

FROM:
HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE
Suite 740, Roosevelt Hotel
Washington 9, D.C.
ADams 2-3411

FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY A.M., FEB. 9/60

HUMPHREY: A CHARTER OF HOPE FOR AGRICULTURE

Pendleton, Ore., Feb. 8 -- Senator Hubert H. Humphrey tonight outlined four goals to be achieved by a "charter of hope for agriculture" as embodied in his proposed Family Farm Program Development Act.

The Minnesota Senator spoke this evening at a Umatilla County (Oregon) Democratic Central Committee dinner.

Declaring that the American farmer is "today's forgotten man", Senator Humphrey scored the "deliberate Republican policy of farm deflation", and declared:

"The result of the current farm policy has been a great deal of suffering. The farmers have suffered, the consumers have suffered, business has suffered -- but there's another group of people who have suffered too. I'm talking about the millions of people who go to bed hungry every night. How shameful that America's granaries should be bulging at their seams while there remains a mouth unfed."

Senator Humphrey stated the four goals of farm policy should be:

1. "Determination of a fair price for farm commodities and a fair income standard for farmers." Pricing policies should be geared "to the attainment of a fair income for farmers -- and this can be accomplished in a way that lessens the tax burden instead of piling it higher."

2. "The second objective is a production goal -- to be determined by what is needed to satisfy the true needs of the American people, the commercial export market, necessary reserves, and foreign policy purposes."

3. "We need an agricultural resources conservation program ... Soil and water resources are vital to national well-being and to international well-being."

4. "Employment goals which should envisage a farm population, and especially farm families, which have adequate opportunity to be fully and usefully employed." This includes proper credit facilities.

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FOR RELEASE: Monday AM, Feb. 8, 1960

Excerpts of Remarks
By Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
At Dinner Meeting, Baker County Democratic Central Comm.,
Sunday, Feb. 7, 1960
Baker County, Oreg.

"This wonderful West Coast area had a very distinguished visitor recently. On January 27, the President spoke in Los Angeles. He opened the Republican campaign of 1960.

"The President began his talk by referring to a letter he had received from a young mother living in one of the Western states, just 21 years old, with a husband and two small children.

"The young mother had written to the President, stating she was faced with the problem of deciding which political party she should join and serve. She asked the President what the Republican Party stood for, and how she might best help it to achieve its goals.

"Then the President gave a little essay to the young mother -- and the whole nation -- on what the Federal Government should not do, and why the President should not lead.

"I take the liberty tonight of reading you an open letter to the young lady -- a letter that I sent her a few days ago. It follows:

'Mrs. Shirley Jean Havens
Arvada, Colorado

'Dear Mrs. Havens:

'I hope you will welcome this unsolicited letter, since I read in the newspapers that you had written President Eisenhower stating that this election year would be your first vote and asking his advice as to whether you should be a Republican or Democrat.

'You are fortunate to have heard from the President, in his speech in Los Angeles on January 27.

'I hope you also had in mind hearing from a Democrat. Freedom of choice is one of our most valuable privileges, and to exercise it intelligently requires hearing from both sides. Discussion and debate always lead to a better resolution of problems.

, ... more

'As the President made clear in his speech, Republicans have a very restrictive idea of what can be done for the country.

'On the other hand, the message of the Democratic Party is the message of service.

'We believe the government exists for the benefit of the people, and should therefore be enlisted in their service.

'We believe that it should maintain a strong defense force for their protection.

'We believe that it should not be allowed to become second-best in any category.

'We believe that it should lead the peoples of the free world in the development of a more orderly society.

'We believe that it should help develop our God-given resources for the benefit and use of all of us.

'You are a young married woman, and, of course, I know nothing about your situation, but I am sure you're having trouble with the high cost of living and with mounting interest rates. Whereas the President spoke to you of the size of the national debt, we Democrats think of how we can make the economy grow and expand in order to keep the debt proportionately small. We think of how much an increase in interest rates means to a young couple like you, who may be planning on buying a home or a refrigerator or a stove or an automobile.

'I could write you a very long letter, but I believe that in the final analysis you shouldn't take what I say or what the President says as the sole basis of your decision. You should make up your own mind, and you can only do that by studying the issues and arriving at your own independent judgment as a result of that study.

'In order to assist you in this, I am asking the Democratic Advisory Council to send you copies of the studies that they have made as a basis for adopting Democratic policy. They have the advantage of having enlisted both scholarly minds and leaders in various professions and businesses in adopting these policy statements, and I think they are soundly based.

'When you come to your conclusion, I hope you will take the new duties of citizenship that the age of 21 has brought you very seriously, will join the party of your choice and will actively participate in it. I hope the Democratic Party wins your favor. Good luck.

'Sincerely,

'Hubert H. Humphrey''

Bard Johnson - Jack Martino 000402 Ann Chambers
Tom Jones - Malheur County

Excerpts of Remarks

By Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

At Dinner Meeting, Baker County Democratic Central Comm.,

Baker, Oregon

Sunday, Feb. 7, 1960

Sheriff Dixon

① Must
in
news

② Cong al Ullman
2DDIST Ron Ahern!

Dick
Neuberger
Wayne
Morse.

This wonderful West Coast area had a very distinguished visitor recently. On January 27, the President spoke in Los Angeles. He opened the Republican campaign of 1960.

The President began his talk by referring to a letter he had received from a young mother living in one of the Western states, just 21 years old, with a husband and two small children.

The young mother had written to the President, stating she was faced with the problem of deciding which

political party she should join and serve. She asked the President what the Republican Party stood for, and how she might best help it to achieve its goals.

Then the President gave a little essay to the young mother -- and the whole nation -- on what the Federal Government should not do, and why the President should not lead.

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"On the other hand, the message of the Democratic Party is the message of service.

"We believe the government exists for the benefit of the people, and should therefore be enlisted in their service.

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I hope the Democratic Party wins your favor.

"Good luck.

"Sincerely,

"Hubert H. Humphrey"

Nixon + Farm Plan

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Hi-Interest

Hermiston
Excerpts from Remarks

Sen + Mrs Key
typed Benedict

By Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

Hermiston

At Umatilla County Democratic Central Comm. dinner.

Umatilla County, Oregon

February 8, 1960

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evag ullman

(Presidency)
Mayor Belt

Mr Bliss

Bob Schubert - County Clerk
Dunmich

Waldo Dyer

Stanfield
950
20/20

Some years ago, Franklin D. Roosevelt made famous

the phrase, "the forgotten man."

Columbia
Orange
Ladies

Today, there is definitely a "forgotten man" in
the eyes of the present Administration -- the American
farmer.

I don't need to remind any of you that the American
economy has had its ups and downs since this Administration
took office. But it has always worked out so that the
farmer shared in all the "downs" but was left out in the
cold during the "ups."

ups
+
downs

(This School - Fed Aid.)

The result of the current farm policy has been a great deal of suffering. The farmers have suffered, the consumers have suffered, business has suffered -- but there's another group of people who have suffered, too. I'm talking about the millions of people who go to bed hungry every night. How shameful that America's granaries should be bulging at their seams while there remains a mouth unfed.

What do I think we should do about a farm policy?

I believe that Congress should set forth goals for American agriculture, and then give the President and the Secretary of Agriculture a wide variety of tools for the attainment of those goals, and broad discretion in the choice of those tools. And I believe farmers themselves should have a voice in this matter that

Read!

concerns them so vitally.

I spelled out these ideas in the Humphrey Family Farm Program Development Act which I introduced last August. This is a Charter of Hope.

Humphrey Farm Plan!

What are the goals?

1. Determination of a fair price for farm commodities and a fair income standard for farmers.

Farmer Run - Farmer Designed Programs!

Pricing policies should be geared to the attainment of a fair income for farmers -- and this can be

accomplished in a way that lessens the tax burden -- the cost -- instead of piling it higher.

2. The second objective is a production goal -- to be determined by what is needed to satisfy the true needs of the American people, the commercial export

market, necessary reserves, and foreign policy purposes.

3.

We need an agricultural resources conservation program . . . Soil and water resources are vital to national well-being and to international well-being.

4.

Employment goals which should envisage a farm population, and especially farm families, which have adequate opportunity to be fully and usefully employed. This includes proper credit facilities.

We need to set goals for social security expansion, for wage expansion, for business expansion, for education and health improvement -- all reinforcing one another, all consistent strains in the symphony of American effort, and all responsive to the new pace of our technology and science and invention.

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Then, and then only, will we be able to lead the
world to rising standards of living and to peace.

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Statement by
~~Senator [unclear]~~
 Senate Floor

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

STATEMENT INTRODUCING FARM BILL

Mr. President:

Family Farm Development Act

~~I introduce for appropriate reference a farm bill to:~~

- Goals*
- ① Provide a national food and fiber utilization policy;
 - ② Provide for greater conservation of natural resources;
 - ③ Provide farmers a greater voice in the formulation and administration of farm programs;
 - ④ Provide for supply adjustment programs so as to return to farmers a fair share of the national income;
 - ⑤ Provide greater opportunity for economic development in rural agricultural areas;

And for other purposes.

Since Congress adjourned last September, the economic conditions in agriculture have deteriorated to a point where immediate positive action is essential.

Farm prices, already at very low levels last summer, have dropped even further.

In December, the farm parity ratio was 77 -- lowest for any December since the depression year of 1933.

In 1959, farm income declined 15%.

According to the Department of Agriculture's own estimates, this year it is expected to drop another ~~7 to 8%~~ 10%.

In 1959, production of all farm commodities set a new record.

See Page 3

That production was 5 to 10% above the total we as a nation use at home, and export for sale or assistance abroad.

Today the government inventory of surplus farm commodities is over \$9 billion -- and during this year that figure will increase.

These facts demonstrate the degree of the failure of the present farm program.

Overproduction has built up huge surpluses.

But these surpluses have not been used to any real advantage, either at home or abroad.

In addition, there have been reduced farm prices, and reduced farm income.

Nevertheless, the cost to the taxpayers of the agriculture program over the last six years has exceeded \$30 billion.

Despite these conditions, has there been any change of policy on the part of this Administration?

There has not.

Therefore, it is essential that the Congress act -- and act now.

To this end, in the hope of getting action in time to affect the 1960 crops, I am introducing a bill designed to deal with this problem; and I would respectfully request that this bill become the basis for corrective legislation early in this session of the Congress.

The bill would:

1. Establish a food use policy, whereby existing surpluses and future production will provide more of our citizens with an adequate and nutritious diet; and will promote world peace by helping to alleviate hunger and poverty in undeveloped nations.
2. Place the administration of such domestic and foreign food use programs in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the State Department, where the responsibility, the personnel, and the administrative machinery exist.
3. Establish a national reserve stockpile of food items to be used in event of enemy attack, or other national disaster. This reserve stockpile would be administered by the Office of Civilian and Defense Mobilization.
4. Halt the costly and uneconomical build-up of surplus commodities by bringing farm production into balance with our national food and fiber needs.
5. Establish Farmer Advisory and Administration Committees composed of bona fide farmers, so as to have more practical farm programs.
6. Provide the authority and the flexibility to the end that the Secretary of Agriculture may tailor individual commodity programs to the particular conditions or requirements affecting that commodity.
7. Provide that a two-thirds majority of producers voting in a national referendum must approve any supply adjustment program

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before it becomes effective. Prior to voting in a referendum, all producers are to be provided with a thorough explanation of the provisions and effects of any program.

8. Require the preparation of a true parity price formula, a formula which would afford fair returns to the family farmer for his labor, investment and managerial ability. Prior to adoption of such formula, price goals are established at 90% of the present parity formula.

9. Place a limit on any benefits which might be received by producers who are not bona fide farmers.

10. Provide for a natural resource conservation program, whereby a producer, to be eligible for benefits, must contribute a portion of his crop land to sound conservation practices. The Department of Agriculture may rent additional acres for conservation or reforestation purposes.

11. Continue the program whereby the farmer and the Department of Agriculture share the cost of establishing needed conservation practices.

12. Establish an agency -- the Agriculture Development Service -- in the Department of Agriculture whose sole function would be to develop and coordinate programs to deal with low income problems in rural areas.

The provisions of this bill will enable our farm population to obtain a more reasonable share of our nation's prosperity and insure an adequate supply of food for our total national needs, and these objectives would be accomplished at a greatly reduced cost to the American taxpayer.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of this bill be printed at this point in the Record.



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