

Gov Hughes

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

NATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

SEPTEMBER 9, 1966

JEFFERSON, IOWA

Congressmen

Hansen,

Smith

Gregg.

E.B. Smith

Mayor Vern Marten

Lying Farmers

Sen. Jack Smith  
Sen. Frank

I am delighted to be back with so many good friends.

Wonderful Day - in this garden

This is not my first visit to a National Plowing Match. And

I hope to be here many more times again.

Central Iowa  
Green County

I did not come here today to tell you that you never  
had it so good.

I did not come to criticize or to lecture.

I have come to Iowa to thank you, on behalf of the  
President and a grateful nation for a job well done.

I have come to thank you for your patience, for your self reliance.

I have come to thank you for your responsible  
stewardship of our vital soil resources. - Soil Conservation

I have come to thank you for your hard work...for your  
ingenuity...for your progressive thinking...for your unsung

Jefferson - Democrat

success in making America the best-nourished nation in the world.

I have come to thank you for being the resourceful and good citizens, productive people that you are.

True Patriots

And I have come to tell you that the Johnson-Humphrey Administration is fully committed to giving the American farmer his full and rightful place in our growth and our prosperity.

his full Parity of income  
his full Parity of opportunity.

He deserves nothing less. He must have nothing less.

Now Let me take a few moments today to put into perspective the challenges we Americans face in the world today, and especially those challenges which directly involve and affect the American farmer.

The overwhelming fact of our time -- a fact that is being recognized far too late in the day -- is this: That in a world of hunger, there can be no peace.

as this  
world faces hunger  
starvation in millions

We now know how important farmers are!

-3-

Governments ~~have~~ <sup>rise</sup> and ~~fallen~~ <sup>fall</sup> on their ability, or inability, to feed their people.

And political leaders in the hungry countries are increasingly realizing that neither promises, gold nor prestige will substitute for ~~the basic~~ <sup>food - the basic</sup> nourishment of their people.

Per-capita food production in the ~~volatile~~ <sup>explosive</sup> and poverty-stricken continents of Asia, Latin America and Africa is going down and, unless the trend is reversed, will continue going down for the foreseeable future. <sup>- This spells Trouble.</sup>

As President Johnson said earlier this year when he proposed the Food for Freedom program:

"...The time is not far off when all of the combined production, of all the acres, of all the agriculturally productive nations, will not meet the food needs of developing nations -- unless present trends are changed."

We must meet this challenge in order to move ahead on the narrow road to peace.

✓ We stand ready and committed to lead in the war on hunger. ~~For we~~ <sup>are</sup> not only ~~the~~ richest and most powerful nation on earth, but also ~~is~~ the nation with the greatest agricultural resources.

✓ When we look at <sup>rural America</sup> ~~American agriculture~~, we see an <sup>agriculture</sup> ~~industry~~ strong and highly developed in its productive efficiency.

✓ ~~We see an industry rapidly creating, and adjusting to, change.~~

✓ Productivity has increased more rapidly on our farms than in the rest of our economy. ✓ One American farm <sup>producer</sup> ~~worker~~ today produces enough to feed 37 people -- nearly twice as many as only 12 years ago.

✓ In recent years we also have created and improved the machinery of government programs designed to assist agriculture.

✓ Neither the machinery nor the programs have been perfect, but we are trying each day to make them better.

✓ We see, too, an agriculture where, since 1961, a better balance has been achieved between supply and demand.

The surplus is gone. It no longer hangs over <sup>food + fiber</sup> markets to depress them. The rate of consumption is growing.

We see, ~~in short~~, an agriculture superbly and uniquely qualified to help meet the challenge not only of expanding domestic markets <sup>+ foreign commercial markets</sup> but of a hungry world.

Many of us have seen the article on American agriculture in the current issue of Fortune magazine.

The trends that article points out -- ~~trends the~~ ~~American people are increasingly aware of~~ -- are these: that the American farmer is entering a seller's market... that farm output and farm receipts are headed upward...and that a new era of farm prosperity can be at hand.

Yes, for American agriculture, there is a new day ahead. and We must be ready for that day. We must do what is needed to meet the times.

We must be ready to expand American agricultural production.

And we must be ready for changes in emphasis in our government agricultural policies.

Today we need to expand production of wheat, feed grains, soybeans, *Corn* and dairy products.

↳ In the last four years the world has consumed some 200 million bushels of wheat per year more than it has produced.

↳ In the last four years it has utilized about 6 million tons of feed grains more than it has harvested.

↳ In the case of soybeans, we are using all we produce. Carryovers are minimal. The demand continues to grow. *unlimited*

↳ There is every indication we will need big crops in these commodities for several years hence.

↳ Our production of milk is insufficient now. That is why we have raised the support level for manufacturing milk to four dollars per hundredweight.

↳ We also need to determine and announce government programs at an early date. And we will. For example, we should not -- and we shall not -- postpone until just before

planting time the feed grain and oilseed production goals the

planting time the feed grain and oilseed production goals the Department of Agriculture recommends as desirable in 1967.

↳ We all know that more and more farm plans are now made so far in advance that there isn't much left undecided by Christmas for the next year's production program.

and, ↳ We need to maintain adequate reserves.

↳ We must have food reserves for national security.

↳ We must have them to assure our markets of adequate supply at fair prices.

↳ We must have them to serve as a cushion against bad weather -- as visualized by the late Henry A. Wallace in the ever-normal-granary concept.

Our reserves have fallen faster than expected because crop weather in many parts of the world, including India, has been bad. (Furthermore, it is not generally realized that in the last three years imports of wheat by the Soviet Union even exceed those of India.)



So we must have reserves.

These reserves can and should be insulated from the marketplace. They will be used if needed, but they are not meant to be used in direct competition with sales *in the market by* farmers. The Commodity Credit Corporation should not be and will not be your competitor. Its use should supplement -- ~~not~~ *not depress it!* ~~supplant~~ -- farm income.

Our position of world leadership requires that we maintain an arsenal of food and fiber just as we maintain an arsenal of military weapons.

① But your government has no intention of calling upon the American farmer to provide that arsenal at the sacrifice of a fair price and a decent income.

Farm producers are well aware of what happened to them at the end of the Korean War.

They remember that their government called upon them to expand production and open up new acres, and they remember what happened to prices and income. *This must not & will not happen again.*



*Prices*

~~They~~ went down, down and down.

We have no intention of calling on American agriculture to pay the cost of policies and programs that belong to the entire nation.

The Johnson-Humphrey Administration knows that the American farmer is doing more than his share in helping to create well-being and prosperity in his country. We know that he is doing more than his share in helping to create a freer and more peaceful world. And we will not be satisfied until he stands in the position of equality he deserves in our society. — *Full parity - full equality!*

Today, partly because of farm legislation achieved in the past few years, we are seeing an improvement in farm income.

On September 1, 1960, you were selling your hogs in Chicago for \$15.46 a hundredweight. On September 1 of this year you were getting \$24.89 a hundredweight.

① Inflation - cost of living goes  
up less from 1961-1966  
than 1956-1961 -

Number one yellow soybeans were bringing you \$2.20 a bushel in Chicago on September 1, 1960. On that same date this year they brought you \$3.78 a bushel.

*corn and here*  
Farmers were receiving \$1.18 a bushel in Chicago for their number 3 yellow corn on September 1, 1960. Six years later that corn was bringing them \$1.46 a bushel. And if you were in the Feed Grains Program you received an average of \$1.71 a bushel.

*milk*  
The price to farmers for manufacturing milk was \$3.19 a hundredweight in August of 1960. In August of this year it was \$4.18 a hundredweight.

*Beef*  
Choice grade beef steers weighing between 900 and 1100 pounds were bringing farmers \$24.75 on September 1, 1960. The price had risen to \$25.75 on September 1, 1966.

*wheat*  
And number 2 hard winter wheat was selling in Kansas City for \$1.97 on September 1, 1960. Six years later, with the Wheat Certificate Program in operation, farmers were receiving an average of \$2.46 for the same type wheat.

*Oh yes, our Republican friends call this inflation  
and its long overdue justice*

{ I am not income up  
about twice as  
much as farm costs

I can understand a N.Y. editorial writer  
complaining about food prices - but not a midwest  
congressman or senator.

The farm programs begun by the Johnson-Humphrey  
Administration have worked! They have had a favorable  
effect on farm income. We should not abandon them.

~~But~~ We should continue to make improvements in them  
which will work for the benefit of all our farmers and those  
living in rural America.

And when I speak  
of programs and policies for rural  
America, I include, new  
housing, new industries,  
new schools. yes, better  
communities.

I hope you will understand if now I indulge in some  
much-needed partisanship.

Most of you recall that farm legislation was difficult  
to pass in 1961 and 1963.

(Now just a little touch  
of Politics - (Sen. Hunka  
Miller)

Feed grain legislation was a nip-and-tuck affair in  
the United States House of Representatives in 1963.

Only one  
Member of Congress from Iowa voted for the Administration's  
Farm Bill that year.

That one supporter was Congressman  
Neal Smith. He also was the only Democrat in the Iowa  
Congressional delegation that year.

When only one member of a delegation of seven from Iowa  
supported the farm bill, Members of Congress from urban  
districts were puzzled. Why, they asked, would a farm bill  
be opposed by six out of seven representatives from the great  
farm state of Iowa?

But They weren't puzzled very long. In 1964, Iowa  
made some needed changes in its representation in the House

of Representatives. Your delegation went from one Democrat and six Republicans to six Democrats and one Republican.

And when the issue of extending the feed grain program came up in 1965, it was supported by all six Democratic members, Representatives Neal Smith, John Culver, Bert Bandstra, Stanley Greigg, John Hansen, and John Schmidhauser.

*and* It was opposed by the one hold-over Republican. But, a number of Republicans from such states as Minnesota and Kansas joined in supporting the 1965 farm bill. *They put farmers about Party* It was passed with votes to spare.

You will continue to need these men in the Congress to provide leadership in Washington to match that of Governor Harold Hughes in Iowa -- prudent, progressive, strong leadership -- which benefits the people of this state. *You need, too, Pat*

*and* Touchae to give the Third District the same representation. *E. B. Smith in the U.S. Senate* ~~I hope the good people of Iowa will see to that this November.~~



Last year, President Johnson sent to the Congress a truly remarkable state paper: His Farm Message.

That message dealt at length with the need for parity of income for commercial farmers, for price support and production adjustment programs. It emphasized a market-oriented policy, calling for restraint in the role of government in supply and distribution.

It dealt also with long-range cropland adjustment, reserve stocks and agricultural trade. It recognized the key role of agriculture in the achievement of broad economic policy objectives for the nation and in world affairs.

It outlined plans for establishing a National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber, which is now reviewing our farm policies across-the-board.

And the President urged that we use our agricultural abundance and technical skills in agriculture to assist the developing nations to stand on their own feet.

Dr. Berg  
7 min

(Woody Diehl  
Loren Smith)

2 months  
from  
Dava

✓ President Johnson's Farm Message was a blueprint for the future. It deserves the support not only of the American farmer, but of all Americans.

✓ For what it, in essence, set forth was the President's faith that the people of a free society can accomplish far more than people living under the oppressive weight of totalitarian controls and dogma.

✓ Today nothing is more obvious than the failure of Communist societies to meet the food and fiber needs of their own people -- much less the needs of others in the world.

✓ As a result, the developing nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America look increasingly to America and other free nations -- not just for food and fiber, but also for answers as to how they can do more to feed and clothe themselves.

Food Power } ✓ That is why I believe that, in the long run, our food power -- far more than military power -- can be the critical factor in the achievement both of democratic institutions and of peace safety in the world.

↳ Food power is our secret weapon.

Food is life. Food is strength. Food is hope and  
compassion.

↳ Food is the giver of health and vigor to children.

↳ Food is the vital ingredient of social stability and peaceful change.

so, Let us use that power wisely and well.

↳ Let us, in the world, act in the same spirit that today  
is everywhere in our society at home -- a spirit of building,  
of progress, of commitment to equality and justice.

Let us use the tremendous resources at our command  
to bring health, education, food and the techniques of modern  
agriculture to struggling nations living in the shadow of famine  
and outside aggression.

↳ It is today our challenge -- and our responsibility --  
to replace, throughout the world, the blind stare of hunger and  
poverty with the clear vision of a freer and happier day ahead.

↳ If we meet that responsibility, we have the chance --

as few others ever have -- to be remembered in history not  
as makers of war, but as makers of peace...not for our wealth,  
but for our compassion...not for our things, but for our ideals!

I have faith that we Americans -- and especially those  
Americans who draw their strength from the rich earth --  
will prove equal to that responsibility.

I have faith that our productivity, our experience,  
our knowledge, our determination, can be successful in the  
building of a world where lights shine forth from every  
window...where the bounty of earth waves free across open  
fields...where children stand strong and straight to face a  
future filled with peace and promise.



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