

From the Office of
Citizens for Humphrey Committee
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GOP SUPPORT NEEDED NOW, NOT NEXT YEAR, ON FARM LEGISLATION:
HUMPHREY

FARIBAULT, August 5 -- If Republicans are sincere about "changing their stripes" on farm legislation, the time to show it is during the coming short session of Congress instead of waiting to talk about it during the campaign, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (DFL, Minn.) declared tonight in an address broadcast from the Rice County Fair (KDHL).

Commenting upon statements made by Vice President Nixon following a meeting with Republican farm state representatives in Chicago last weekend, Senator Humphrey said:

"The Republican Presidential candidate does not have to wait until after the election to 'make a breakthrough' on farm legislation.

"The Democratic Congress stands ready and willing to pass legislation that will improve farm income now, not next January.

"It has been ready and willing to do so for the past 8 years, and there are a number of Presidential vetoes as proof.

"If the Vice President is sincere in his new-found concern for farmers, let him use his influence with the White House and the Secretary of Agriculture to get positive support for the measures he professes to approve. Most of these proposals are already before the Congress, sponsored by Democratic members. They can be enacted if Republicans do not drag their heels to create an issue, rather than seek a solution," Senator Humphrey declared.

Senator Humphrey made specific reference to Vice President Nixon's statement that extra food storage is needed for Civil Defense and for fighting famines abroad.

"For years I have pointed out the value of a National Security Reserve of food, fiber and biological oil commodities that would protect the United States against shortages in a national emergency. Earlier this year, I introduced such a measure in the United States Senate. My proposal was included in the Democratic platform. It was accepted as part of the Republican platform. Now it turns up as one of the few definite proposals in candidate Nixon's massive program -- the program on which he plans to run.

"Why should the country wait until next January for the enactment of this bill, when it has bi-partisan support right now? If it is good enough to run on, it is good enough to act on," Senator Humphrey declared.

(over)



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