

From the Office of  
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey  
Dyckman Hotel  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

For Release: Friday p.m.'s  
Oct. 31, 1958

GOP 'INDIFFERENCE' COSTING NATION TRAGIC TOLL IN RECESSION: SENATOR HUMPHREY

Republican 'indifference' to the need for a continually expanding economy to keep pace with our continually expanding population has "cost our country a tragic recession toll in lost production, lost jobs, lost income, and lost prestige in the world", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey declared today in a luncheon address at Chisholm, Minnesota.

"It isn't good enough to compare the number of men employed now with some period in the past," he explained. "More important is whether the number of jobs available now is keeping pace with the number of men needing jobs -- and whether we are building an economy to assure the additional jobs that will be needed for our growing population of the future.

"It isn't good enough to keep corporation profits going up through higher consumer prices, while production is cut and millions remain out of work.

"For our economy to be sound, gains from economic expansion and progress must be shared by workers, farmers, and small business as well as the giant corporations of our country," Senator Humphrey declared.

"The current recession which the Republicans say never happened has cost America over \$40 billion in lost income.

"It has cost the U.S. treasury alone \$7 billion in lost revenue, resulting in the huge deficit our country now faces.

"And the failure of the Republican Administration to act swiftly to get this economy back into high gear seriously weakens our international position at a time when the Soviet Union is competing with us economically throughout the world."

Republicans "deliberately put the brakes on our growing economy" by forcing up interest rates and tightening the country's credit, Senator Humphrey declared.

"But if, as they profess, the aim was to curb inflation, the effect was just the opposite as biggest corporations of the country protected themselves against a slackening economy by raising consumer prices to maintain their profits as they curbed production.

"The effect was to put the entire burden of the recession on those least able to shoulder it -- upon consumers, working people, farmers, and small business.

"While the Administration opposed increased unemployment benefits, increased social security payments, decent farm prices, and blocked enactment of area redevelopment and community facilities programs designed to create new jobs, these "trickle down" Republicans shut their eyes to price-gouging and profit-gouging of the nation's mighty corporations.

"And the result of this Republican indifference to the fate of farmers' and workingmen's families has been a runaway period of inflationary profits and increased economic power for the great corporations on one hand, and unemployment, high costs, and debt for American workers and farmers on the other", Senator Humphrey declared.

The Republicans in government and industry and finance have tried to fool the American people into thinking that higher wages were causing inflation and higher prices. But the truth of the matter is that wages were lagging far behind profits and consumer prices -- even before the recession and unemployment!

"In the iron and steel industry, for example, profits rose last year by 22% while wages in the industry rose by 6.8%," Senator Humphrey pointed out.

(over)

"And in August -- in the middle of the recession -- with steel production down to half our steelmaking capacity -- the steel corporations had the gall to raise steel prices by \$4.50 a ton, even after steadily pushing net profits on each ton of steel from \$8.85 in 1953 to \$17.91 per ton in 1957.

"All the President could think of in August was a sermon to the steel workers about holding down their wage requests!" Senator Humphrey commented.

"The Republican Administration does not seem to really favor full employment. The GOP cares too little about fair farm prices, decent wages, and reasonable consumer prices," Senator Humphrey charged. "Their record in the White House and in Congress for the past six years is proof that their one goal is higher big business profits -- period!

"Instead of working to encourage new employment opportunities in economically distressed areas, instead of trying to increase the living standards and conditions of our elderly and our underprivileged families, instead of trying to provide decent housing, decent schools and decent health standards for all Americans, the Republicans have spent the last six years in beating down and vetoing every constructive Democratic effort to encourage an expanding economy and full employment.

"Republicans have taken a hands-off attitude while the four major steel companies increased their control of American steel capacity to 58.3%; while the thirty leading corporations in America over the past ten years managed to increase their total share of all sales from 15.9% to 20.1%; while these same corporations increased their share of the total corporate profits after taxes from 17.5% to 31.1%.

"The result of all this unhindered price-setting, soaring interest rates, and plummeting farm income was that the consumer could no longer afford to buy -- and the sharp recession from which the effects are still being seriously felt.

RENEWED FIGHT FOR AREA REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PLEDGED IN NEXT CONGRESS

Renewed efforts will be made in the coming Congress to enact into law an area redevelopment program providing loans, grants, and technical assistance to areas of the country which have suffered from chronic and persistent unemployment, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey declared last night at Duluth.

"And this time, we hope to have enough Democrats in Congress to override the President's veto if he again tries to block our efforts", Senator Humphrey declared.

Senator Humphrey called attention to the fact that the Area Redevelopment Act which he co-sponsored with Senator Douglas was approved by both houses of the 85th Congress, but vetoed by the President.

"Senator Douglas and I have already made plans for again introducing the legislation in the 86th Congress," Senator Humphrey declared.

"We need such a program regardless of a business recovery in some segments of our economy. Minnesota has both urban and rural areas that would be eligible for assistance, under the proposed Act, and few of the areas qualifying for assistance, loans, grants and technical aid are likely to be graduated out of this distress with business recovery. The upturn is likely to pass them by. The longer the distress continues, the more demoralized the area, the greater the loss in business and young population, and the more difficult recovery will be through internal growth.

"Most communities with chronic unemployment need outside technical, financial and management assistance to help rebuild their economies and to create new vocational advantages. Many lack community facilities; others new industrial structures.

"The bill vetoed by President Eisenhower September 6 would have provided financial assistance for industrial and commercial facilities from revolving funds of \$100 million for urban redevelopment areas and \$100 million for rural redevelopment areas, grants up to \$75 million for community public facilities, and grants up to \$4.5 million for technical assistance. The bill provided for suitable re-training of unemployed, and allocated 10 percent of the urban renewal funds to industrial areas.

"The President blocked the intent of Congress to institute such a program, even though he had asked for such legislation in his previous three budget messages and had said on numerous occasions that he supported such a bill. It was simply another case of the President and his Republican party promising one thing, but when the chips were down doing another.

"Like most other forward-looking legislation, and legislation to help solve unemployment and to care for the aged and the poor, this bill was largely supported by the Democratic Party in the Congress but opposed by the Republicans. It passed the Senate by a vote of 46 to 36, with 71% of the Democrats for it but 59% of the Republicans against it. It passed the House by a vote of 216 to 159, with 77% of the Democrats for it and 66% of the Republicans against it. Give us enough more Democrats this year and we will be able to put the program into effect next year, whether the Republicans want it or not," Senator Humphrey declared.

Cong Blatnik

Major Front Seats

LUNCHEON ADDRESS

Chisholm, Minnesota

Oct. 31, 1958

(X) Eugene McCarthy

(X) Gov Freeman

(X) Here lies a Republican  
a friend of the people

Republican Campaign!

GOP 'INDIFFERENCE' COSTING NATION TRAGIC TOLL IN RECESSION

John Blatnik - A. J. Johnson !

Farmers  
no school  
business

100%

Republican 'indifference' to the  
need for a continually expanding economy  
to keep pace with our continually expanding  
population has cost our country a tragic  
recession toll in lost production, lost  
jobs, lost income, and <sup>lower</sup> ~~lost~~ prestige in  
the world.

It isn't good enough to compare the  
number of men employed now with some  
period in the past. More important is

whether the number of jobs available  
 now is keeping pace with the number of men  
 needing jobs -- and whether we are  
 building an economy to assure the  
additional jobs that will be needed  
for our growing population of the future.

*Population  
 growth  
 work force  
 7 million*

*Jobs,  
 Expansion,  
 New Industry*

*now isn't*

~~It isn't~~ good enough to keep corporation  
 profits going up through higher consumer  
 prices, while production is cut<sup>back</sup> and  
millions remain ~~out of work~~ *unemployed or underemployed*.

For our economy to be sound, gains  
from economic expansion and progress  
must be shared by workers, farmers, and  
small business as well as the giant  
corporations of our country.

The current recession which the  
Republicans say never happened has cost  
America over \$40 billion in lost income.

*The Agricultural Recession cost \$18 Billion  
in lost income.*

↳ It has cost the U.S. treasury alone  
\$7 billion in lost revenue, resulting  
in the huge deficit our country now  
faces.

↳ And the failure of the Republican  
Administration to act swiftly to get  
this economy back into high gear  
seriously weakens our international  
position at a time when the Soviet Union  
is competing with us economically  
throughout the world.

*Recession  
weakens  
us  
internationally*

Geo  
Humphrey  
I warned

Administration

← Republicans deliberately put the  
brakes on our growing economy by forcing  
up interest rates and tightening the  
country's credit.

← But if, as they profess, the aim  
was to curb inflation, the effect was  
just the opposite as biggest corporations  
of the country protected themselves  
against a slackening economy by raising  
consumer prices to maintain their profits  
as they curbed production.

The effect was to put the entire  
burden of the recession on those least  
able to shoulder it -- upon consumers,  
working people, farmers, and small business.

{ Part of that burden, in addition  
 to higher prices and higher costs of  
 financing everything from new autos  
 to new television sets, has been  
\$8½ billion added to the cost of  
 financing city, county, state and  
 national indebtedness as a result of  
 higher interest rates - - a windfall  
to the big banking and investment  
institutions of Wall Street at the  
expense of every taxpayer in the country.

Interest  
Cost  
up!

Small Business Troubles

8% for loans  
4.4% for big business

Hi Interest  
Tight money

cause  
of  
Steel  
Drop

While the Administration opposed  
increased unemployment benefits,  
increased social security payments,  
decent farm prices, and blocked  
enactment of area redevelopment and  
community facilities programs designed  
to create new jobs, these "trickle  
down" Republicans shut their eyes to  
price-gouging and profit-gouging of the  
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*opposed  
Redevelop  
Community  
facilities*

And the result of this Republican  
indifference to the fate of farmers'  
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unemployment, high costs, and debt for American workers and farmers on the other.

The Republicans in government and industry and finance have tried to fool the American people into thinking that higher wages were causing inflation and higher prices. But the truth of the matter is that wages were lagging far behind profits and consumer prices - - even before the recession and unemployment!

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And in August -- in the middle of  
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down to <sup>65% of</sup> ~~half~~ our steelmaking capacity --  
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The GOP cares too little about fair farm prices, decent wages, and reasonable consumer prices. Their record in the White House and in Congress for the past six years is proof that their one goal is higher big business profits --- period!

{ Instead of working to encourage new employment opportunities in economically distressed areas, instead of trying to increase the living standards and conditions of our elderly and our underprivileged families, instead of trying to provide decent housing, decent schools and decent health standards for all Americans, the Republicans have spent

the last six years in beating down and vetoing every constructive Democratic effort to encourage an expanding economy and full employment.

Republicans have taken a hands-off attitude while the four major steel companies increased their control of American steel capacity to 58.3%; while the thirty leading corporations in America over the past ten years managed to increase their total share of all sales from 15.9% to 20.1%; while these same corporations increased their share of the total corporate profits after taxes from 17.5% to 31.1%.

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ADDRESS AT STEELWORKERS HALL

Duluth, Minnesota

Oct. 31, 1958

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And this time, we hope to have enough Democrats in Congress to override the President's veto if he again tries to block our efforts.

I co-sponsored with Senator Douglas  
in Senate — John B. — Hare  
the Area Redevelopment Act which was

approved by both Houses of the 85th  
Congress, but vetoed by the President.

*We have*

~~Senator Douglas and I have already~~

made plans for again introducing the  
legislation in the 86th Congress.

We need such a program regardless  
of a business recovery in some segments  
of our economy. Minnesota has both  
urban and rural areas that would be  
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qualifying for assistance, loans, grants  
and technical aid are likely to be graduated  
out of this distress with business recovery.

The upturn is likely to pass them by. The longer the distress continues, the more demoralized the area, the greater the loss in business and young population, and the more difficult recovery will be through internal growth.

Most communities with chronic unemployment need outside technical, financial and management assistance to help rebuild their economies and to create new vocational advantages. Many lack community facilities; other new industrial structure.

The bill vetoed by President Eisenhower September 6 would have provided financial assistance for industrial and commercial facilities from revolving funds of \$100 million for urban redevelopment areas and \$100 million for rural redevelopment areas, grants up to \$75 million for community public facilities, and grants up to \$4.5 million for technical assistance. The bill provided for suitable retraining of unemployed, and allocated 10 percent of the urban renewal funds to industrial areas.

The President blocked the intent of Congress to institute such a program, even though he had asked for such legislation in his previous three budget messages and had said on numerous occasions that he supported such a bill. It was simply another case of the President and his Republican party promising one thing, but when the chips were down doing another.

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BLATNIK.

After introduction and acknowledgement by HHH lead into a "LOOK AT THE RECORD" with: "This has been a vicious, smear type campaign. Instead of running against the DFL Party, against the DFL record and against DFL candidates, it is quite clear that the basic strategy of the Republican Party is to try to change the subject.

Instead of measuring Republican performance against DFL performance on specific domestic and international issues that mean the difference between prosperity and recession, between the establishment of peace and the continuance and worsening of international tensions under conditions that make our standing weaker, not stronger, the Republican Party obviously has decided to set up and run against a carefully selected set of technicolored scarecrows labeled "the Labor Bosses-America's Third Party."

This set of scarecrows, with whom the Republican political "double doses" hope to frighten the American people into voting for more Republican recessions, more Republican brinkmanship, is pretty exclusive.

Believe it or not, it includes no Republican labor leader. By what is probably no accident, it excludes the Republican Maurice Huteson, who was chairman of the labor division of the Republican National Committee in the 1956 campaign.

It excludes Republicans Dave Beck and James Hoffa; it finds no space to mention Johnny Dio who apparently enjoys Republican innocence by association.

HUBERT.

Pick up these with: "Yes, JOHN, the gyrations, gymnastics, and contortions of the Republicans in seeking to avoid comparison of Republican performance with Democratic performance are themselves a confession. It reminds me of the doctor who, when asked to treat a patient for a set of allergies, explained that he would rather throw the patient into a fit, saying, "I'm not much good on allergies, but I'm damn good on fits."

JOHN.

Tonight let us look at the record.

Nationally, the Eisenhower-Nixon administration, in less than 6 years in office has brought America to the worst recession since World War II at home, and to mortal danger of war and world-wide defeat abroad. It has done this by its failure to give the Nation leadership, a failure resulting in a surrender to old guard conservative domestic policies and stale, useless foreign policies. As a result, the United States is now faced with:

- First, More than 5 million unemployed.
- Second. The highest prices in history.
- Third. The loss of American influence and prestige everywhere in the world.
- Fourth. The daily danger of war in the Middle East.
- Fifth. A Communist dictatorship that has caught up to us in many areas in scientific skill and is speeding ahead at a faster rate of progress in power development.
- Sixth. An inadequate Military Establishment to meet this Red threat and to keep our vast commitments.

Seventh. Corruption and influence seeking in high places of Government.

Eighth. A farm slump that has driven 4 million people off the farm in 5 years, lowered farm prices, reduced farm income, and increased farm indebtedness.

JOHN.

As you know, Senator, the recession has hit us especially hard here in northern Minnesota - 10,000 out of work and other thousands underemployed - work short hours, etc. - The unemployment here is a direct result of the Eisenhower big business administration policies. President Eisenhower turned the Nation's economic policies over to big-business men like Treasury Secretary George Humphrey and Commerce Secretary Sinclair Weeks. They sowed the seeds of the present recession by:

First. Raising interest rates, thus making it harder for people to borrow money and harder for business to expand.

Second. Slowing down the rate of economic growth on the theory that too much prosperity would be inflationary.

Third. Driving small-businessmen out of business.

Fourth. Reserving tax cuts for corporations and rich taxpayers.

Fifth. Allowing steel and auto producers and food processors to raise their prices, thus making it harder for consumers to buy their products.

The workers, consumers, and small-business men-whose investment and spending is essential to prosperity--were neglected. This quickly brought on the present recession. It was not an accident. The New York Journal of Commerce said on July 15, 1957: "The evidence now points strongly to the conclusion that both



Third. Let inflation reduce the amount of arms the defense dollar could buy.

American foreign policy is in deep trouble. Our position of world leadership has been weakened by inept and faltering direction. Every friend lost for America is a victory for the Communists, and the Eisenhower-Dulles foreign policy has lost friends throughout the world by:

First. Identifying itself with backward, discredited rulers in the Middle East and Asia, while the Soviets have portrayed themselves as friends of Arab and Asian peoples.

Second. Neglecting the problems of our South American neighbors to the point where official American representatives are stoned and booted on trips there.

Third. Posing as a nation that is heedless of the value of human life by continuing the testing of large hydrogen bombs. The reason why these things have come about is because President Eisenhower has abandoned the leadership of the office of President. He is simply serving out his term, without the energy or the interest to provide America with the leadership it needs. Into this vacuum have stepped the old guard policies, which Eisenhower promised the people would never return:

First. Government spending programs are at the mercy of the Bureau of the Budget, which ruthlessly cuts requests of the administration's own departments and often refused to spend funds appropriated by the Congress.

Second. Tax and fiscal policies are in the hands of men on leave from big banks and big business, who believe prosperity must trickle down and that the real threat to the economy is

overemployment, according to the frank admission of the First National City Bank of New York in one of its newsletters.

Third. Foreign policy is monopolized by John Foster Dulles.

~~There are many more chapters to recount, in the story of this failure of GOP leadership--and the price the American people are being compelled to pay as a result.~~

There are many more chapters to recount, in the story of this failure of GOP leadership--and the price the American people are being compelled to pay as a result.

Each chapter is a tragic story in itself.

The story of the farm crusade which is steadily destroying farming as a way of life in America; the story of the GOP foot-dragging on public resource development; the story of the neglect of the Nation's housing problems; the story of sacrificing vital medical research and hospital construction at the altar of the balanced budget in the GOP's traditional indifference toward the Nation's health needs; the shameful story of lipservice to meeting the educational crisis while Republican votes undermined any effective action; the story of the GOP record in giving the Nation the most rapid peace-time inflation in the Nation's history; the story of increasing failures for small business while big business profits soar; and the story of the Eisenhower-Nixon administration's backdown on its civil rights bill in 1957, and its failure to enforce the 1957 law Congress gave them, along with the failure to exercise constructive leadership toward school integration which resulted in the Little Rock crisis. These are but some of the stories that need to be told and retold to the American people. **THESE ARE THE REAL ISSUES!**

BLATNIK.

We have seen a good example of typical GOP "issue evasion" here in the 8th District. As I mentioned earlier, unemployment and underemployment here has been extremely serious. Everyone knows the cause of this unemployment, except, it seems, the Republicans. Basically, we are a one industry area. That industry is iron ore mining and shipping. Starting in August of 1957 the demand for steel slumped due to general business conditions. Of course, the demand for iron ore slumped also. I have here a letter from the President of U.S. Steel, Clifford Hood, who said to us last April in St. Paul in the Governor's office, "Unfortunately, the ~~unemployment which Minnesota is now experiencing~~ employment which Minnesota is now experiencing is a part of the over-all national business recession." A recession, I might add, brought on by Eisenhower administration's fiscal and monetary manipulations which have resulted in record high corporate and stock market profits for a few and unemployment, small business failures and farm income decline for the many.

Rather than facing this fact the Republicans dug up two more scarecrows - iron ore imports and state iron ore taxes -- to try to cover up their own failures.

The people know iron ore taxes aren't the cause of unemployment. The same taxes are in force today as were in force in 1955, 1956 and 1957 - all record years for iron ore production. So how can the same tax today be blamed today for unemployment in the mines?

As for imports I can only say this: We sell Canada and Venezuela steel products made from Minnesota ore worth ten times

as much as the iron ore imported from those two countries. We import from them \$200 Million worth of ore, but export to them \$2 Billion, 300 million worth of steel products. Canada is our best customer. Half our sales to her are steel. Venezuela is our third best customer. Over half our sales to her are steel. To cut off imports now is like throwing a customer out of the store becausee business is bad.

HUMPHREY.

John, as issue evaders and credit grabbers, the Republicans have no peer. Take the question of labor reform legislation, for example. With all the talk about "labor bosses" and "labor crooks" Republican candidates should be called upon to explain why the Republican Party killed an effective labor-management reform bill in the last session of Congress. All the name-calling and campaign oratory cannot wipe out the fact that the Senate did enact labor-management reform legislation, but it was defeated in the House of Representatives by an "unholy alliance" of Republicans with the National Association of Manufacturers and some of the very segments of labor bringing discredit upon the vast majority of honest, decent organized labor.

The Kennedy-Ives bill passed the Senate 88 to 1. It was bipartisan - Kennedy is a Democrat; Ives a Republican. But over in the House it was defeated 198 to 190. As I recall, John, on that vote 149 Democrats voted for the bill, while only 41 Republicans did so. Voting against the bill were 137 Republicans and 61 Southern Democrats. Those are the facts. 70% of the Democrats voted for the bill, 77% of the Republicans voted against it. Yet the Republicans claim that the Democrats beat the labor reform bill. Why did the Republicans do it?

Because the reactionary majority of Republicans prefer a dead bill and a live issue to a live law and a dead issue, the majority was willing, for supposed political advantage in the 1958 elections, to kill the bill and give the Beck-Hoffa-Dio-Shefferman type of racketeering a reprieve of 1 and perhaps 2 years.

**BLATNIK.**

While they're not evading issues and running against scarecrows, the Republicans are taking credit for Democratic sponsored programs. Nationally they take credit for all those New Deal programs they once so bitterly opposed. Social security, minimum wage, and a host of other Federal programs are suddenly embraced by the Republicans practically to the point where they just about claim them as their own.

But right here at home they've gone even further than that. Just look at this ad, Hubert, as it appeared in some of the taconite community weekly papers. Now they're taking credit for taconite!!!

Why, Hubert, two years ago Ed Thye came up here, saw the Silver Bay plant, and said "I think it's here to stay." This is a \$200 million investment, employing over 2000 people year round, capable of producing 4 million tons of pellets a year - you bet it's here to stay. But I just wondered to myself - "where were the Thyes, the McKinnons, and other GOP taconite experts back there in 1941 when Tom Yudelich, Bill Mahtala and I fought the taconite tax bill through the State Legislature? We did it, Hubert, without any support from the Republicans who were in full control at the time. We did it without support from the

mining companies. And we did it, remember, as representatives of the people who reaped the biggest harvest from the ad valorem tax which the new law limited with respect to levies against taconite land and mining and processing facilities.

That was 1941. World War II delayed taconite progress. After the war, still nothing was done until 1950 when you recall we were able to include taconite in the Defense Production Act, thus qualifying taconite development for fast tax write-offs. It was not until after that time that the heavy investment in taconite was made. But this Republican ad conveniently omits any mention of that. Furthermore, they actually take credit for that investment because - and only because - C. Elmer Anderson happened to be Governor of the State at the time. Now C. Elmer was a nice fellow, but he had no more to do with that investment than the man in the moon. What's more, Harold Stassen's only contribution to taconite was to sign the bill we got through the legislature and I don't have to remind anyone in northern Minnesota that Stassen was no friend of ours. I recall he signed it with the attitude that "it's o.k. because it probably won't do those dressers in northern Minnesota any good and it won't do southern Minnesota any harm."

(If we have Davis retraction, refer to his article and then read retraction. If no statement, leave it go at this)

HUMPHREY.

What did the Republicans ever do for this area? It was always treated as a stepchild until Orville Freeman took office in 1955. Northern Minnesota has special problems, requiring special solutions. The Area Redevelopment Bill would have been

a tremendous boost to the area. But it was vetoed by the President.

The Community Facilities Loan Bill would have provided immediate employment and improved public facilities on the Range, but it was defeated in the House by an overwhelming vote of Republicans opposed to the bill.

WIND-UP.

Finish on leadership theme. On State level, Freeman's administration of action and accomplishment as compared to Eisenhower administration of drift and failure on national level. Need for strong, liberal State Senate to help push Freeman program through (mention State Senate candidates in audience: Ferrario, Kennedy Carr) and for election of DFL state slate that will help Governor Freeman. Nationally we need a strong Democratic majority in the House and Senate for the following reasons:

- \* to provide a responsible check upon the Administration
- \* to push for vigorous action in housing, health, agriculture, power, and social security and other areas where Congress can influence national policy
- \* to prevent the GOP Old Guard from controlling Congress as they do today in coalition with conservative Dixiecrats

This is true in the House, but especially true in the Senate where the liberals need Gene McCarthy. Finish on strong appeal for Gene's election and re-election of Congressman John A. Blatnik.



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