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[Women's Natl Dem
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LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD
Excerpts From Remarks of
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
Women's ^{national} ~~Democratic~~ Press Club

Noon

April 7, 1960

Wisconsin demonstrated that the Democratic secret weapon is the agricultural issue, and farmers last Tuesday by a resounding vote of confidence demonstrated that the 1958 election results in terms of the farm vote in the Midwest area pointed the way to 1960 and the White House.

The critical importance of a record on the great issues of our day was demonstrated in Wisconsin. It was impossible for my opponent to secure the trust of farmers in Wisconsin by his latter-day conversion to my farm policy.

It will ~~also~~ be impossible for Richard Nixon to win the trust of farmers in the Midwest and Far West by his imminent "conversion" to an anti-Benson farm policy. Farmers will not be dazzled by high-powered campaigns that attempt to gloss over the great issues.

Had we had a bonafide Democratic vote in the Wisconsin primary -- which we will have in West Virginia and the District of Columbia -- we would have carried at least three more districts. We narrowly missed

carrying a fifth Congressional district -- the Seventh -- in central Wisconsin. I carried seven of its ten counties and narrowly lost two counties. Portage County, by a three to one vote against me, lost the district for me.

There is abundant evidence that "one-day Democrats" entered the Democratic primary in Wisconsin in such huge numbers that they more than offset a strong Democratic Humphrey vote in the heavily conservative districts such as the Sixth and Eighth in northeastern Wisconsin.

These crossover votes -- and there were many, many Protestant Republicans included -- made Mr. Nixon look even sicker than he is, politically, in Wisconsin. I believe it would be fatal to believe that more than a small fraction of these one-day Democrats will not fall back to their favorite, Nixon, in the November elections. This is Joe McCarthy-Taft Republican country, and these are Republicans who think Ike is a little bit too leftish for their taste. Joe McCarthy and Bob Taft were their favorites, as the record demonstrates in numerous Wisconsin primary and general elections over the past twenty years.

Nixon does look sick -- even giving him back his cross-overs. I will state flatly that he cannot carry Wisconsin against any one of the

avowed Presidential candidates.

The vote in the farming areas of Wisconsin clearly demonstrates that Mr. Nixon cannot carry the more than 200 electoral college votes from the Midwest -- if the Democratic Party puts up a candidate against him who will rally the farmers.

I was extremely encouraged by the Wisconsin vote, and the more I discover the details of the vote, the more encouraged I become.

It was not only the farmers who gave me a great vote of confidence. I ^{received a good} ~~got a very strong~~ vote in the Eastern Wisconsin cities -- despite the fact that I was far less well-known in those areas when the campaign started than my opponenet. Being "next-door" to Wisconsin is no substitute for being in the headlines and on the covers of nationally-known magazines for many, many months. Furthermore, I got a strong vote in the cities despite no labor endorsement.

I received no funds from organized labor for my Wisconsin campaign. A tremendous share of my campaign funds came from the farmers, many of them from my home state of Minnesota. In one farm Congressional district of Minnesota, for example, a grass-roots farmer to farmer campaign raised three times as much money for me

as had ever been raised before in that district for a congressional campaign. And this is a farming district -- a low-income farming district.

Despite orders from the top of the labor movement against endorsement, in Wisconsin, rank and file labor leadership just last week revealed its sentiments in a private poll conducted in Minneapolis. A secret poll of Minnesota and Wisconsin COPE representatives (2/3 from Wisconsin) voted Humphrey their candidate for the Presidency by 8-1).

The record counts with the labor movement -- and I am certain this will be demonstrated once and for all in the forthcoming West Virginia primary.

I was extremely gratified to find that the Humphrey vote ran four to one in the Negro wards of Milwaukee last Tuesday. That is further evidence that the record counts among voters.

Issues While there are many key groups for whom specialized issues are ~~terribly~~ ^{very} important, and who are knowledgeable and hard-headed about the record of candidates, I found one great issue to cut across economic and social, yes, and political lines. That is the issue of whether ~~or not~~ the leadership of the past eight years has been leading us toward a more secure and just world, or whether we have been stumbling blindly forward into a period ^{of} great danger.

I believe that our people are looking for new leadership, leaders who have demonstrated imagination and courage in searching for ways out of the arms race, for ways to solve the tremendous

and tragic problems of poverty and ignorance that keeps the world in a seething turmoil.

Here again, people are looking hard and long at the record. They do not like the record of the Republican Administration. They do not like the fact that our government never seems able to take the initiative in anything, is forever coming in second-best, and continually waiting for something good to happen to it.

All of our people, all of our groups, want a President whose record in seeking a way to end the arms race and to replace it with a new international security system is clear and strong.

They are looking for a President who will be able to negotiate strongly, who understands the life-and-death issues shaking the world, and who will courageously and tirelessly make affirmative decisions to move forward.

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