

Investment in America

Speech by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey  
Red Wing, Minnesota, October 18, 1960

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Our new Hiawatha Bridge is an  
investment in the future -- America's  
future ..... the Midwest's future ...  
your future.

This bridge is more than a symbol  
of the economic growth and vitality  
of the Midwest. It is more than a  
link between two great states.

In a very real sense, this  
engineering masterpiece joins the  
present to the future. It spans the  
gap between our current development

and our unlimited potential for economic growth.

There are those who cry that America cannot afford to build more bridges, to develop more harbors, to expand her economy.

They are wrong.

We need more investment, not less. Wise, sound investments are the blueprints for progress. They are the foundations of the future.

There are men who say that it is useless to talk about the future. They worship only the narrow needs of each

day. They are blind to the storms  
and the dawns of tomorrow.

But we of the Upper Midwest  
know the wisdom of planning for  
tomorrow, for next month, for next  
year. We know the sting and fury  
of winter, so we have the wisdom to  
prepare our homes and lives for its  
dangers. We do not sit back in the  
fair weather of this beautiful autumn  
and say: "Everything's fine today;  
why worry about tomorrow?"

Life is not kind to the nearsighted .  
It demands clear vision and foresight.

What would happen to the farmer  
who refused to plow his fields and said

"I can't afford a tractor?"

What would happen to the merchant who refused to stock his shelves and said "I can't afford the merchandise"?

What would happen to the carpenter who refused to take a job and said "I can't afford the tools"?

I will tell you. They would be out in the cold, while the farsighted farmers, merchants and carpenters would be reaping the benefits.

Our Nation must have the tools. It must invest in the future if it wants to reap the benefits of its full potential.

Where would America be today if our fathers and their fathers had not invested in the future?

Our people would not be skilled if America had not invested in a public school system. Our communities would not be productive if America had not invested in such projects as the Tennessee Valley Authority. Our lands would not be green and full if America had not invested in a system of National Parks and Forests.

The investments of wise men ten years ago, 30 years ago, 100 years ago have made our Nation strong today.

We have achieved the highest standard of living the world has ever known, but we cannot rest. We cannot lean back now and say "our part is done."

We cannot heed the whimpers of fearful and lazy men who say "Everything's fine today. Why worry about tomorrow? We can't afford the tools."

Unless we are willing to invest new muscle, new minds and yes, new money, into America, we will wake up one day to find ourselves politically outmoded and economically outproduced by the Soviet Union.

I say we can and must afford the

tools to build for America's future.

We must invest in our educational system. Our children and future generations of children need more classrooms and more teachers.

We must invest in our defense. Our strength must be maintained if we are to avert the threats of war.

We must invest in our health. Our country needs more hospitals, programs for pollution control and expanded medical research.

We must invest in our mobility. Our economy needs bridges and highways and airports if it is to grow and expand.

Above all, we must invest in the usefulness and productivity of our people.

The pockets of unemployment which scar America cannot be ignored. Sound investments must be made now to assure every man the chance to work and produce and to give each community a share of our prosperity.

America will grow if we make these investments in the future. If not, America could become stagnant, weak and -- in the end -- impoverished.

Today, I am aware that Minnesota and Wisconsin are keys to the growth

of our great Midwest heartland, and  
to the nation itself.

These states will grow. There  
is no doubt about that. We are rich  
in the basic resources needed by  
all of the country and all of the world.  
We have the magnificent productive  
power to utilize those resources.  
Our citizens are a ~~hard~~-working,  
enterprising people with the will and  
the skill to grow and prosper.

We in the Midwest know from  
personal experience what investment  
in America means. We have many fine  
examples right here in Minnesota and  
Wisconsin.

We have invested in schools, in highways, in hospitals. We have invested in the magnificent St. Lawrence Seaway to increase the flow of goods and services between the Midwest and the rest of the world.

We know the wisdom of these investments. And we know the wisdom of our investment and America's investment in this new Hiawatha Bridge.

Let us of the Midwest stand strong and united.

Let us demonstrate an honest,

reasonable concern for the growth  
and prosperity of this great heartland  
of America.

Let us continue to invest wisely  
for the future we want for ourselves,  
for America and for all the peoples  
of the world.

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FREE TRADE FOR MIDWEST MILK

Humphrey for Kennedy Bean Feed  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin  
8:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 18, 1960

Unreasonable, unfair restrictions in  
many states and communities now prevent the  
sale of Midwest milk and milk products.

We must break down these barriers  
to the free flow of milk to interstate  
commerce.

Midwest dairy farmers should not be  
victims of local monopolies protected by  
local milk sanitation officials.

There are areas in this country where  
milk dealers pay \$6 to \$7 a hundredweight for  
fluid milk - while the Midwest dairy farmer  
gets only half that much for the same quality  
of milk.

Many local milk sanitation regulations  
are used as weapons of economic warfare -  
as barriers to protect a local milk market  
for a special group of producers.

I believe the dairy farmers of Wisconsin  
and Minnesota should have a fair chance to  
compete in all milk markets.

I believe Midwest milk which meets  
the high standards of the United States  
Public Health Service should not be excluded  
from any state or market in this country -  
regardless of local regulations.

That is why I joined with my good  
friend - and your fine Congressman - Lester  
Johnson - in working for legislation to

allow the milk of Minnesota and Wisconsin  
dairy farmers to move freely in interstate  
commerce.

↳ We have been supported in this work  
by Governor Gaylord Nelson and Senator Bill  
Proxmire of Wisconsin and by Governor Orville  
Freeman and Senator Gene McCarthy of Minnesota.

And I want you to know without a  
shadow of a doubt that the Humphrey-Johnson  
efforts have the full support of the Democratic  
presidential candidate, Senator John F. Kennedy.

↳ The Humphrey-Johnson legislation which  
we plan to pass in Congress next year will  
set up a Federal milk sanitation code and it  
will provide that any milk which meets the high  
standards of this code must not be excluded from  
any state or any market in the United States.

Our bill does not require that all milk and milk products shipped in interstate commerce must meet the federal code. But it does mean that milk which meets code standards can be shipped into any market in this country.

Now I think most of you know that President Eisenhower - who has vetoed five major farm bills passed by Congress during the past  $7\frac{1}{2}$  years - signed the Proxmire-Humphrey milk price support bill which Congress passed in August.

And I want you all to know that Senator John Kennedy joined with Senator Proxmire and with me in sponsoring this bill and in working for its approval in Congress.

Our bill raises price supports for milk from \$3.06 to \$3.22 a hundredweight and price supports for butterfat from 56.6 cents to 59.6 cents a pound.

And you know what the President said when he signed it. He said "This is a bad bill - but I am going to sign it anyway because this is an election year."

Yes, Mr. Benson wanted the President to veto this bill, but Mr. Nixon told the President that the Republicans would lose votes in Wisconsin and Minnesota this November if he vetoed this bill.

Well, I am glad the President signed this bill - even if he did so only because it is an election year. But I want to warn





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