford was saying, the Taconite pellets of this plant are already in the car that you are driving, right from that Taconite ore into your garage and on your highway for your family.

But I submit that we celebrate even more

than this today. We celebrate the triumph of spirit, the human spirit that is the basis for all progress in our great economic system. We are celebrating today, or what we are really celebrating today is the victory of the spirit of cooperation among business, labor, political parties, government and our great University, working together for the betterment of all.

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We celebrate the faith of the Ford Motor Company and its officials in Minnesota, and I can say to Mr. Ford, he will never regret the investment that he has made here, he and his company.

We celebrate the foresight of our business people and of our labor movement in this State, and we celebrate the wisdom of all of the people of Minnesota, who went to the polls and rendered their decision that brought them this tremendous investment to our State, and again I say only a beginning, more, far more to come.

This plant is testimony to what can be accomplished by free men, when they are willing, as President Johnson has said, to reason together, to quit shouting at each other and to start to talk to one another. And by reasoning together, (and I know the reasoning got a little hot sometimes, but there is nothing particularly wrong in that) the people of Minnesota came to recognize the common ground of their mutual self-interest, and the

senseless, more narrow divisive self-interest fell under weight of that recognition.

There is no class struggle. That is for other societies and ideologies. There is only one kind of an America; that is our America. And there is only one kind of citizenship; that is first class citizenship, and we are all members of this great American family, as it should be, and we are all members of the same economic community, whether we live in Eveleth or Minneapolis, New York or Los Angeles, or any of the cities and the towns in between.

To put it another way, we are all climbing the mountain of prosperity together, tied together by a single economic lifeline, or we all fall into the caverns and the pits of recession and depression together. It just depends what we will to do.

When every section of our country moves upward without faltering, the progress of all is much more rapid. When any section or any segment slips, everybody is held back, and that is what I think the economists are talking about when they characterize our national economy as "Inter-dependent" or "Closely-knit" or "Finely-meshed". They have a number of terms for it. What they simply mean is what you and I have known all the time: We need each other, and without each other, there isn't anything.

Working together, we Americans have extended our prosperity to an unprecedented 64 straight months, and believe me, while people worry about the conditions of our country now, I want to tell you that many a person in this audience can remember when he had something really to worry about, something that gnawed at your very heart and innards.

During this 64 months we have created over seven million new jobs. When I say "we" I mean this American economy, not Government alone, not business alone, not labor alone, but together.

We brought about an incredible 31 per cent increase in our total output of goods and services. We boosted average weekly earnings in manufacturing by 25 per cent, of which 16 per cent represents increased real purchasing power over and above price increases.

We have increased the purchasing power of the average farmer's income by one-third, and to Minnesota, that means a great deal.

Corporate profits, available for dividends and investment, and let me underscore the importance of profits for investment, that is what profits are used for in this country. Those profits went up 88 per cent and they have been plowed right back into Eveleth, Minnesota, put right back into this great, growing economic source.

In our economic growth in 1966 alone, this year is expected to be over 45-billions of dollars. That is half of the total National Income of 1929, just one year's growth, one year's expansion, and this is a cause in itself for some high-level attention in Washington and in business, for we want growth and we want steady growth, but not growth so steady as to set the fires of inflation that can destroy values, earnings, savings and investments. And I want to compliment Mr. Ford and his company for their statesmanship in putting the brakes upon what could be an inflationary spiral.

What I am trying to say, then, in summary, is that we have learned a great lesson in Minnesota, and I think we have learned it all over America. We have learned that we need each other to maintain our economic prosperity.

We have learned that business and Labor are partners, not enemies, and may we remember that lesson. There is nothing wrong in good, hard, honest, collective bargaining as partners, but not as enemies.

And we have learned that everybody in this community, whether he is a worker or an investor, a school-teacher or a politician, a doctor or a lawyer, has a stake in the other fellow. We are involved together.

We need each other today; we need each other

to meet the unmet challenges of our America, to meet the challenges of our cities that need rebuilding, many of them; of our countryside that needs protection and care, and of our classrooms that we will need more of as our population expands. To build another America, then, will require the same spirit of cooperation in the entire country that we have had here in Minnesota to make this plant possible.

I happen to be one that believes we can maintain that spirit of cooperation. I have unbounded faith in our people. So, Mr. Ford, the steel which this company, the Eveleth Taconite Company, will extract from this Taconite deposit will soon be rolling from Maine to California and from Duluth to Dallas, benefitting all Americans.

And it will benefit Minnesotans, too; in fact, first, and with that we have no quarrel. So let me tell you, after many, many times of visiting with you about this enterprise, let me tell you that we are mighty pleased that you are here and that you have honored us by your presence; that you have honored us by your faith in us, and we will show you that the best investment that the Ford Motor Company or Ogleby-Norton ever made was at Eveleth, Minnesota, in the Eveleth Taconite Company.

Thank you, very much.

(Applause)

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