REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

FUNDRAISER FOR CONGRESSMAN MATTHEW F. MCHUGH

Binghamton, New York

March 4, 1976

Matt McHugh is my kind of Democrat.

That's why I've come to Binghamton. I want the voters in the 27th District to return this fine young man to Congress in November.

And I want him to come back to Washington ready to work with the next President of the United States who will be a member of the Democratic Party.

We need Matt in Washington.

We need his sense of commitment and dedication.

We need his youth, his vigor and his diligence.

We need his sense of duty to the people he serves.

Your Congressman has a reputation for hard work -hard work on national problems and hard work on the very specific problems of the people of the 27th District. I've seen Matt at work on the Agriculture Committee and he is tireless.

And I've been told by Matt's colleagues in the New York delegation that they have been very impressed by the hard work that he puts into helping constituents solve problems.

This type of spirit -- this type of attitude -- is important.

The voters know that when they return him to Washington they will see him and they will have contact with him.

You know he is your man in Washington -- ready to listen, ready to make government more responsive to the needs of all segments of his constituency.

Matt McHugh cares, and he is willing to fight for what he believes is right for this country.

In just eight months our people will elect a President and a new Congress.

And the Democratic Party will face its ultimate battle.

We will attempt to recapture the White House for the American people.

We must -- and we will -- end this period of confusion and turmoil which has characterized our political leadership for more than seven years under the Nixon-Ford Administration.

As we begin the third century of our independence Americans are searching for a vision.

They are crying out for leadership which gives hope for a new day.

They seek leadership that sees every problem as a challenge -- every difficulty as an opportunity.

If Democrats don't unite to insure a Democratic Congress and a Democrat in the White House, we can expect four more years of unenlightened leadership and economic mismanagement:

-- We will see national unemployment rates of at least seven percent for the rest of the decade. -- We will see a drop in purchasing power and a rise in consumer prices.

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-- We will see more Americans on the poverty rolls and the welfare rolls.

-- We will see continued stagnation in the housing industry and a continuing recession which will cost our economy more than a trillion-and-a-half dollars.

-- And we will see more and more family farmers lose their farms and their livelihoods.

Another Gerald Ford Administration will give us an unending cycle of joblessness, inflation and colossal waste of our nation's human and material resources. And all of this breeds continued crime and restlessness among those most severely affected.

One of the Democratic challenges in 1976 is to inform the American people about Republican realities:

-- They must understand that the same Republican Party which cries out for balanced budgets has given us the most unbalanced budget in the history of the Republic.

-- They must be told that the same Republicans which extol the virtues of the free enterprise system have undermined that system by their mismanagement of the economy forcing too many businesses into bankruptcy.

-- They must be told that the same Republicans who advocate a stable dollar have sat idly by while the dollar has been eroded 37 percent since 1969.

-- They must be told that the same Republicans who support the work ethic have thrown millions of Americans out of work and have closed their eyes to the plight of eight million unemployed men and women. Instead of job programs, the Administration prefers the easy route of food stamps and welfare checks.

This is Republican reality in 1976. And it is the duty and obligation of every single Democrat to let the voters know the truth.

Currently it is the fad among certain people in both parties to downgrade what Matt and I and others have been doing in Washington.

I want to talk frankly with you for a moment about this trend and what it means for our Party and our country.

Forty-four years ago the Democratic Party gave Franklin D. Roosevelt to the nation as its leader and its hope for a better day. In the face of a bankrupt economic system which had rewarded the rich and crushed working Americans, FDR used the power of the Federal government to change the economic life of the nation.

No longer would the "people's government" turn its back on those who lost their jobs, their homes and their savings.

No longer would the "people's government" let the elderly die, forgotten in poverty. A system of social security was enacted to protect them in their later years.

No longer would the "people's government" let the corporations and banks flagrantly abuse their great power. And no longer would the "people's government" deny working Americans the right to organize in unions and bargain collectively with employers for basic economic benefits.

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And the economic reforms of the Roosevelt years are still with us.

They have been expanded by successive Democratic Administrations. They have been adapted to a more modern, urban America.

But let us not forget what happened to America as it suffered unprecedented economic collapse and stagnation in the Great Depression.

In the face of incredible corporate irresponsibility and weak state and local government, the power of the federal government was used to the ultimate benefit of the American people.

Today, in a different era, many of the same problems which confronted the nation during the Great Depression have returned to haunt us.

More than seven million Americans officially are recorded as being without work. But we know that the actual figure is closer to ten million.

Our cities have become centers of poverty and despair.

Average American families are faced with ever-growing financial burdens which threaten the gains made in previous years.

And many of the commercial and financial institutions of the nation continually skirt the law in their practices at home and abroad.

I recognize, and so does Matt McHugh, that these problems cannot be solved overnight.

And we also recognize that state and local governments have begun to equip themselves with the tools and resources to play a more important role in providing services to people and helping to solve important national problems.

To this change must be added a very legitimate desire of people all across America to participate more directly in decisions which affect their lives.

But let's not confuse the issues!

Yes, the states and the cities must have a great role in the business of government.

But I also know that the federal government must continue to make critical national decisions.

The civil servants, legislators, the Governors -- no matter how knowledgeable -- can't plan an economic recovery or devise a strategy for cleaning up the nation's rivers.

They can't provide a national food policy or a system of national health care.

They can't tax the big national and international corporations.

But they can help us in Washington.

And they must.

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We have a federal system and under our Constitution Hubert Humphrey, Matt McHugh and Gerald Ford are held accountable for national policies and programs.

And now let's really discuss what's at stake this year. The issue is people and how their interests best can be served. And this involves better government -- a return to quality among those who serve the nation's needs.

The polluters, the bribers, the tax cheaters, the special lobbies must be brought under control. The people's interest must be served.

This only can be done with the power of the federal government.

Franklin Roosevelt recognized this. So did Harry Truman, John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson.

These men did not disparage what can be done in Washington -for the benefit of the people -- by dedicated men and women.

Yes, they could have run against Washington. They could have made the federal government the whipping boy for dissatisfaction and despair.

That would have been easy.

But they chose a different strategy.

They decided to run against Republicans -- against the economic Royalists -- against privilege and exploitation.

And they fought for economic growth, jobs, education, health care, the elderly, the handicapped and the minorities.

They knew what was at stake.

And we won as Democrats dedicated to greater economic and social justice for the American people.

So, my fellow Democrats, there is a lesson for us today.

We will return to the White House in 1977.

But we cannot do so as anti-government zealots or as prophets of doom and gloom.

Victory will be ours if we offer sensible alternatives to a morally bankrupt Republican Administration.

We will win not because we are against the government we hope to run, but because we are for government which helps people:

-- a government that offers America a full employment policy that assures decent jobs at decent wages;

-- a program of long-overdue reforms to clean up the welfare mess so that help goes only to families who actually need it;

-- a national health care system that provides quality health care for all at the lowest possible cost;

-- a housing program that replaces slums with sound, low cost, high quality housing for every family;

-- a tax program that eliminates glaring tax loopholes that make it possible for some people and some corporations to pay little or nothing, while the middle income tax payer bears the major burden of government expenditures;

-- a transportation program for both urban and rural America; and

-- an energy program that assures America of energy resources.

The issue this election year is not Washington -- but the policies of the Nixon-Ford Administration -- vetoes, unemployment, recession, inflation, the neglect of our cities.

Let us get on with the work of running against the Republicans and their economic policies which have brought us to the brink of depression!

Only by this route will we regain the faith and confidence of the American people.

We will win because we care!

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We will win because we dare to pioneer!

We will win because America is tired of being told what we can't do.

America wants to hear what we can and will do!

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-1-MATT MCHUGH IS MY KIND OF DEMOCRAT. THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO BINGHAMTON, I WANT THE VOTERS IN THE 27TH DISTRICT TO RETURN THIS FINE YOUNG MAN TO CONGRESS IN NOVEMBER. AND I WANT HIM TO COME BACK TO WASHINGTON READY TO WORK WITH THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WHO WILL BE A MEMBER OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. WE NEED MATT IN WASHINGTON., WE NEED HIS SENSE OF COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION. WE NEED HIS YOUTH, HIS VIGOR AND HIS DILIGENCE. WE NEED HIS SENSE OF DUTY TO THE PEOPLE HE SERVES. YOUR CONGRESSMAN HAS A REPUTATION FOR HARD WORK HARD WORK ON NATIONAL PROBLEMS AND HARD WORK ON THE VERY SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 27TH DISTRICT.

I'VE SEEN MATT AT WORK ON THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE AND HE IS TIRELESS, AND I'VE BEEN TOLD BY MATT'S COLLEAGUES IN THE NEW YORK DELEGATION THAT THEY HAVE BEEN VERY IMPRESSED BY THE HARD WORK THAT HE PUTS INTO HELPING CONSTITUENTS SOLVE PROBLEMS. THIS TYPE OF SPIRIT -- THIS TYPE OF ATTITUDE -- IS IMPORTANT The voters know that when they return him to Washington they WILL SEE HIM AND THEY WILL HAVE CONTACT WITH HIM. YOU KNOW HE IS YOUR MAN IN WASHINGTON -- READY TO LISTEN, READY TO MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF ALL SEGMENTS OF HIS CONSTITUENCY MATT MCHUGH CARES, AND HE IS WILLING TO FIGHT FOR WHAT HE BELIEVES IS RIGHT FOR THIS COUNTRY,

-3-N JUST EIGHT MONTHS OUR PEOPLE WILL ELECT A PRESIDENT AND A NEW CONGRESS. AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY WILL FACE ITS ULTIMATE BATTLE. RECAPTURE THE WHITE HOUSE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. WE MUST -- AND WE WILL -- END THIS PERIOD OF CONFUSION AND TURMOIL WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED OUR FOR MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS UNDER THE NIXON-FORD ADMINISTRATION. As we begin the third century of our independence, Americans ARE SEARCHING FOR A VISION. THEY ARE CRYING OUT FOR LEADERSHIP WHICH GIVES HOPE FOR A NEW and better day.

THEY SEEK LEADERSHIP THAT SEES EVERY PROBLEM AS A

CHALLENGE -- EVERY DIFFICULTY AS AN OPPORTUNITY.

IF DEMOCRATS DON'T UNITE TO INSURE A DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS AND A DEMOCRAT IN THE WHITE HOUSE, WE CAN EXPECT FOUR MORE YEARS OF UNENLIGHTENED LEADERSHIP AND ECONOMIC MISMANAGEMENT: -- WE WILL SEE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF AT LEAST SEVEN PERCENT FOR THE REST OF THE DECADE. Z -- WE WILL SEE A DROP IN PURCHASING POWER AND A RISE IN CONSUMER PRICES. \mathcal{L} -- We will see more Americans on the poverty rolls and THE WELFARE ROLLS, 2 -- WE WILL SEE CONTINUED STAGNATION IN THE HOUSING INDUSTRY AND A CONTINUING RECESSION WHICH WILL COST OUR ECONOMY MORE THAN

A TRILLION-AND-A-HALF DOLLARS.

/-- AND WE WILL SEE MORE AND MORE FAMILY FARMERS LOSE THEIR FARMS AND THEIR LIVELIHOODS, ANOTHER GERALD FORD ADMINISTRATION WILL GIVE US AN UNENDING CYCLE OF JOBLESSNESS, INFLATION AND COLOSSAL WASTE OF OUR NATION'S HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES AND ALL OF THIS BREEDS CONTINUED CRIME AND RESTLESSNESS AM ONE OF THE DEMOCRATIC CHALLENGES IN 1976 IS TO INFORM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ABOUT REPUBLICAN REALITIES: THEY MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE SAME REPUBLICAN PARTY WHICH CRIES OUT FOR BALANCED BUDGETS HAS GIVEN US THE MOST UNBALANCED BUDGET IN THE HISTORY OF THE REPUBLIC.

punton necenter THEY MUST BE TOLD THAT THE SAME REPUBLICANS WHICH EXTOL THE VIRTUES OF THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM HAVE UNDERMINED THAT SYSTEM BY THEIR MISMANAGEMENT OF THE ECONOMY FORSING TOO MANY BUSINESSES INTO BANKRUPTCY. THEY MUST BE TOLD THAT THE SAME REPUBLICANS WHO ADVOCATE A STABLE DOLLAR HAVE SAT IDLY BY WHILE THE DOLLAR HAS BEEN ERODED 37 PERCENT SINCE 1969. _ Devaluation / -- THEY MUST BE TOLD THAT THE SAME REPUBLICANS WHO SUPPORT THE WORK ETHIC HAVE THROWN MILLIONS OF AMERICANS OUT OF WORK AND HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES TO THE PLIGHT OF EIGHT MILLION UNEMPLOYED MEN AND WOMEN .) INSTEAD OF JOB PROGRAMS, THE ADMINISTRATION PREFERS THE EASY ROUTE OF FOOD STAMPS AND WELFARE CHECKS.

AND OBLIGATION OF EVERY SINGLE DEMOCRAT TO LET THE VOTERS KNOW THE TRUTH.

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DOING IN WASHINGTON. Run Against Was

I WANT TO TALK FRANKLY WITH YOU FOR A MOMENT ABOUT THIS TREND AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR OUR PARTY AND OUR COUNTRY.

Forty-four years ago the Democratic Party gave Franklin

D. ROOSEVELT TO THE NATION AS ITS LEADER AND ITS HOPE FOR A BETTER DAY. IN THE FACE OF A BANKRUPT ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH HAD REWARDED THE RICH AND CRUSHED WORKING AMERICANS, FDR USED THE POWER OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE THE ECONOMIC

LIFE OF THE NATION.

NO LONGER WOULD THE "PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT" TURN ITS BACK

ON THOSE WHO LOST THEIR JOBS, THEIR HOMES AND THEIR SAVINGS.

No LONGER WOULD THE "PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT" LET THE ELDERLY DIE, FORGOTTEN IN POVERTY. A SYSTEM OF SOCIAL SECORITY WAS ENACTED TO PROTECT THEM IN THEIR LATER YEARS.

No KONGER WOULD THE "PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT" LET THE

CORPORATIONS AND BANKS FLAGRANTLY ABUSE THEIR GREAT POWER.

AND NO LONGER WOULD THE "PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT" DENY

WORKING AMERICANS THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE IN UNIONS AND BARGAIN

COLLECTIVELY WITH EMPLOYERS FOR BASIC ECONOMIC BENEFITS.

AND THE ECONOMIC REFORMS OF THE ROOSEVELT YEARS ARE STILL 7DIC, SOC See, SEC, 7P.C WITH US

The Boin Reforms -They have been expanded by successive Democratic

ADMINISTRATIONS. THEY HAVE BEEN ADAPTED TO A MORE MODERN, Puralul URBAN AMERICA.

BUT LET US NOT FORGET WHAT HAPPENED TO AMERICA AS IT SUFFERED UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC COLLAPSE AND STAGNATION IN THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

IN THE FACE OF INCREDIBLE CORPORATE IRRESPONSIBILITY AND WEAK STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE POWER OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS USED TO THE ULTIMATE BENEFIT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. TODAY, IN A DIFFERENT ERA, MANY OF THE SAME PROBLEMS WHICH CONFRONTED THE NATION DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION HAVE RETURNED TO HAUNT US,

MORE THAN SEVEN MILLION AMERICANS OFFICIALLY ARE RECORDED AS BEING WITHOUT WORK, BUT WE KNOW THAT THE ACTUAL FIGURE IS Building trobes. CLOSER TO TEN MILLION. TIES HAVE BECOME CENTERS OF POVERTY AND DESPAIR. AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILIES ARE FACED WITH EVER-GROWING FINANCIAL BURDENS WHICH THREATEN THE GAINS MADE IN PREVIOUS YEARS. AND MANY OF THE COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE NATION CONTINUALLY SKIRT THE LAW IN THEIR PRACTICES AT HOME AND ABROAD.

I RECOGNIZE, AND SO DOES MATT MCHUGH, THAT THESE PROBLEMS CANNOT BE SOLVED OVERNIGHT, AND WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEGUN TO EQUIP THEMSELVES WITH THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO PLAY A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROVIDING SERVICES TO PEOPLE AND HELPING TO SOLVE IMPORTANT NATIONAL PROBLEMS.

TO THIS CHANGE MUST BE ADDED A VERY LEGITIMATE DESIRE OF PEOPLE ALL ACROSS AMERICA TO PARTICIPATE MORE DIRECTLY IN DECISIONS WHICH AFFECT THEIR LIVES.

BUT LET'S NOT CONFUSE THE ISSUES!

YES, THE STATES AND THE CITIES MUST HAVE A GREAT ROLE IN THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT.

BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST CONTINUE TO MAKE CRITICAL NATIONAL DECISIONS. THE CIVIL SERVANTS, LEGISLATORS, THE GOVERNORS -- NO MATTER HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE -- CAN'T PLAN AN ECONOMIC RECOVERY OR DEVISE A STRATEGY FOR CLEANING UP THE NATION'S RIVERS. THEY CAN'T PROVIDE A NATIONAL FOOD POLICY OR A SYSTEM . OF NATIONAL HEALTH CARE,

THEY CAN'T TAX THE BIG NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

BUT THEY CAN HELP US IN WASHINGTON.

AND THEY MUST.

WE HAVE A FEDERAL SYSTEM AND UNDER OUR CONSTITUTION HUBERT HUMPHREY, MATT MCHUGH AND GERALD FORD ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR NATIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.

Issue to not Big gout - or working the its the People then Good AND NOW LET'S REALLY DISCUSS WHAT'S AT STAKE THIS YEAR. THE ISSUE IS PEOPLE AND HOW THEIR INTERESTS BEST CAN BE SERVED. AND THIS INVOLVES BETTER GOVERNMENT -- A RETURN TO QUALITY AMONG THOSE WHO SERVE THE NATION'S NEEDS. THE POLLUTERS, THE BRIBERS, THE TAX CHEATERS, THE SPECIAL LOBBIES MUST BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL THE PEOPLE'S INTEREST MUST BE SERVED. This only can be done with the power of the federal governmen FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT RECOGNIZED THIS. SO DID HARRY TRUMAN, JOHN KENNEDY AND LYNDON JOHNSON. DISPARAGE WHAT CAN DENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE -- BY DEDICATED MEN AND

-14-Yes, THEY COULD HAVE RUN AGAINST WASHINGTON. THEY COULD HAVE MADE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THE WHIPPING BOY FOR DISSATISFACTION AND DESPAIR. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY BUT THEY CHOSE A DIFFERENT STRATEGY. THEY DECIDED TO RUN AGAINST REPUBLICANS -- AGAINST THE -- AGAINST PRIVILEGE AND EXPLOITATION town economics ECONOMIC GROWTH, JOBS, EDUCATION, AND THEY FOUGH HEALTH CARE, THE ELDERLY, THE HANDICAPPED AND THE MINORITIES mut the way They <u>knew</u> what was at stake. AND WE WON AS DEMOCRATS DEDICATED TO GREATER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. So, MY FELLOW DEMOCRATS, THERE IS A LESSON FOR US TODAY.

-15-WE WILL RETURN TO THE WHITE HOUSE IN 1977. BUT WE CANNOT DO SO AS ANTI-GOVERNMENT ZEALOTS OR AS PROPHETS OF DOOM AND GLOOM, VICTORY WILL BE OURS IF WE OFFER SENSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO A MORALLY BANKRUPT REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION. WE WILL WIN NOT BECAUSE WE ARE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT WE HOPE TO RUN, BUT BECAUSE WE ARE FOR GOVERNMENT WHICH HELPS PEOPLE: A GOVERNMENT THAT OFFERS AMERICA A FULL EMPLOYMENT POLICY THAT ASSURES DECENT JOBS AT DECENT WAGES; -- A PROGRAM OF LONG-OVERDUE REFORMS TO CLEAN UP THE WELFARE MESS SO THAT HELP GOES ONLY TO FAMILIES WHO ACTUALLY NEED IT;

Thatto -16--- A NATIONAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM THAT PROVIDES QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR ALL AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST; -- A HOUSING PROGRAM THAT REPLACES SLUMS WITH SOUND , HIGH QUALITY HOUSING FOR EVERY FAMILY; -- A TAX PROGRAM THAT ELIMINATES GLARING TAX LOOPHOLES THAT MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR SOME PEOPLE AND SOME CORPORATIONS TO PAY LITTLE OR NOTHING, WHILE THE MIDDLE INCOME TAX PAYER BEARS THE MAJOR BURDEN OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES; A TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR BOTH URBAN AND RURAL AMERICA; AND -- AN ENERGY PROGRAM THAT ASSURES AMERICA OF ENERGY **RESOURCES**. THE ISSUE THIS ELECTION YEAR IS NOT WASHINGTON THE POLICIES OF THE NIXON-FORD ADMINISTRATION -- VETOES,

UNEMPLOYMENT, RECESSION, INFLATION, THE NEGLECT OF OUR

CITIES.

LET US GET ON WITH THE WORK OF RUNNING AGAINST THE REPUBLICANS AND THEIR ECONOMIC POLICIES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT

US TO THE BRINK OF DEPRESSION!

CONFIDENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

WE WILL WIN BECAUSE WE CARE!

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WE WILL WIN BECAUSE AMERICA IS TIRED OF BEING TOLD WHAT

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AMERICA WANTS TO HEAR WHAT WE CAN AND WILL DO!

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