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only Chr Gordon Frederick

Allen Hanley

(Col) Sheriff Norman Anderson

County Atty → Kenneth Hayes

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS

BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, Mayor Geo. Mattson

DEMOCRATIC LUNCHEON

must assembly William Ward

HUDSON, WISCONSIN

St Croix County

Monday, February 1, 1960

Walter Monnpetit

Norman Ritchie

Sen Harold Schultz

Van Meter
Editor New Richmond
WISC NEWS

No Americans have a greater stake in the outcome of next November's elections than the farmers and small businessmen of Wisconsin and the rest of Mid-America.

Mayor
Allen

Tom
Hughes

The administrative machinery and the veto power which the Republicans have used to deflate agriculture and business in our farm areas must be put in the hands of a Democratic President before there can be any real relief.

Walter
Monnpetit

from
Somerset
vice Chr
St. Croix
County

And I believe ^{and hope} the people of Wisconsin, upon reflection, will come to the conclusion that the best Democratic candidate for the Presidency is a Midwest progressive, who knows and understands their problems, has lived with them, and is determined to solve them in the interests of the whole nation.

now what are the problems

L Net farm income in the state of Wisconsin was a billion dollars -- \$1,005,500,000 to be exact -- below 1952 farm income levels during the first six years of the present Republican Administration. The figures come out of Secretary Benson's own Department of Agriculture reports.

L This was an average of about \$167 million down each year from 1953 through 1958. We don't have Mr. Benson's 1959 figures yet, but we know that national farm income was down in 1959 from \$14.2 billion to \$11.8 billion, or another

~~16%~~ 17%

L And we have a cheery prediction from Mr. Benson's prophets that it is going down another 10% this year, in 1960.

L This means that the farmers of Wisconsin have been and will be spending \$160 million to \$200 million less per year in the towns and cities of Wisconsin during the eight long

years of Republican control.

L It means that the storekeepers and the doctors and
lawyers, carpenters and electricians, have had that much less
volume from which to pay wages to their employees or to spend
in the store.

L It means that factories have employed fewer workers,
workers have had slimmer pay envelopes -- that the economy

of the state in total has suffered several times the loss of the
raw materials income sustained by the farmers.

of the
\$1.00 lost farm
income
means about 5
total loss

L Tragically, it means that over the eight-year period
thousands of farmers ~~will~~ have had to sell out, small business
establishments closed and a long-term injury done to the
economy of Wisconsin.

L This Wisconsin story can be repeated up and down the

Mississippi Valley -- throughout the Middle West -- as many times as there are states.

Michigan, with a lesser agricultural production, sustained a half-billion dollar farm income loss in the first six years of Republican control.

Minnesota has dropped a half billion dollars and Illinois about \$750 million.

Business has suffered. Revenues to support our schools and public services have suffered. The loss has spread to every kind of business activity.

The Big market is here if we develop it

Our difficulties have a few times become so acute that

Midwest Republican Congressmen and Senators have appealed to the White House to get a new Secretary of Agriculture.

But the word has invariably come back, "Ike likes Ezra." And

Dick likes him, too -- regardless of the effort being made
hurriedly in this election year to create a new image of
Mr. Nixon as an old critic of Mr. Benson.

Speaking in Des Moines, Iowa, a few years ago, Mr. Nixon
declared:

"I predict that the verdict of history will be
that Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson has been
one of the best Secretaries of Agriculture in our
history, and that he was the friend of the farmer in
the program he advocated and put into practice."

In 1955, Mr. Nixon was in Wabash, Indiana, to defend
and endorse Mr. Benson's thesis that lower farm prices would
be the salvation of the farmers, the business establishments
and the economy of this great farm country, proudly announcing
that:

"... a new flexible parity formula has been
adopted so that farmers will not be encouraged to grow
crops already in surplus."

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"I talked with Secretary Benson just before I left Washington (this is Mr. Nixon speaking), and he is tremendously encouraged that we will find additional foreign markets for our farm products ..."

In 1956 Mr. Nixon broke a tie in the United States Senate, casting his deciding vote against our 90% farm price supports. Later that year in Columbus, Nebraska, he told an audience that the farm program "is working ... because it cuts to the heart of the problem."

The New York Herald Tribune reported that in his Nebraska speech the Vice President, and I quote:

"... supported Benson's thesis that the Administration's program of flexible price supports can achieve prosperity on the farm in peace time ..."

In 1957, when Secretary Benson was again finding heavy seas, the Vice President and Sherman Adams were paraded as Benson supporters. The New York Times, on Dec. 4, 1957, quoted Mr. Benson as declaring that he had "every evidence of the support of the Vice President and Mr. Adams."

And only a few weeks ago, on a national TV program, Mr.

Benson said Mr. Nixon supported his program and he expected
Mr. Nixon to carry it out if elected President. Mr. Nixon
has not denied the claim.

Tragically for farmers and businessmen alike in this
great Midwest area, the drive against agriculture continues.

This year the Administration wants to repeat in respect to
wheat the program it has imposed on the corn farmers, which
resulted in lower prices, overproduction and skyrocketing
surpluses.

Simultaneously, the Administration is attempting to
jack up the cost of farmers' electricity by doubling the
interest rate on rural electrification loans. This would
adversely affect not only the rural electric systems but also
every small business in Wisconsin or any other agricultural
area which deals in electrical appliances.

↳ Uncle Sam's rural electrification program -- a constant target of the Republican administration -- created a billion dollar per year demand for electrical appliances. It is an excellent example of a program that has proved good for farmers and small business men alike. But now the Republicans are determined to slow it down and dry it up by syphoning off more interest money for the Wall Street financiers - just as they have cut the national rate of economic growth to half what it ought to be. (Interest - Credit)

↳ To reverse all this -- to put Wisconsin and the rest of the Midwest back in the mainstream of national life -- requires that a Democratic President whose progressivism is based on a thorough understanding of these problems be placed in the White House by your votes.



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