

REMARKS
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
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Two months ago I had the opportunity to address the first of these Democratic campaign conferences, and to meet and talk with our candidates.

When we met here two months ago there was a lot of talk in the air about Democratic losses, and how the majority party always lost ground during off-year elections. There were predictions in the press of losses in the Congress up to 50 and 60 seats. There were predictions that our majority would be reduced in the Senate, and that we were in trouble in many parts of the country.

Since that time I've logged a good number of miles in America on behalf of our party and our people. I've gotten a first-hand look at how things are going -- in the Midwest,

in the Northeast, in the Southwest, in the Rocky Mountain states, in the Great Lakes and Middle Atlantic states.

And everything I've seen leads me to one conclusion: We are headed for victory this November.

I intend to keep on campaigning between now and election day. Tomorrow I'll be in New Jersey. Friday I'll be in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Indiana. Next week I'll be in California, Oregon, Washington, Montana, and my own state of Minnesota.

And I am sure that if all of us keep at it for the next seven weeks, we will have that victory.

Wherever I have been, I have seen a stronger and better America than existed even in 1964. And I have found that our people know the reason why.

In 1964 the American people had a clear choice to make. And they made it overwhelmingly.

They chose compassion. They chose progress.
They chose responsibility.

And I do not expect them to change their minds now --
unless we let down and leave the field.

We have a record to put before the American people
that matches any record ever offered by any political party
in any election.

This morning you heard a report on the state of
affairs in the world around us. I believe that report, above
all, showed clearly the responsibility we have exercised in
seeking a safer and more peaceful world.

We have met our international obligations.

We have stood up to aggression -- and don't let
anyone tell you that our people would have it any other way.

We have worked ceaselessly to aid the causes of
self-determination, of national independence, of diversity
and peace throughout the world.

But, as President Johnson pointed out not long ago, our foreign policy is no more than "a longer reach of what we do and what we seek here at home."

It was only a few years ago that we talked about foreign policy and domestic policy as if they were neatly compartmentalized and had nothing to do with each other.

"Foreign policy" was something carried on by the State Department at diplomatic receptions and in European drawing rooms. "Domestic policy" was something involving wages, the rate of unemployment, politicians and voters. Unless we were involved in war overseas -- or contagious depression at home -- the two seldom got mixed up together.

The time has long since passed when any nation could live isolated from its neighbors. The time has passed, too, when any nation could believe what happened inside its own borders was its own business, and nobody else's.

The violence in our city streets and the unfinished business of civil rights are just as much a part of our "foreign policy" as the plight of the developing countries and wars of national liberation are a part of our "domestic policy."

We have faced the fact that our ability to meet our responsibilities in the world depends ultimately on the strength, growth, and freedom of our own American society.

And we have set ourselves straight ahead on a course to build a stronger... a growing... a freer America.

Basic to all our efforts -- both at home and in the world -- is an economy both of expansion and of justice.

We have had the right ingredients for economic vigor for a long time -- the initiative of our businessmen...
the skill of our workers... the productivity of our farmers...
the ingenuity of our scientists and technologists.

But, during the 1950's, this superb economy of ours was working in fits and starts.

It was like a cha-cha-cha on a crowded dance floor-- back and forth with a hesitation step in between.

In the economic growth league, we were way down in the second division.

Now, we are in our 67th straight month of economic expansion -- the longest and strongest economic expansion ever experienced by any nation, anytime, any place.

Our growth didn't happen by accident. It happened because this Administration adopted and implemented modern economic policies -- policies which promoted growth rather than frustrating it...policies which created a climate in which we could all move forward.

Every productive element in our society has shared in the dividends of our growth. Profits are up, wages are up, farm income is up.

Prices have gone up too -- but less than in any other major industrial country. And we stand committed to turn back the threat of inflation.

Yes, we are rich in terms of Gross National Product, tons of steel, bushels of wheat, dollars in the bank, and many other material things. But we are even richer in human resources -- and we mean to be richer yet.

We know by experience that investment in people yields a higher return than any other kind.

In the last three years we have more than doubled our federal investments in health and on education.

We seek to roll back the ravages of physical and mental illness, and to ensure to as many Americans as possible the blessings of sound bodies and sound minds.

We seek to assure to every young American the opportunity for all the education he can absorb -- so that he can achieve his full potential in our society.

If history, as H. G. Wells wrote, is "a race between education and catastrophe," we mean to win that race.

We have launched an all-out war against poverty -- the first nation in history to do so.

And we have committed ourselves to an all-out effort to make the Emancipation Proclamation a reality -- to match our creed with deed.

The progress we have made in these years of Democratic leadership has gone far beyond what would ever have been predicted.

We have made into law and national policy the hopes and aspirations of a generation.

But we cannot be satisfied. We know how much is left undone.

We know that our cities must be safer and greener and healthier places to live.

We know that our rural people, and rural communities,

must receive a fairer share of our prosperity.

We know that our air must be made more fit to breathe and our water more fit to drink.

We know that there are still too many doors of opportunity closed to the knocking, knocking, knocking of our fellow citizens, left outside in the emptiness of poverty and discrimination.

We are determined to keep our nation growing. We are determined to expand the frontiers of hope and freedom on behalf of the people who entrusted us with leadership.

And the people must know it.

But, in the nuclear age, we are not so short-sighted as to believe that we can live in splendid, prosperous, happy isolation in a world of turmoil, poverty and hunger.

Nor can we justify in our own hearts what we do at home if we seek less for our fellow men in other places.

As the President has so often said: We do not seek a Great Society which stops at the water's edge.

Twelve years ago at Harvard University, Adlai Stevenson gave a series of remarkable lectures. One was entitled "America's Burden." I will quote from that lecture:

"To act coolly, intelligently and prudently in perilous circumstances is the test of a man or nation. The ordeal of our times is a challenge to American maturity and American responsibility...America's life story is the record of a marvelous growth of body, mind and character. Now at maturity we shoulder the heaviest burdens of greatness, for in the last analysis the epic struggle for our civilization, for government by consent of the governed, will be determined by what we Americans are capable of. In bearing burdens, in ennobling new duties of citizenship, is the greatness of men and nations measured, not in pomp and circumstance."

I have often thought of those words.

I thought of them especially on that day I sat down, as a United States Senator, for an eight-hour discussion with Nikita Khrushchev.

Nikita Khrushchev told me that the superiority of the Communist system would be demonstrated, not on the field of battle, but through its victory in social and economic competition.

I told him that, in such a contest between freedom and totalitarianism, freedom would win.

That was something of an act of faith on my part -- but faith founded on confidence in what we could do.

I believe Mr. Khrushchev may have some idea today of how things will finally turn out.

For America is today -- as Adlai Stevenson said -- meeting the measure of greatness, both at home and in the world.

We have the leadership of a brave and compassionate President. We have policies and programs conceived for the peace, safety and freedom of the American people and of the world. Let us take that message to the people.

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