

Pathbrown

COLTON, CALIFORNIA

Cong Dyal
State Sen Gene Nisbet
John Dumbley
(assemblyman)

My visit here again reminds me of what I have often seen throughout the Southwest, the deep imprint of the contributions of Spain and Mexico to our culture, economy and joy of life.

EDA Urban Renewal
new city

No one can deny, that as your forefathers tediously journeyed over the paths that were to become El Camino Real, they brought the seeds and know-how that is the basis of our present prosperity. Our debt to the heritage of Spain and Mexico in the fields of agriculture, of cattle and sheep raising, and of land, mineral and water laws can never be repaid.

Re-al

And they also brought with them a renewed emphasis on freedom and justice and the respect and dignity of the human being. The cry for tierra and libertad continues.

I see another revolution beginning in California. A peaceful revolution, but a demand for a change. Very much in the tradition of Father Hidalgo, Morelos, and Zapata.

From the vineyards of Delano has emerged a man, a product of the soil, nurtured by years of hardship and frustration. This man, already known throughout the Nation, has begun to write the new history of the organized farm workers.

Cesar Chavez is his name --- a leader of the long forgotten toilers of the fields. The Delano Movement of the National Farm Workers Association, led by Cesar Chavez, has had a profound impact upon the conscience of the Nation. From the Pacific to the Atlantic, these outcasts of democracy relentlessly seek a decent wage, adequate housing for their families, and proper education for their children.

President Johnson has not forgotten them. He knows their plight, and his Administration has written new and long-overdue laws to increase the minimum wages of the farm workers.

And here in California, Governor Pat Brown has already proposed advanced legislation to obtain for Cesar Chavez and the agricultural workers of the State the right to collective bargaining.

Cesar Chavez' crusade has not been in vain.

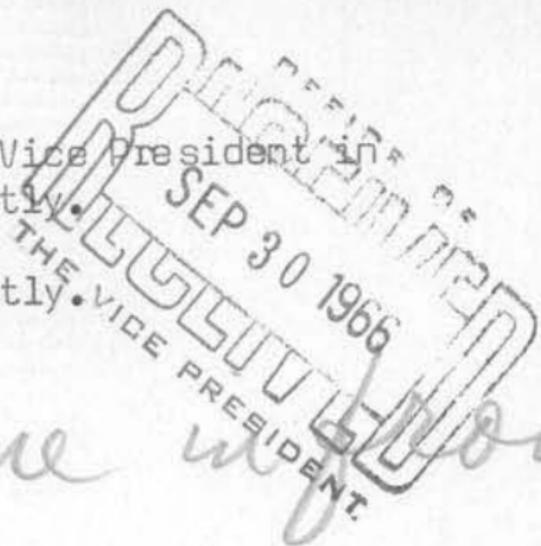
Upon my arrival in Colton, I was impressed by the fact that I was greeted by Mayor Pascual S. Oliva and Councilman Abe Beltran of this multi-racial community. I also met City Councilman Jess Arias of San Bernardino. And there is Congressman Ed Roybal, a great man, with whom the President and I have worked closely in Washington.

And up and down your great State, one recognizes the names of Soto, Apodaca, Flores, Lugo, and many more elected officials with Spanish names whose contributions are becoming more and more important.

This progress toward political representation among Spanish-speaking Americans has greatly increased during the past few years, partly through their own interest in politics and political organization, and partly through encouragement and recognition of their talents by Governor Brown's Administration.

Transcript of speech made by the Vice President in
Colton on Sep 26 will follow shortly.

Clipping service will follow shortly.



This came in from
Cong. Ken Dyal's
office

Speech of Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United States on his visit to Teen Opportunity Post, 195 West "I" St., Colton, as transcribed from tape.

Transcribing Secretary: Hazel B. Spicer, Secretary to the Chief of Police, Colton Police Department.

DATE: 9/26/66

ARRIVAL TIME: 3:44 p.m.

(Introduction by Congressman Ken Dyal)

So, I have the honor to introduce to you the Vice President of the United States, the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey. (Cheers and Applause)

RESPONSE: By Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey

Thank you very much, my good friend Congressman Ken Dyal, and State Senator Gene Nisbet who is with us, and Assemblyman John Quimby, who couldn't be with us. And I surely do want to say a word of congratulations to the distinguished Mayor of this fine community of Colton. And a word too, of congratulations to that Tiajuana Brass over here: The Colton High School Band. (Cheers and Shouts)

Let me ah-Let me just indicate to you for a moment how much it means to me to have the opportunity to visit the Colton Teen Opportunity Post that I just came from, and I'm afraid kept you waiting a little too long while I was talking and visiting with those young people.

I want to congratulate this community upon what it's doing for it's young people. And I particularly want to congratulate this Colton Teen Opportunity Post. (Cheers and Applause) And I do surely feel that we owe Ray Gonzales and Sally Garcia a very special debt of gratitude for the outstanding leadership that they are giving to these young people, here in your fine community, in this beautiful valley, in this great area of California.

I've had a delightful day, busy-busy day with your Governor Pat Brown, with your Congressman here, Ken Dyal, and I want you folks to know that Ken Dyal has told me a hundred times if he's told me once, that if you really want to see some nice people, Mr. Vice-President; if you want to see the best looking teen-agers and the finest looking young people in all of California, you just come to Colton and that's where you'll find them. (Cheers)

Ah-(Humphrey chuckles) And I must say - And I must say from what I've seen here today, that is surely true.

Let me take just a few moments to say something to you in all sincerity and with great depth of feeling. My visit here reminds me once again, of what I've seen so many times in our great southwest of this United States. It reminds me, as I know it tells you, because you are so much a part of it, of the deep imprint of the contributions of the - of Spain and Mexico to our culture and our economy and above all to our joy of life. I feel that the Spanish-speaking people, of all people in America, really know how to have what we call the pursuit of happiness and enjoy life. (Cheers and Applause)

(Continued Next Page)

Hubert H. Humphrey -

9/26/66 - Colton, California

Page 2.

I notice that ah-You're doing a little rebuilding around here, too. (Laughter) When I came into town I wasn't quite sure what had been goin' on. But your Mayor has reminded me, and by the way he has a fine name for a man that comes from Minnesota, where we have the Minnesota twins and where we have Pasqual, who is a great right hand pitcher; and where we have Tony Oliva, who is the best hitter in the American League. (Cheers)

And when you have Pasqual Oliva in one package, you have it, I'm tellin' you, it's great! (Cheers)

And there are others here too, who surely should share in that- that note of congratulations and one of them is Abe Beltran, who is a very prominent member and Councilman, and one of the leaders in your community. (Cheers)

But I noticed that you were tearing down some old buildings. And you're getting ready to build some new ones. You're going to build yourself a brand new community where ever it's needed. And I'm happy that one of our agencies of the Federal Government the Economic Development Administration headed, by the way, by one of my closest friends, and a fellow-citizen of the state of Minnesota, a young man that was associated with me for years in the Senate, Mr. Eugene Foley. I'm happy that EDA saw fit to make this community one of it's important projects. For Urban Redevelopment; for building a finer and better business section and a finer community for all of you. And as you tear down those old buildings and you build these new ones, you do more than just put up new structures. You put in new spirit; you put in a new feeling about yourselves and about your community. I know that this community in past years has suffered unemployment. I know that it's had it's difficulties, but there's a new day. The state of California is on the march. If there's any one state in this Union that represents the youth of America the vitality of America the forward progress of America; it's the State of California. With all of it's sunshine, with all of it's wonderful people, and even occasionally with it's smog, but you don't have any of it over here. (Cheers)

Now just permit me to - to pay tribute to those who have built this area. People here that have lived here many years - people in fact who are the natives of not only this community - but long before California was even a state in our great federal union. You know, there were forefathers of the Spanish culture who journeyed over paths that were to become the El Camino Real, and they brought with them there the seeds and their know-how in agriculture, that is the basis today of our - much of our present prosperity. And our debt to the heritage of Spain and Mexico in the fields of agriculture, yes, particularly of cattle and sheep, of land and land control and land use, mineral and water laws; that's a heritage young folks, that you can never, ever repay. And how wonderful it was to see in the-in this Teen Opportunity Post, young people learning once again to live the culture of the Spanish-speaking people of the-of the Mexican people themselves. And you know it's a-America is what John Kennedy once said, about our world as he wanted it. He said he wanted the world safe for diversity. He wanted it safe for people of many walks of life, many races, creeds and nationalities. And the beauty of America is not that everybody looks alike, talks alike or acts alike. The beauty of America is that it's a mosaic; everybody a little different, and everybody proud of what they can contribute, and everybody remembering their cultural

(Continued Next Page)

Hubert H. Humphrey

9/26/66 - Colton, California

Page 3..

heritage and at the same time pouring that in to what we call America the Beautiful. (Cheers and applause) (Viva La Humphrey!)

And

(Chuckles from Humphrey) I love that Viva. /I like what I see out here, Viva Pat Brown, and Viva Ken Dyal, and I like that. (More Cheers)

I want to say a word too, about another change that's taking place, in California, and it's a very important change - in fact - there are two of them. The first change that's taking place is this fantastic growth in education and which means opportunity, to more and more people. Every mother and father here wants that boy or girl to have a better education. And may I say to the young people that are here today, stay in that school; don't you drop out. You stick with it because the boy or girl of tomorrow that's going to have any future is someone that has to have an education. You get that High School Diploma, you go on to these state colleges that have been made available here; you learn, because you are going to enjoy life all the more.

You know a college and a university can't give you a good life it can just bring you to an understanding of what a good life can mean. And you get your diploma in school and you remember what you learn and you take it on to college and you do something with it to elevate yourself, to lift your community; to make your parents proud of you; to make your country proud of you and you can be proud of yourself.

You know every body ought to be proud of his family, his religion, his country and have self respect and self pride. (Cheers and applause)
And that self respect and self pride is very important. (Cheers and applause)

This is the new age of opportunity. That's what it really spells out now. And there's a revolution of opportunity under way throughout all of America; and a demand for constructive change. Very much in the tradition of Father Hidalgo and Morales and Zapata and other famous names in Spanish culture that you know. And that change that I speak of may be foreign to some of you who live in the cities but it's happening. It's in the vineyards, for example of Delano, where there's been a real fight taking place for dignity and self-respect. And in that battle has emerged a man, a product of the soil of this state, nurtured by years of hardship and frustration. And this man, his name has come to the east as well as to the west, it's known in Minnesota and Maine and Washington, D. C., as well as California. And that name is associated with the ambition and the desire of giving the migrant and the farm worker a better chance at life. Because they're people. And they're Americans, and if you're an American, you're entitled to a first class opportunity in a first class country. (Cheers and applause)

The man that I referred to is known by these young people, they've read about him, they've heard about him, and I do not pass judgment on every act, I only say that he's led a great crusade. His name is Cesar Chavez. And I think you know who I mean. (Cheers and Applause)

He's been a man of conflict- and he's been a man of course, of which- of controversy. But most leaders are. And he's a leader of a long-forgotten group of people, the toilers of the fields. And that Delano movement of the

(Continued Next Page)

Hubert H. Humphrey

9/26/66 - Colton, California

Page 4.

National Farm Workers Association has had a^{very} great impact on the conscience of America. From the Pacific to the Atlantic. These people that were the forgotten ones, forgotten children of democracy, they are now out to seek a decent wage and adequate housing for their families and proper education for their children. And my fellow Americans, every American that can work and is willing to work is entitled to a decent wage; because this is a great and rich country. And every American that has a family, the children of that family are entitled to a good education; because America needs educated young people. And we need decent places in America for us to grow up in; wholesome environments. This is the way that we make a better country, and my purpose in life is just one purpose; to help build a better America. To make this country better for people that will come after us. To make it more just; to make it more responsible. Not necessarily to make it easier; I don't think that always makes a better country, but I do think what is important is that everybody regardless of how they spell their last name, regardless of their race, their color, their religion, or their national origin, that everybody when he has the title of citizen of the United States, that that person shall have a fair break in life. And equal opportunity to make something out of his life. (Cheers and Applause)

That's not asking too much, and it's not giving too much.

President Johnson hasn't forgotten these people. I just left your president, in fact I talked to him on the phone yesterday. Told him where I was going. I wonder if you folks remember that President Johnson's first job was as a school teacher. And he was down in southwest Texas, in a little country school where he taught Mexican-American children. And the first check that he received was less than \$60. And you know what he did with it? He gave it to the children to buy books and to buy playground equipment. And the Mexican-American people of that area to this day have never forgotten him. In fact, he gets so much support from them that he says that he's almost overwhelmed, by it. They have never forgotten him. (Cheers)

And when we, when the Johnson-Humphrey Administration put the minimum wage law to the Congress we didn't forget the worker. We didn't forget the people. We provided for greater coverage and we included eight-million new people including farm workers; those that Cesar Chavez was worried about, and that others ought to be worried about. And here in California Pat Brown- by the way - I want to say a word about that fellow.

I know there's an election on here, and that's one of the reasons of course I'm out here. But I don't-I suppose everybody has his limitations and we all do, and every one of us make mistakes and I stand before you as having made plenty of them, most of which I regret deeply. But I can say that I have never met a warmer hearted a more thoroughly human and a more thoroughly compassionate and a more thoroughly dedicated human being in the field of public service. A man who is fully dedicated above all to the children of today and tomorrow than the governor of this state, Pat Brown, and he's a great governor for you. (Cheers and applause)

Well, Ken Dyal, your congressman; State Senator Gene Nisbet; Mr. Mayor, that man with the famous two names Pasqual and Oliva; Oh, I wish I'd had you up to Minnesota this year. You know the twins didn't do so well this year.

(Continued Next Page)

Hubert H. Humphrey

9/26/66

Page 5.

We could have used you. We could have used you. Pasqual's right arm went out, and Oliva's back wasn't as good as it used to be. But those are honored names. And your Mayor symbolizes here for you what can happen in this country. He's brought himself to a high position of responsibility as has Mr. Beltran; a famous name. I know when I was in Peru the former president of Peru, Abe, was a man by the name of Abe Beltran. One of the most honored names in all of the Hispanic culture, which is so much a part of our culture. And there are others here too, that I want to mention.

There's Jess Arias, of San Bernardino, just another one. (Cheers) And I wouldn't forget for a moment a man that couldn't be with us today, Congressman Ed Roybal. (Cheers) He's worked with us and he's done a great job for the people of this area and for the Spanish speaking people, the Mexican-American the Spanish-American.

Well, I'm going to take back to Washington D. C., the wonderful welcome that you've given me, and can I thank for a moment the editor of the Colton Courier who put out that nice headline up there that said, "Welcome to Colton Mr. Vice-President." Well, Mr. Editor, I want to say you can be proud not only of your paper but you can be proud of your town. And you can be proud of the people that make up this town, and don't forget this: What makes a great country is the quality of it's people; not the quantity but the quality.

What makes for happiness are not the things we have but the enrichment of our lives. And I know that I've seen here today people who know how to be happy; and I know that I've seen here today a whole new generation of Americans; people that just have the sense of confidence, the sense of assurance and the sense of happiness on their countenance.

I've never met more beautiful young people in my life and I say it with all the sincerity the Lord God has given to me. I've been here with them in the Opportunity Post, in their Teen Opportunity Post and what they're doing here should make every mother and father happy. If your son and daughter doesn't have this opportunity make it available to him. I'm happy that our Federal Government has had some little interest in this. Indeed it has.

To those of you that may not know it-To those of you that may not know it, the office of Economic Opportunity, that command post for the war on poverty is doing things today. It's beginning to do many things that were long needed to be done. I know we have not done enough. But that's why we have to get busy and do more. If we'd done it all, there'd be nothing to talk about and nothing to worry about.

We're a concerned people and we're a people that are on the march; and I ask the adults of this community to do for themselves and their children what your children are doing for you and your community.

Thank you very much. (Cheers) (End of Speech)

Pasqual Oliva Mayor of Colton (At the microphone) Ladies and Gentlemen, as the Pres-Vice-President is leaving, please don't try to shake hands with him, because he's got another commitment and has to leave.

Vice President H. Humphrey: Do I have another one yet? (Cheers and Shouts)



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org