

my
thru AM.
JH Program

← Bill Trotter

← Sam Talmadge

Mr Carmichael

REMARKS BY

Jack LeRoy
Muncie Anne

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE

~~Mr~~ AW. Tamm

ASSOCIATION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GEORGIA

MACON, GEORGIA

APRIL 19, 1971

201526

I WANT TO SAY RIGHT AT THE OUTSET THAT WITHOUT THE
FORESIGHT, THE COMMITMENT, AND THE HARD WORK OF MY GOOD
FRIEND, SENATOR HERMAN TALMADGE, THERE WOULD BE NO LAW
REQUIRING THAT THE HIGHEST PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO THE
REVITALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL AREAS OF
AMERICA, ~~NO COMMITMENT TO A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY~~
ESTABLISHING A SOUND BALANCE BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN
AMERICA, AND NO COMMITTEE IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE
DEVOTING ITS ENTIRE ATTENTION TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

THAT WE NOW HAVE THE ~~AUTHORITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL~~
TO SET OUT UPON THESE ~~TOTALLY NEW DIRECTIONS~~ IS THE RESULT
OF THE DEDICATION OF ONE MAN, HERMAN TALMADGE, THE NEW
CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND
FORESTRY.

AND IT WAS SENATOR TALMADGE WHO GAVE ME⁷ THE OPPORTUNITY TO HELP IMPLEMENT THIS NEW THRUST AT THE REVITALIZATION OF RURAL AMERICA IN MY APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

THIS MANDATE FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE IS PROVIDED BY TITLE IX OF THE AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 1970, AN ALL-IMPORTANT TITLE INTRODUCED AND PUSHED THROUGH TO ENACTMENT BY SENATOR TALMADGE. IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO A SOUND BALANCE BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN AMERICA, THIS TITLE ALSO REQUIRES THE ADMINISTRATION TO GIVE CONGRESS SPECIFIC INFORMATION EACH YEAR ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE OF RURAL AMERICA.

AND YOU CAN BE CERTAIN THAT THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT WILL CLOSELY EXAMINE THIS INFORMATION WITH A VIEW TO SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVING AND REDIRECTING THIS FEDERAL EFFORT, WHICH I BELIEVE IS NOW WOEFULLY INADEQUATE IN THE FACE OF THE CRITICAL PROBLEMS CONFRONTING OUR NATION.

L GENTLEMEN, I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ALL OF US TO ASK, WHERE IS THIS COUNTRY HEADED?

L IN THE SHORT PERIOD SINCE WORLD WAR II, OUR POPULATION HAS GROWN BY 55 MILLION PEOPLE. THE VALUE OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES WE PRODUCE HAS GROWN FROM \$280 BILLION A YEAR TO NEARLY A TRILLION DOLLARS. THE TWO-HOME FAMILY IS BECOMING NEARLY AS COMMONPLACE AS THE TWO CAR FAMILY.

SOUNDS PRETTY GOOD, DOESN'T IT?

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE.

L THREE MILLION FARMS HAVE DISAPPEARED IN THE
TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION THAT IS STILL SWEEPING AGRICULTURE,
AND ONLY ABOUT ONE IN FIVE OF OUR FARM BOYS CAN REMAIN ON
THE FARM.

L MORE THAN 20 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE ABANDONED THE SMALL
FARMS AND TOWNS FOR THE CITIES, SO THAT 75 PER CENT OF OUR
PEOPLE ARE CROWDED ONTO LESS THAN 2 PER CENT OF THE LAND.

L TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT OCCUPY ALL THE REST -- MANY OF THEM
IN LONELY DECLINE, WHILE THEIR CITY COUSINS LIVE IN
OVERCROWDED DISORDER.

L THE RESULT OF ALL THIS MOVEMENT HAS BEEN A NATIONAL
CRISIS OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WHICH IN MANY RESPECTS LIES AT
THE HEART OF ALL OF THE TALK ABOUT ECOLOGY WE HEAR TODAY.

AND THIS PROBLEM OF THE CHANGING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN
THE PEOPLE AND THE LAND HAS FESTERED THE SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC SORES WHICH HAVE ERUPTED AROUND US.

└ IF THE TREND TO MEGALOPOLIS CONTINUES, IN THE NEXT
30 YEARS 100 MILLION MORE AMERICANS WILL BE CRAMMED
INTO THE BIG CITIES WHERE 150 MILLION ARE ALREADY LIVING.

└ TO LOOK AT IT ANOTHER WAY, IF THESE 100 MILLION NEW
AMERICANS WERE TO LIVE IN NEWLY CREATED COMMUNITIES,
A CITY THE SIZE OF PORTLAND, OREGON, WOULD HAVE TO BE
CREATED EVERY 40 DAYS OVER THE NEXT 30 YEARS.

yes, WE HAVE BECOME A TROUBLED NATION.

WE ARE VAGUELY AWARE THAT WE COULD HAVE SHAPED OUR
SOCIETY WITH CONSIDERATION FOR RESOURCES, PEOPLE AND
SPACE, DEMANDING QUALITY AS WELL AS QUANTITY.

L INSTEAD, WE HAVE RUSHED AFTER SOMETHING WE CALL
"PROGRESS", PILING MORE AND MORE PEOPLE INTO LESS AND
LESS SPACE, ON TERRITORY MADE OBSOLETE BY MODERN
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION.

L I FOR ONE, THINK THESE TRENDS CAN BE STOPPED OR AT
LEAST SLOWED DOWN AND POSSIBLY REVERSED. L CERTAINLY A
NATION WHICH HAS EXPLORED OUTER SPACE FOR A DECADE
CAN MUSTER THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE WILL TO
CREATE A LIFE HERE IN OUR OWN COUNTRY THAT OFFERS
OPPORTUNITY AND DECENT LIVING CONDITIONS FOR ALL.

BUT WE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE LAND, AS SPACE TO
LIVE ON, IS TAKING PRIORITY OVER THE OLD IDEA OF THE LAND
AS SOMETHING TO BE EXPLOITED, NO MATTER WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES,

L THE CHANGES THAT WILL BE NECESSARY MUST BE BASED ON
NATIONWIDE GEOGRAPHY AND NOT JUST POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY,

L WE MUST HEAD TOWARD A RURAL-URBAN BALANCE -- A HEALTHY
BALANCE BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND THE LAND.

L THE FACT IS, WE HAVE SPACE TO SPARE, -- BUT IT'S TIME
NOW TO STOP FOOLING AROUND WITH IT AS IF IT WERE A

L LIMITLESS RESOURCE. L GOVERNMENT -- ALL LEVELS OF

GOVERNMENT -- MUST BEGIN PLANNING TOGETHER. L WE MUST

BEGIN TO DO THOSE THINGS WHICH WILL INFLUENCE OUR NATION'S

GROWTH IN A MORE ORDERLY WAY; IN A WAY THAT IS DESIGNED

FOR PEOPLE, RATHER THAN EXPEDIENCY.

L WE MUST DESIGN A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY. THAT POLICY
MUST HAVE AS ITS CENTRAL PREMISE THE RELATIONSHIP OF
PEOPLE TO LAND, WATER, AIR, AND RESOURCES. (THERE MUST BE
A HEALTHY BALANCE THAT PERMITS PEOPLE TO LIVE IN HARMONY
THEIR
WITH ~~THIS~~ ENVIRONMENT.

mul L I'M SURE YOU FOLKS ARE WONDERING WHAT HUBERT HUMPHREY
HAS IN MIND. WHAT IS HE GOING TO DO TO LICK THIS
PROBLEM OF RURAL OUT-MIGRATION SO THAT WE CAN STRIKE A
BALANCE BETWEEN THE BIG CITIES AND RURAL AMERICA?

L WELL, I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING. I DON'T HAVE ALL THE
ANSWERS! THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO CONDUCT AN EXTENSIVE
INVESTIGATION INTO JUST WHAT THE PROBLEMS AND NEEDS ARE.

301534
L AND WE INTEND TO FIND SOME ANSWERS. THE MORE WE LOOK

AT RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, THE MORE I'M CONVINCED THAT

MOST OF THE EXPERTS ARE ONLY EXPERTS IN MAKING GENERALIZATIONS,

L OUR SUBCOMMITTEE IS GOING TO GET THE KIND OF HARD FACTS

THAT ARE NEEDED TO DEVELOP A SOUND LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM.

L WE'LL HAVE 3 OBJECTIVES.

FIRST, WE MUST GET THE TRUE FACTS ABOUT RURAL

AMERICA. WE'LL DO IT WITH HEARINGS IN WASHINGTON; SOME

(Hopefully)
FIRST-RATE STAFF WORK; AND FIELD INVESTIGATIONS THAT

WILL TAKE US OUT WHERE THE PEOPLE AND THE PROBLEMS EXIST.

301535

L SECONDLY, WE MUST PUBLICIZE THE PLIGHT AND THE PROMISE
OF RURAL AMERICA. UNFORTUNATELY, THE DETERIORATION OF
OUR COUNTRYSIDE DOESN'T GRAB THE SAME KIND OF HEADLINES
AS SOME OF THE MORE STRIDENT EXPLOSIONS OCCURRING
IN OUR CENTRAL CITIES.

L AND FINALLY, THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL TRY TO DEVELOP
A COMPREHENSIVE SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE
PROPOSALS FOR DEALING WITH THE DEPRESSED ECONOMIC
CONDITIONS OF OUR RURAL AREAS AND THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF
THEIR PEOPLE -- CONDITIONS AND NEEDS THAT HAVE CAUSED
A MASSIVE EXODUS FROM THE FARM TO THE CITY.

201536

L BUT TO MEET THIS MAJOR NATIONAL PROBLEM HEAD-ON, THIS

CONGRESS MUST PROCLAIM A NEW FREEDOM -- A FREEDOM OF

RESIDENCE. WE MUST ESTABLISH THE RIGHT OF ALL OUR PEOPLE

TO HAVE A REALISTIC CHOICE ABOUT WHERE THEY WILL LIVE

AND WORK -- NOT A CHOICE DICTATED BY POLITICS OR ECONOMICS.

L THIS MEANS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WILL NOT BE FORCED, AS

THEY ARE NOW, TO MIGRATE TO LARGE AND TURBULENT METROPOLITAN

AREAS BECAUSE THERE ARE NO JOBS AT HOME. L THIS MEANS THAT

PEOPLE WHO MAY WANT TO LIVE IN SMALL TOWN AREAS CAN EXPECT

TO FIND GOOD SCHOOLS FOR THEIR CHILDREN, A DECENT

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, AND THE BEST OF MEDICAL CARE AND

MEDICAL FACILITIES.

L THIS MEANS NEW INDUSTRIES, MODERN SOCIAL SERVICE AND

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. L IT MEANS THAT AMERICANS SHOULD BE

ABLE TO ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS OF LIFE, LIBERTY, AND

PROPERTY NOT ONLY IN BIG CITIES, NOT ONLY IN SUBURBS, BUT

ALL OVER AMERICA.

L A CENTURY AGO, "GO WEST, YOUNG MAN" WAS MORE THAN

A TOURIST TRAVEL SLOGAN. IT WAS A FIRM NATIONAL POPULATION

POLICY DESIGNED TO HELP AMERICA'S BEST INTERESTS.

L ACCORDINGLY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GAVE INCENTIVES

TO SETTLERS -- THE HOMESTEAD ACT. AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

GAVE INCENTIVES TO RAILROADS TO OPEN UP THE WEST -- LARGE

LAND GRANTS TO THE RAILROADS MADE SOME PEOPLE MILLIONAIRES

WHO PROBABLY DIDN'T DESERVE IT, BUT THEY DID PROVIDE

HIGHWAYS OF STEEL TO BRING IN PEOPLE AND BRING OUT THE CROPS.

L AND JUST A LITTLE MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS AGO THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGED THE GROWTH OF HIGHER
EDUCATION IN THE MID-WESTERN AND WESTERN AREAS BY
ESTABLISHING THE LAND GRANT COLLEGE ACT. L THE GOVERNMENT
WAS CONCERNED WITH THE EVERYDAY NECESSITIES OF LIFE AS
WELL: IN 1896 A FEDERAL ACT ESTABLISHED THE RURAL FREE
DELIVERY SERVICE.

L AND THEN, SOMEHOW, WE STOPPED! AS FARMING BECAME
MORE MECHANIZED IN THE EARLY DECADES OF THE CENTURY,
AS AMERICANS TUMBLED INTO CITIES AND THEN OUT OF CITIES
AND INTO SUBURBS, JUST WHEN WE NEEDED A POPULATION
POLICY -- WE STOPPED.

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WE HAVE SEEN WHAT A NO-POLICY POPULATION POLICY HAS
DONE TO RURAL AREAS. L MEN IN POLITICS ARE TRAINED TO
FIND ANSWERS TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE PEOPLE -- NOT TO SAY
THAT THERE ARE NO ANSWERS OR THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS. L THERE
ARE PROBLEMS, AND THERE ARE ANSWERS.

WE MUST DEVELOP A LONG RANGE POPULATION POLICY
IN THE UNITED STATES TO BRING VITALITY BACK TO RURAL
AREAS. ye AMERICANS MUST ENJOY THE FIFTH FREEDOM: THE
FREEDOM OF RESIDENCE. AND WE MUST START NOW.

L WE ALREADY HAVE A NUMBER OF LAWS ON THE BOOKS PROVIDING
FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO RURAL AMERICA, AND PROGRESS IS
BEING MADE IN SOME AREAS. BUT WE HAVE YET TO LOOK AT
THE PROBLEM IN TERMS OF AN OVERALL SOLUTION.

L WE HAVE YET TO CONSIDER OUR URBAN AND RURAL PROBLEMS IN THE

LIGHT OF A NEED FOR A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY -- A NATIONAL PLAN

TO ACHIEVE RURAL-URBAN BALANCE,

TO GET THE FACTS, WE SHALL HOLD HEARINGS IN SEVERAL
AREAS OF THIS NATION. BUT THERE WILL BE MUCH MORE THAN
JUST HEARINGS. WE'RE GOING TO GET OUT AND TALK TO THE
FARMER, THE RURAL BUSINESSMAN, THE TEACHER, THE PREACHER,
THE YOUNG AND THE NOT-SO-YOUNG.

L OUR TOURS WILL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY INTENSIVE STAFF
WORK, BY ANALYSIS OF THE DATA AND INFORMATION AS IT COMES
IN. ALREADY, I AM WRITING TO EVERY GOVERNOR, SEEKING HIS
VIEWS ON RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

wewe

ASKING THE GOVERNORS TO TELL ~~us~~ WHAT THEIR STATES ARE
DOING TO STIMULATE RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND THEIR
EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH FEDERAL PROGRAMS TO STIMULATE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

4 I BELIEVE OUR TRIPS OVER THE NATION WILL POINT OUT
SOME DISTRESSING AND LITTLE-UNDERSTOOD FACTS. I BELIEVE
WE WILL FIND THAT RURAL AMERICANS ARE OFTEN DISCRIMINATED
AGAINST IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS:

-- THEY ARE LESS LIKELY THAN THEIR CITY COUSINS TO
HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR QUALITY EDUCATION.

-- THEY DON'T HAVE THE HEALTH AND DENTAL FACILITIES
THAT THEY DESPERATELY NEED.

-- IT'S DIFFICULT TO FIND JOBS IN RURAL AMERICA THAT
PAY A LIVING WAGE.

-- OUR COUNTRY COUSINS OFTEN DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO
MEANINGFUL JOB TRAINING AND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION,

L-- PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN RURAL AMERICA NEEDS
EXPANSION AND MODERNIZATION.

L-- WE STILL HAVEN'T DONE THE JOB OF GETTING WATER
AND SEWER FACILITIES INTO THE COUNTRY, NOT TO MENTION
THINGS LIKE FIRE PROTECTION AND SUFFICIENT DECENT
HOUSING, LIBRARIES, HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

L-- ONLY WHEN THE NATION IS AWARE OF THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION AGAINST RURAL AMERICA, ONLY WHEN THE
NATION IS AWARE THAT RURAL PROBLEMS ARE FORCING MILLIONS
TO MOVE TO OUR CONGESTED CITIES, WILL WE HAVE THE SUPPORT
WE NEED TO IMPLEMENT NATIONAL POLICIES WHICH WILL
INSURE PARITY IN ALL THINGS FOR RURAL AS WELL AS URBAN
AMERICA.

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and

IT SEEMS FROM WHERE I STAND THAT CONCERN FOR RURAL
SEGMENTS OF OUR POPULATION IS THE LOWEST PRIORITY ITEM ON
THE NATIONAL BUDGET.

L IN THE PAST, CONGRESS HAS ADOPTED A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS
IN THE NAME OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BUT ALL OF THEM ARE
INADEQUATELY FUNDED.

L FOR EXAMPLE, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT RURAL HOUSING.

ALTHOUGH RURAL AMERICA CONTAINS ONLY ONE-THIRD OF THE NATION'S
PEOPLE, FULLY TWO-THIRDS OF OUR SUBSTANDARD HOUSING IS
OUT IN THE COUNTRY. L THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT SPENDS SOME MONEY ON RURAL HOUSING
PROGRAMS, BUT NOT MUCH. THAT AGENCY'S PRIMARY CONCERNS
ARE THE CITIES AND THE SUBURBS.

L YOU SAY THAT'S NOT SO BAD, BECAUSE WE STILL HAVE
THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION. WELL, FOR SOME REASON
THE ADMINISTRATION TRIED EARLY THIS YEAR TO CUT THE FHA'S
INSURED HOUSING PROGRAM BY ALMOST \$500 MILLION FOR THE
REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 1971. L THIS WOULD HAVE BROUGHT
THE PROGRAM TO A STANDSTILL IN SEVERAL STATES, INCLUDING
GEORGIA. FORTUNATELY, THE WHITE HOUSE HEARD FROM
THOUSANDS OF PROTESTING AMERICANS, AND THE MONEY WAS
RESTORED.

L BUT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION HAS SIMPLY REFUSED
TO SPEND NEARLY ONE BILLION DOLLARS OF MONEY WHICH CONGRESS
APPROPRIATED TO HELP RURAL AMERICA

*Planning
water & sewer systems, airports
etc*

THESE ARE BUT A FEW EXAMPLES OF HOW RURAL AMERICA
IS FORGOTTEN WHEN IT COMES TO THE HANDING OUT OF FEDERAL
DOLLARS.

HOPEFULLY, THE EFFORTS OF OUR SUBCOMMITTEE TO PUBLICIZE
THE NEEDS OF RURAL AMERICANS WILL GENERATE PUBLIC SUPPORT
FOR ENOUGH MONEY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

UNTIL WE DO GENERATE THIS SUPPORT, WE WILL HAVE A HARD
TIME PASSING ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

NOW I KNOW MANY OF YOU COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OUT THERE
ARE ASKING YOURSELVES, "HOW DOES THIS FELLOW HUMPHREY
STAND ON THE BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUE OF REVENUE SHARING?"

WELL, I'LL TELL YOU.

I FAVOR GENERAL REVENUE SHARING. AS A MATTER OF FACT, CONGRESSMAN HENRY REUSS OF WISCONSIN HAS JOINED ME IN SPONSORING OUR OWN LEGISLATION ON REVENUE SHARING.

L AND I FAVOR SOME REORGANIZATION OF THE FEDERAL SYSTEM TO MAKE IT MORE EFFICIENT, BUT I AM NOT PREPARED TO JUNK MANY OF THE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS WHICH HAVE ~~BEEN~~ MEANT SO MUCH TO BOTH RURAL AND URBAN AMERICANS.

L LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE ADMINISTRATION'S SO-CALLED RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVENUE SHARING ACT OF 1971.

L THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON RURAL REVENUE SHARING HAD SOME GOOD LANGUAGE IN IT, A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF MANY OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH BESET RURAL AMERICA.

BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS WHICH DISTURB ME, TOO.

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT TO PROVIDE FOR RURAL REVENUE SHARING, THE ADMINISTRATION DIDN'T FIND A NEW SOURCE OF MONEY, OR SOME GOOSE THAT LAYS GOLDEN EGGS.

L INSTEAD, IN ORDER TO COME UP WITH THE DOLLARS FOR RURAL REVENUE SHARING, SOME THINGS WERE CUT OUT.

L FIRST TO GO WOULD BE THE COMMISSIONS LIKE COASTAL PLAINS AND THE APPALACHIAN COMMISSION. THAT *Regional* WILL PROVIDE \$316 MILLION. 9

L NOW I WILL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT THAT THESE COMMISSIONS HAVE NOT PRODUCED ALL THAT THEY PROMISED. BUT AT LEAST THEY OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STATES WITH SIMILAR PROBLEMS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SIT DOWN AND PLAN TOGETHER.

829

L AND ONE OF YOUR OWN GEORGIANS HAD THIS TO SAY IN
TESTIMONY LAST FEBRUARY ABOUT THE RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT
OF MONEY SPENT IN THIS STATE'S NORTHERN COUNTIES FOR THE
APPALACHIAN PROGRAM:

"THE OVERALL STATISTICS FOR THE REGION ARE SHOWING
HEALTHY SIGNS OF A TURN-AROUND. NO LONGER ARE WE
DECLINING IN POPULATION, AND NO LONGER IS THE AVERAGE
AGE OF OUR RESIDENTS INCREASING AT AN ACCELERATING
RATE. PROPERTY VALUES ARE NOW INCREASING AT A RATE
OF 6 PER CENT ANNUALLY, RATHER THAN 4 PER CENT, AND
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE MULTIPLIED BETTER
THAN 5-FOLD."

L THE PEOPLE OF TOCCOA, GEORGIA HAVE A NEW LIBRARY
WHICH WOULDN'T EXIST IF THERE WAS NO APPALACHIAN REGIONAL
COMMISSION.

L NOW I ASK YOU, IS THIS THE SORT OF PROGRAM YOU CANCEL
AND WALK AWAY FROM? I DON'T THINK SO.

L THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE ANOTHER \$227 MILLION FROM
EDA, THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM THAT HAS DONE MORE
TO REBUILD RURAL AMERICA THAN ANY OTHER.

L ALL OF YOU FROM THE SMALLER COUNTIES WANT TO ATTRACT
GOOD, SOLID INDUSTRY TO BACK UP YOUR ECONOMIC BASE OF
AGRICULTURE. WELL, ASK THE FOLKS IN WAYNESBORO
WHERE THEY ARE GETTING THE MONEY TO DEVELOP A NEW
INDUSTRIAL PARK. THEY GOT IT FROM AN EDA INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT LOAN.

L GEORGIA RECEIVED NEARLY \$7 MILLION IN EDA GRANTS
AND LOANS LAST YEAR. THAT'S SEED MONEY, MY FRIENDS, SOMETHING
YOU CAN BUILD ON -- THE BOOTSTRAPS WHICH MANY OF YOU NEED SO
BADLY BY WHICH TO PULL YOURSELVES UP.

I, FOR ONE, DON'T INTEND TO HAVE THE EDA PROGRAM
SIMPLY SLIP DOWN THE DRAIN.

L WE ALL KNOW THAT SEWER AND WATER SYSTEMS DON'T HOLD
MUCH POLITICAL SEX APPEAL. L BUT WITHOUT SUCH FACILITIES,
NONE OF YOUR TOWNS CAN GROW. L THE RURAL WATER AND WASTE
DISPOSAL PROGRAM HAS JUST GOTTEN OFF THE GROUND, AND IT
CONCERNS ME THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL GET \$42 MILLION
FOR HIS REVENUE SHARING PLAN BY TAKING IT AWAY FROM THAT
PROGRAM.

L UNDER THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL THE GRANT MONEY FOR
WATER AND SEWERS WOULD GO TO THE STATES L BUT
JURISDICTION FOR THE LOAN PORTION WOULD REMAIN WITH THE
FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION. NOW YOU KNOW THAT MOST OF
THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS BUILT UNDER THIS PROGRAM
HAVE BEEN A COMBINATION OF GRANTS, PLUS LOANS.

L I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT REVENUE SHARING WAS
SUPPOSED TO END THE RED TAPE. BUT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IF
YOU HAVE TO GO TO YOUR STATE FOR A GRANT, AND THEN TO THE
FHA FOR A LOAN, THE AMOUNT OF RED TAPE WOULD BE GREATER,
NOT SMALLER.

201552

L ANOTHER SOURCE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S RURAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS WAS TO BE THE MONEY WHICH IS CURRENTLY SPENT ON THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE, \$149 MILLION.

L APPARENTLY THE ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT FORESEEN THE GRASS ROOTS REBELLION AT THIS IDEA. WHEN RURAL AMERICANS FOUND OUT THAT THEIR EXTENSION SERVICE -- THEIR COUNTY AGENTS AND HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS -- COULD BE ELIMINATED UNDER THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL, CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS AND THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED A BARRAGE OF MAIL AND TELEPHONE CALLS. L I AM SURE THAT MANY OF YOU COUNTY COMMISSIONERS EXPRESSED YOUR OBJECTIONS TO SENATOR TALMADGE. L I CERTAINLY HEARD FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN MINNESOTA.

301553

L RURAL PEOPLE KNOW THAT THERE IS NO PROGRAM MORE VALUABLE TO RURAL AMERICA THAN THE COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE. THEY ARE NOT ABOUT TO SEE THIS PROGRAM GO DOWN THE DRAIN WITHOUT PUTTING UP A FIGHT. L FORTUNATELY, THE ADMINISTRATION REALIZED ITS MISTAKE. IN THE BILL WHICH WAS RECENTLY SENT TO THE CONGRESS, THE ADMINISTRATION INCLUDED A PROVISIO WHICH SAYS THE STATES MUST MAINTAIN AN EXTENSION PROGRAM COMPARABLE TO THAT IN EXISTENCE IN FISCAL YEAR 1971.

L THIS NEW PROVISION IS CERTAINLY A WELCOME CHANGE. HOWEVER, I FEEL THAT ANY TRANSFER OF EXTENSION PROGRAM FUNDS TO A SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING FUND COULD MEAN THE EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF THE EXTENSION SERVICE THAT WE KNOW NOW.

L CERTAINLY, THE LEAST THAT IS DONE BY THIS REVENUE SHARING
PROPOSAL IS TO INSURE THAT THE EXTENSION SERVICE HAS LITTLE
CHANCE OF FURTHER GROWTH AND PROGRESS.

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L TO SUMMARIZE MY POSITION ON REVENUE SHARING FOR RURAL
AREAS, I FAVOR REVENUE SHARING IF IT MEANS MORE FEDERAL

DOLLARS RATHER THAN LESS. L I DO NOT FAVOR A PROPOSAL
WHICH TAKES MONEY FROM PROGRAMS WHICH NOW BENEFIT FARMERS
AND RURAL AMERICANS. L I WILL OPPOSE ANY PROGRAM WHICH TAKES
MONEY OUT OF THE FARMERS' POCKETS.

+
and L WE MUST ADD INDUSTRY TO THE SMALL TOWNS OF THE STATE
AND NATION. THESE INDUSTRIES ARE BADLY NEEDED TO
ABSORB FARM WORKERS WHO ARE DISPLACED BY MECHANIZATION.

Income
Price

HOWEVER, WE MUST DO EVERYTHING WITHIN OUR POWER

TO BOLSTER THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY OF THESE AREAS.

L WE HAVE TO BUILD ON OUR ECONOMIC BASE OF AGRICULTURE,

NOT RISK THAT BASE IN THE NAME OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

L IN SPITE OF MY RESERVATIONS, I BELIEVE THAT THE

ADMINISTRATION'S REVENUE SHARING BILL DESERVES A FAIR

HEARING. THERE ARE MANY QUESTIONS THAT MUST BE ANSWERED.

FOR THAT REASON, I HAVE SCHEDULED HEARINGS BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE

ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL

ON APRIL 23.

L DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR OUR SUBCOMMITTEE WILL

HOLD HEARINGS ON A NUMBER OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS.

CURRENTLY THE COMMITTEE STAFF IS WORKING ON LEGISLATION WHICH
WOULD ESTABLISH A RURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK, A BANK WHICH WOULD

PROVIDE FINANCING FOR BASIC SERVICES FOR SMALL TOWNS

AND COMMUNITIES OF THE NATION. I SHALL ALSO INTRODUCE A

BILL TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT BANK.

THIS BILL IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR TOWNS AND
CITIES OF ALL SIZES.

I THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S JOURNEYS THROUGH RURAL AMERICA, ITS
WASHINGTON HEARINGS, AND THE WORK PRODUCT OF THE COMMITTEE'S

STAFF SHOULD GIVE US AN ADEQUATE BASE FOR DEVELOPING A
NEW LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM -- A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM WHICH
WILL PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY, THE FINANCING
TO CARRY OUT THIS POLICY, AND THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
AND LEADERSHIP WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT A
POLICY OF BALANCED NATIONAL GROWTH.

I HAVE TOLD YOU WHAT I, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, PLAN TO DO. Now,

LET'S DISCUSS WHAT YOU, THE LOCAL LEADERSHIP, MUST DO.

Because,

IT IS YOU, THE LOCAL COUNTY AND CITY OFFICIALS, WHO MUST

MAKE ANY NATIONAL PROGRAM OF RURAL REVIVAL WORK.

[WE IN WASHINGTON CAN ENACT THE LAWS, WE CAN APPROPRIATE
THE MONEY, BUT IF WE DON'T HAVE CLEAR COMMUNICATION, PRECISE
UNDERSTANDING, AND COOPERATION WITH YOU, THEN OUR EFFORTS
ARE OF NO AVAIL.

~~Now~~ I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE TALK A LITTLE
PHILOSOPHY RIGHT HERE.

201558

FOR YEARS NOW, WE'VE HAD A SITUATION WHERE COUNTRY
POLITICIANS HAVE MADE THEIR POLITICAL HAY BY ATTACKING
THOSE "EVIL" CITY FOLKS, WHILE IN THE BIG CITIES, THEY
HAVE BEEN DEMAGOGUING ABOUT THE REACTIONARY FORCES OF
RURAL AMERICA.

WELL IT'S HIGH TIME -- IN FACT, IMPERATIVE,
THAT WE ALL STOP SHOOTING ONE ANOTHER DOWN AND BEGIN WORKING
TOGETHER.

THERE MAY BE SOME OF YOU WHO CAN'T FANCY YOURSELVES
IN SOME LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE LAWMAKERS FROM ATLANTA, SO
LET ME EXPLAIN WHAT I MEAN.

WE HAVE BIG CITIES AND SUBURBS IN TROUBLE. AND WHILE
THEY TRY TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF YESTERDAY, HUNDREDS
AND HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE FROM RURAL AMERICA GET OFF THE BUSES
TODAY, PUTTING PRESSURE ON ALREADY OVER-LOADED URBAN
SYSTEMS AND ADDING TO WELFARE ROLLS.

[IT IS A LITTLE LIKE THE PRESSURE PUT ON A FILLING
BALLOON. THERE IS NO WAY TO RELIEVE IT -- AT LEAST NOT
THE WAY WE ARE DOING THINGS RIGHT NOW. AND IF WE DON'T
MAKE SOME CHANGES SOON, A WHOLE CLUSTER OF BALLOONS IS
LIABLE TO POP, DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF CITY GOVERNMENTS
ALL OVER THIS COUNTRY.

NOW LET ME MAKE MY POINT -- I HAVE HEARD THAT DOWN IN SOUTH GEORGIA, IN THOMAS COUNTY, THERE IS A TOWN CALLED METCALFE. BEFORE THE 1920'S, METCALFE WAS A PROUD AND PROSPEROUS PLACE, SURROUNDED BY SOME OF THE BEST FARMS IN THE SOUTH.

DURING THE SEASON, THE TWO COTTON GINS IN METCALFE RAN 'ROUND THE CLOCK; THERE WAS A BUSY FARMERS' MARKET; BANK; AND EVEN A HOTEL CALLED THE RUSSELL.

BUT THEN THE BOLL WEEVIL CAME, AND BY 1924, BOTH GINS HAD CLOSED AND THE BANK MOVED TO THOMASVILLE. METCALFE WAS IN THE THROES OF DEATH. AND TODAY, THE TINY GROCERY STILL IN BUSINESS HAS A SIGN ON THE FRONT DOOR THAT SAYS, "FOOD STAMPS ACCEPTED HERE."

REGRETTABLY, THERE ARE TOO MANY METCALFES IN THIS
COUNTRY, TOO MANY IN GEORGIA, TOO MANY IN MINNESOTA --
FINE LITTLE TOWNS FULL OF GOOD PEOPLE WHO LOVE THE
LAND AND THEIR COUNTRY; OBEY THE LAW; AND PAY THEIR BILLS
ON TIME.

L BUT THE CHILDREN OF THESE AMERICANS HAVE MOVED AWAY
TO THE JACKSONVILLES AND ATLANTAS. IN THE SMALL TOWNS
THESE YOUNG PEOPLE STILL THINK OF AS HOME, THERE ARE NO
OPPORTUNITIES. THERE ARE NO JOBS. NO FUTURES.

L MOST OF THESE FORMER 4-HERS AND FUTURE FARMERS,
ALONG WITH THE RURAL POOR HAVE EMPTIED INTO OUR LARGE
CITIES L SOMETIMES IT WAS THE BOLL WEEVIL THAT MADE THEM
MOVE. PERHAPS IT WAS MECHANIZATION OF OUR FARMS.

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WHATEVER THE CAUSE, WE KNOW THAT IF THERE IS TO BE A HEALTHY,
PRODUCTIVE, PROSPEROUS, AND FREE AMERICA, WE MUST
REJUVENATE, REVITALIZE, AND MODERNIZE THE VAST AREAS OF
RURAL AMERICA.

I'M NOT GOING TO STAND HERE AND TELL YOU THAT I WANT
TO START SOME MASSIVE BACK TO THE FARM MOVEMENT, BUT YOU
AND I HAVE GOT TO GIVE THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL
GROWING UP IN OUR RURAL COUNTIES SOME REASON TO WANT TO STAY
HOME. I BELIEVE THAT IF WE CAN DEVELOP THE INDUSTRIES AND
SHOPS, CREATE THE JOBS, BUILD THE SCHOOLS, PROVIDE THE
HEALTH AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES IN RURAL AMERICA, THOSE
YOUNG PEOPLE WILL STAY, AND MANY OF THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT
WILL RETURN.

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SENATOR TALMADGE HAS MADE AN IMPORTANT BEGINNING
IN THIS EFFORT WITH THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT BILL HE PASSED
IN THE LAST SESSION OF CONGRESS OVER THE OBJECTIONS
OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

BUT HE KNOWS THERE IS MUCH MORE THAT WE IN THE
CONGRESS MUST DO. ~~OUR RURAL DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE~~
~~BEGINS HEARINGS THIS WEEK ON THIS WHOLE BROAD AREA,~~
~~BEGINNING WITH AN EXAMINATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S RURAL~~
~~REVENUE SHARING PLAN.~~

BUT WHAT CONGRESS DOES WILL MATTER VERY LITTLE UNLESS
THIS UNENDING POLITICAL WAR BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN INTERESTS
BEGINS TO COOL OFF. MARK THIS VERY CLEARLY. RURAL AND URBAN
AMERICA ARE TIED TOGETHER. THEY ARE INSEPARABLE. IF
ONE GOES UNDER, BOTH GO UNDER.

SENATOR TALMADGE AND I STAND TOGETHER ON THIS BUSINESS
OF A BALANCED GROWTH FOR BOTH RURAL AMERICA AND OUR CITIES,
BECAUSE WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT A CITY PROBLEM OR A RURAL
PROBLEM. It's NEITHER A LIBERAL ISSUE NOR A CONSERVATIVE
ISSUE. It's NOT NORTHERN, SOUTHERN, EASTERN OR WESTERN.
IT IS THE VERY LIFE OF OUR COUNTRY.

THIS IS SOMETHING WE MUST FACE TOGETHER AS AMERICANS.
THE ISSUE AT HAND IS THE NATION'S DESTINY. WE ALL HAVE
A BIG STAKE IN IT. ALL OF US WILL HAVE TO MAKE SOME CHANGES
IN THE WAY WE HAVE BEEN THINKING AND DOING THINGS. AND
THERE WON'T BE MUCH ROOM FOR QUITTERS ALONG THE WAY,
OR THOSE WHO PROTEST, "WELL, WE NEVER DID IT THAT WAY
BEFORE, SO IT CAN'T BE MUCH GOOD."

[WE HAVE TO PLAN, GENTLEMEN. OUR TROUBLES DO NOT
END AT STATE OR COUNTY LINES,

[UNLESS WE GET CRACKING, AT THE FEDERAL, STATE AND
LOCAL LEVELS, OUR CITIES COULD ERUPT IN CHAOS, AND THERE
WON'T BE ANY FUTURE FOR FARMERS. THE FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS
WHICH HAS BEEN AT THE HEART OF OUR RURAL ECONOMY WILL
BE GONE.

I DON'T WANT THIS TO HAPPEN, AND NEITHER DO YOU.
BUT WE HAVE TO GET GOING, AND IT WILL REQUIRE THE BEST
EFFORTS OF ALL OF US.

WE HAD BETTER STOP MOANING ABOUT OUR PROBLEMS AND
BEGIN TREATING THEM AS CHALLENGES. DESPITE OUR TROUBLES,
THERE IS NOTHING THAT WE IN THIS COUNTRY CAN'T DO IF WE
PUT OUR MINDS AND OUR WILLS TO IT.

YOU CAN COUNT ON SENATOR TALMADGE AND ME. AND I KNOW
WE CAN COUNT ON YOU. SO LET'S GET BUSY.

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