SPEECH NOTES

ŝ.

## SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

## FUNDRAISER FOR CONGRESSMAN RAY MADDEN

HAMMOND, INDIANA

March 12, 1976

AMERICA ENTERS THE CRITICAL YEAR OF 1976 A VICTIM OF MISGUIDED ECONOMIC POLICIES.

SEVEN MILLION AMERICANS ARE WITHOUT JOBS.

IF WE LOOK BEHIND THE OFFICIAL FIGURES WE FIND OVER 10 MILLION AMERICANS WHO ARE UNDEREMPLOYED AND HAVE STOPPED LOOKING FOR WORK.

INFLATION REMAINS FAR TOO HIGH. AND THE REPUBLICAN Administration forecasts six percent inflation for at least two MORE YEARS.

WE HAVE HAD NOTHING FROM THE FORD ADMINISTRATION EXCEPT A BLUEPRINT FOR RECESSION LEVEL UNEMPLOYMENT AND HIGH INFLATION. THIS MEANS DISPAIR AND DISCOURAGEMENT WITHOUT A SIGN OF RELIEF FOR THE WORKING FAMILIES OF INDIANA. As an American who believes in his country and the worth of its productive people, as a Democrat in the tradition of Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson, I find the Republican economic platform for 1976 too little, too limited and too late, In fact, I accuse the Ford Administration of devising an economic strategy which deliberately fosters slow recovery and greater suffering for our working families and those

FORCED TO LIVE ON FIXED INCOMES,

\* \* \* \* \*

ONE OF THE DEMOCRATIC CHALLENGES IN 1976 IS TO INFORM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ABOUT REPUBLICAN REALITIES.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE REPUBLICAN REALITIES OF 1976:

-- The people 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

THOUSANDS OF 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.

-- The people 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

MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF UNEMPLOYED MEN AND WOMEN.

INSTEAD OF JOBS AND WORK, THE ADMINISTRATION PREFERS THE EASY ROUTE OF FOOD STAMPS, UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

AND NOW LET'S REALLY DISCUSS WHAT'S AT STAKE THIS YEAR. THE ISSUE IS PEOPLE AND HOW THEIR INTERESTS 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.

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,

RECLAMATION, IRRIGATION, CONSERVATION, THE ELDERLY, THE

THEY KNEW WHAT WAS AT STAKE.

AND WE WON AS DEMOCRATS DEDICATED TO GREATER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

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; -7-

-- 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;

-- A NATIONAL FOOD PROGRAM THAT IS BASED ON ABUNDANCE, A FAIR RETURN FOR THE FARMERS, AND HUMANITARIAN AID.

THE ISSUE THIS ELECTION YEAR IS NOT WASHINGTON -- BUT THE POLICIES OF THE NIXON-FORD ADMINISTRATION -- VETOES, UNEMPLOYMENT, RECESSION, INFLATION.

WE WILL WIN BECAUSE WE CARE!

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!

## Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.

