

Nothing wrong an election  
I wouldn't care!!

Eugene McCarthy - Jack English

From the Office of  
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey  
1311 New Senate Office Building  
Washington 25, D.C.  
Capitol 4-3121, Ext. 2424

FOR RELEASE: Wednesday a.m.'s  
September 23, 1959

Visited Russia - like there!!

'GREAT GOALS FOR AMERICA' OUTLINED AS DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S AIM FOR 1960

For the Democratic Party to win in 1960, it should gear its efforts to "three great goals confronting America," Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) declared last night in an address before the Nassau County Democratic Convention at the Garden City Hotel in New York.

He listed these goals as:

R-VISIT

- 1... "the winning of an honorable and lasting peace;"
- 2... "the fulfillment of our economic potential;"
- 3... "and the attainment of full dignity and liberty for every American."

DISARM

VISION

FAITH

Calling for the Democratic Party to be the "party of vision, the party of faith, the party of ideas," Senator Humphrey declared:

IDEAS

"At this mid-point in the 20th century, mankind is again moving into an untraveled world. New problems, new danger, new uncertainties, confront us.

"But the new world into which we are moving is also gleaming with high promise. The free peoples of the world are infinitely stronger than they were in the nineteenth century. We have gained in knowledge of the physical world, in science and technology and communication. Above all, we have come to appreciate the links which bind all free peoples together. We have found the instruments of cooperation which may forge these loose links into an unbreakable chain of strength.

"So let us lead from strength. Instead of thinking that every great task is beyond our means, let us measure the greatness of our capacity.

"Instead of filling the air with fear, let us fill men's hearts with hope.

"Instead of being overwhelmed by the dangers of the world, let us be inspired by the challenge to surmount these dangers.

"Instead of worrying about the future, let us labor to create it."

Other excerpts from Senator Humphrey's remarks follow:

"For the Democrats to win in 1960 there must be a powerful and liberal image of the Democratic Party in the mind and heart of every American voter.

"I suggest, as a model for that image, the image the Democratic Party enjoyed when it was led by that great humanitarian Twentieth Century American, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"There is a lesson for our Party, in this year 1959, in the last words ever written by Franklin Roosevelt. They were addressed to the San Francisco Conference of the United Nations, which he did not live to attend.

"In those last words, he admonished the world, 'We must move forward with strong and active faith.'

now forward

"These last written words of Roosevelt were not words of complacency or contentment with the past. They were a call to action. They summoned us -- and the world -- to move forward.

"To Franklin Roosevelt, moving forward did not mean reliance on the momentum of forces already in being. He said that we must be strong and active. He knew that there was no strength in waiting for events to take their course. He

demonstrated that events must be shaped. He knew that neither domestic nor international problems could be solved by sporadic and desperate reactions to crisis. He demonstrated that leadership means positive action, that leadership means setting goals and always striving to meet them.

"Let us, too, set our goals and always strive toward them."

\* \* \* \* \*

In outlining the goal for the winning of the peace, Senator Humphrey commented:

"It means unflinching pursuit of the goal of universal disarmament, so that men can devote their energies and resources to constructive purposes, to bettering the lot of their fellow men.

"But until we attain that goal, the pursuit of peace means an invincible shield of defense -- not only to deter those who would make war, but to negotiate disarmament from strength, and not from weakness.

"And finally, the pursuit of truly lasting peace means a long, hard struggle to improve the lot of the oppressed, the poor, the hungry, the sick, and the illiterate.

"For the Communists and enemies of freedom will never cease their appeals to these people; and unless we wish to yield the world to their domination, we cannot relax our efforts to help those who are less fortunate than we.

"These totalitarian states, first Russia and now in increasing measure China, recognize no ideal but power. Yet they know where they are headed, and they have the blueprints for attaining their goals. Year by year, the masters of the enslaved people are driving them relentlessly forward, in the most gigantic program of military and economic development the world has ever seen.

"Our shortcomings, unlike those of the totalitarians, are not in ultimate purposes. But we have not yet equalled them in the steadfastness of our purposes; nor in our willingness to dedicate our full resources to the attainment of our goals.

"Too many of our actions are improvised and disconnected, instead of being purposeful and long-ranged. Too often we blunt the effect of fine words with meager deeds. And too often we blur the effect of fine deeds with foolish words.

"The challenge of the Soviets is total. Their dedication is total.

"We cannot answer this challenge of the totalitarians merely by declaring that they are evil doers and do not have the power to accomplish their asserted goals. We can answer it only by superior deeds."

\* \* \* \* \*

Senator Humphrey described the second "great goal" before America as the "fulfillment of our real economic potential here at home."

"In pursuing this goal, we must look upon our economic system as something bigger than the dollar sign, and something warmer than the brick walls of our factories.

"We seek not only to build machines, but also to improve men; not only to provide work opportunity, but also to provide leisure for self-development; not only to achieve security, but also to stimulate initiative and daring; not only to be efficient, but also to do justice.

"But in order to move forward with strong and active faith toward this goal, we must remove one primary obstacle -- a Republican Administration which is satisfied with stagnation.

"The Republicans take great pride in telling us that the economy is bigger than ever -- as if this solved everything.

"But when the Republican press agents tell us that we are now higher than ever before, we want to know who is higher, and how much higher. The better than three million unemployed are not better off than ever before. The farmer is hardly enjoying prosperity. The homeowner is hardly being helped by higher and higher

interest rates. The small businessman has not reached his millenium.

"The truth is that since this Republican Administration took office, the American economy has fallen far short of its potential.

"From 1953 through the end of 1958, we have lost more than 10 million man-years of job opportunity through unemployment.

"The income of the average American family has been penalized to the tune of almost \$3,000 in real buying power.

"Net farm income has been about 31 billion dollars less than it should have been, and wages and salary income almost 100 billion dollars too low.

"Private business investment opportunity has been almost 40 billion dollars too low.

"The excessive idleness of plant and manpower from 1953 through 1958 caused us to lose more than 150 billion dollars in total national production.

"As a result, even high tax rates have yielded to all levels of government about 25-30 billion dollars less revenues than full prosperity would have yielded. These deficits in public revenues have meant deficits in national security and international economic cooperation. They have meant immense deficits in education and health services, housing and resource development, social security improvement and income protection to the unemployed.

"None of these things has happened by accident. Every basic economic policy of the Republican Administration -- the tight money policy, the hi-interest rates, the regressive tax policy, the pennywise and pound foolish 'economy' programs, the giveaway of our resources -- all of these have resulted in substituting economic slow-down for full economic growth.

"These Republican policies have not meant boom and bust in the old fashioned sense. The protective Democratic legislation of the New Deal and the Fair Deal has saved us from this. But they have meant recession half the time and stunted growth all the time.

"Where do we go from here; and first of all, where can we go?

"If we fully marshal our economic potential, we can in the next five years lift our 460 billion dollar economy to much better than a 600 billion dollar economy.

"We can increase the average annual income of American families, measured in real buying power, by about \$2,000.

"We can liquidate most of the private poverty, which still bears down upon millions of our people.

"We can have prosperous farmers as well as prosperous industry; small business can thrive alongside the corporate giants. In short, we can lift those at the bottom without penalizing those at the top.

"We can combine the American system of different rewards for different abilities and efforts with the American system of equal opportunity for all and social justice.

"And on the productive foundation of this private economic progress, we can check the impoverishment of our vital public services, and put an end to the neglect of our greatest national and worldwide priorities of need.

"We can, in a word, fulfill our economic potential and realize our dream of abundance."

\* \* \* \* \*

The third great goal before America, Senator Humphrey said, is "the attainment of full dignity and liberty for every man, woman and child within our borders."

"We have made a start towards equality of opportunity for employment.

"We have made a start towards integrating our public schools.

"We have made a start towards integrating our public facilities of all kinds.

"We have made a start towards preventing discrimination in housing.

"We have made a start towards assuring the right of every citizen to vote.

"Yes, we have made a start in each of these areas. But there is more -- much more -- to be done.

"And we are determined that from these small beginnings we shall one day build a land of tolerance that knows no bigotry.

"The road towards understanding and tolerance, towards equality and justice may be a rough one. But we must travel that road and travel it surely if we are to survive in a world two-thirds colored. And we must travel that road and travel it courageously -- not only because it is necessary for our survival -- but because it is right."



# 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.



[www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)