

STATEMENT

Bill Grant - Chr

Bob Knows

Roy Roman

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

Mark Hogan

DENVER, COLORADO

OCTOBER 21, 1966

1st Byron Rogers

2d Roy McVicker

Frank Evans (3)

Wayne Aspinall (4)

Mayor Tom Curvigan

the housewives of Denver are exercising the

consumer's four basic rights, as proposed by President

Kennedy and being carried through by President Johnson:

-- the right to safety;

-- the right to choose;

-- the right to be informed;

-- the right to be heard.

Steve McNichols

Mrs Graham

Mrs Hedgcock

Archer Decker
Sent State

Bill Chisholm

Atty Gen

What has been done on behalf of the American

consumer since we set forth this consumer's bill of rights?

First of all, and most importantly, we have sustained an unparalleled economic growth -- a growth which has sharply increased the consumer's purchasing power.

Since 1961 the cost of living has risen by 9 per cent, while wages have risen by 47 per cent.

Per capita income after taxes -- adjusted for price increases -- has risen 22 per cent in the past five years and seven months, as compared to 3 per cent in the previous five years. This is equal to an addition, for each American family, of 11 extra weekly paychecks.

The price record of the past 5 and a half years is far better than in the previous equivalent period -- and our record of price stability has been the best of any industrialized nation. And we are committed to meeting inflationary forces in our economy so that we may keep it that way.

Expenditures for food took 19.8 per cent of our disposable income in 1961; they take 18.2 per cent in 1966 -- which is the smallest percentage of income for food ^{spent} by the citizens of any nation. An hour's work today buys more food than at any time in recent history.

That, of course, is not to say we cannot do better while we do justice to both the producer and consumer.

What else has been achieved, on behalf of the consumer since 1961?

-- More safety for millions of purchasers of new cars and trucks, thanks to the new Auto Safety Law requiring firm standards on future vehicles and tires;

-- More protection of 90 million drivers and millions of pedestrians thanks to the new Highway Safety Law which will help cities and states lower the rate of 50 thousand tragic highway deaths each year;

-- More facts for every housewife to replace misleading labeling on "cents off", "jumbo quarts", or "servings", thanks to the new Truth in Packaging Law which simplifies comparison of real values;

-- Still more safety in the medicines at the corner pharmacy because of more diligent administration of the Food and Drug laws and better controls over dangerous drugs;

-- Lower fuel and transportation bills by virtue of public-oriented regulation -- for rate reductions --

by the Federal Power Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Civil Aeronautics Board;

-- More Federal Trade Commission protection against the small minority of businessmen who indulge in deceptions or unfair trade practices;

-- More protection for 17 million holders of over-the-counter securities through extension of the Truth-in-Securities Law;

-- Better safeguarding -- under a Child Safety Act -- against toys which may be toxic to our children.

And in the 90th Congress, opening in January, we shall seek once more a Truth-in-Lending Law, and we shall pass it.

This is the record we bring to the consumers -- the citizens -- of America. This is the record on which we shall continue to build.



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