

MINNESOTA RADIO TAPE OF MARCH 13, 1963

FOR BROADCAST WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 17

Steel Plan

Ladies and gentlemen---

This is Senator Hubert Humphrey, reporting to you
from my office on Capitol Hill in Washington---

I am sure that most of you heard recently about the decision of
the U.S. Steel Corporation to plan for a new taconite plant in north-
eastern Minnesota.

This was good news for the whole State. It means thousands of
new jobs for our people, and could well lead to a resurgence of econ-
omic growth and progress not just for the area surrounding Duluth, but
for all Minnesota.

Some of you may have been surprised when you read or heard that
Senator McCarthy, Congressman Blatnik and I played a key role behind
the decision for the new taconite plant in Minnesota.

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I have received many letters from Minnesotans who kindly expressed gratitude for our efforts to help bring the plant to Minnesota. But many of them didn't quite understand why I had met several times in the past year with Roger Blough and other U.S. Steel officials to negotiate and encourage that corporation to build the plant.

The surprise is understandable, because normally it is the State officials who do the job of encouraging private investment and industrial development. A United States Senator, the thinking goes, is off in Washington, dealing with legislation and national or international issues.

But my answer is simple: My job is to serve the people of Minnesota, in whatever way I can, whenever I can, and wherever I happen to be.

My own role leading to the U.S. Steel decision was only one example---
~~yes, a dramatic example---~~ of my continuing effort to promote new business, new jobs, and increased economic health for Minnesota.

I am happy to say that our efforts have paid off ~~dramatically~~ in the past year. The U.S. Steel decision is but one example. *the* others

Ford Motor Co, Tacoma Plant

were the decisions of Hoffman Electronics Corporation and Litton Industries, Inc., to establish new electronics plants in Minnesota.

My efforts to stimulate new business expansion in Minnesota, and those of Senator McCarthy, go on in other ways. We are in constant contact with the Defense Department and other major government agencies to assure that a fair share of government contracts go to Minnesota firms. We work on a daily basis with the Small Business Administration to assure that ~~agency's~~ agency's prompt assistance to Minnesota firms. We watch closely the activities of the Area Redevelopment Administration, the Department of Commerce and other Federal offices to assure that the interests of Minnesota are given full and fair consideration.

Recently, we sponsored, in Washington, a conference attended by many of the top business executives in the State, which gave them a chance to meet with key government officials whose activities affect business. This was a highly successful conference of practical value to the Minnesota executives, and we will repeat it in the future.

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Above all, let me stress that my service to Minnesota includes a continuing effort to help any businessman whose request or project is reasonable---no matter what the size of his business, and no matter what his party affiliation is. In any single month of the year, I work directly with more than 50 separate businessmen on problems or projects relating to government activities.

I conclude by expressing the basic theme of this broadcast---that the business community and government must work together, in a spirit of respect and cooperation, for the improvement of our society and the assurance of job opportunities for the people.

Thank you.

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