

Hometown Salute

and

Testimonial Dinner

for



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U. S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson

Clear Lake Auditorium - Clear Lake, Wis.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1967

Bill Barthman
 Gaylord Nelson - Sherman Benson
 "Lectures on
 Juvenile Delinquency
 from personal
 experience"

Clear Lake 747

Wausau 505
 Program
 Doland 12

Father Fraher

Invocation - - - The Reverend Fr. Leonard Fraher

Introduction of the Master of Ceremonies
 Attorney General Bronson LaFollette
 William Ward, Co-chairman

Mayor Benson

Welcome - - - Mayor Allen Benson

Welcome from Clear Lake School - - Steven Nelson

Reminiscence - - - William Barthman

Remarks - - - Assemblyman Harvey Dueholm
 Co-chairman

Behind every
 successful
 man

Atty Gen Bronson
 LaFollette

surprised
 ADDRESS - - - Senator Gaylord Nelson
 Vice President of the United States
 - - - HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

west to Buffalo

Rev Barnes

Benediction - - - The Reverend Kenneth Barnes

Whistle Hooter - Call
 Snare -

Wild Rice (That's Gold)

Gaylord -
 his father + mother

Clear Lake + Doland So DAK
 crowd - Truman + Barkley

Gaylord Nelson
Bronson LaFollette
Harvey Sueholm
James Hanson
Janette Burdick
Desk Aikahy

REMARKS
VICE PRESIDENT HERBERT HUMPHREY
SENATOR NELSON TESTIMONIAL DINNER
CLEAR LAKE, WISCONSIN

OCTOBER 2, 1967

I can't tell you what a great honor and a privilege it is to be speaking here in Clear Lake, Wisconsin -- a quiet and unassuming little community which is known far and wide as the home of one of the nation's most outstanding, most successful, most effective spitballers -- Burleigh Grimes.

That is a fine billboard you have erected at the outskirts to honor old Burleigh. Every community ought to have something to be proud of, and you here in Clear Lake certainly are fortunate in that respect.

It also is a pleasure to take part in a dinner which is largely a result of the efforts of one of Wisconsin's outstanding elected officials --
Assemblyman Harvey Dueholm.

I realize Harvey is so busy down in Madison these days that you Polk County people may not see much of him. You may not even have much of an opportunity any more to hear ^{those} Dueholm jokes.

From talking to another Polk County politician (who I may get around to mentioning in a moment) I know ~~of~~ Harvey Dueholm as one of the toughest and most determined spokesmen for the farmers of Wisconsin. I noticed on television a few months ago they had a fancy bill-signing ceremony in the Wisconsin State Capitol which I was told was of great significance to all the dairy farmers of Wisconsin.

I didn't see Harvey in the picture anywhere, and I asked my politician friend why Harvey Dueholm

wasn't invited. He said, "Well, I understand they invited him, but Harvey refused to appear wearing a yellow subvert"

As I say, I am glad to be in Clear Lake, and in Wisconsin, because you may remember there was a period there where I was flatteringly referred to as

"Wisconsin's third Senator." I think you know the historical background.

There was a period when a certain group of Wisconsin people were not too pleased with the representation they had in the United States Senate. They sort of reached over the border a little bit and kind of adopted Hubert Humphrey. Well, I always profited more than they did from this arrangement, and I always felt especially good when people talked of Wisconsin as "my second home."

I remember the great support I got from many of the wonderful people in this state when I embarked on a venture or two on my own.

But what I am getting at is that this situation is causing me trouble lately. I hear complaints that run along this line. They say, "I realize that Wisconsin had a problem back in those days. But they solved part of that problem when they elected Bill Proxmire in 1957, and they solved the other part of the problem when they elected Gaylord Nelson in 1962. So now Wisconsin has two full-fledged, progressive-minded Senators in the United States Senate -- and yet, they still haven't given back Hubert Humphrey!"

Well, just between you and me, I hope you never do. No matter what titles I might acquire, I will always be proud to be known as the third Senator from Wisconsin.

And whenever Bill Proxmire and Gaylord Nelson need a little help, a little shoring up, a little free advice, I'm always glad to help.

I told you that sooner or later I would have to get around to mentioning the other person on that Clear Lake billboard. I am sure you know I have always had an extra soft spot in my heart for Gaylord Nelson, going way back to when he was a young lawyer, fresh out of Polk County, and carrying on the liberal fight almost all alone in the Wisconsin State Senate. We had a fine relationship during his marvelously successful four years as Governor of Wisconsin, and ~~of course~~ it was a great moment for me personally when he came down to Washington and took a seat in the United States Senate.

As you know, ~~the~~ Gaylord is known all across the country as a crusading conservationist.

I must admit I was worried one day when I saw Gaylord working at his seat in the Senate with a big map and a crayon, and I asked him what he was doing.

He gave me his customary speech on the population explosion, and the spread of blight and ugliness, and the need for new park and recreation space. He said he had thought it all over and the only way that the people of Wisconsin would have adequate recreation space in the future would be if we converted the entire state of Minnesota into a national park!

I suppose he figured, "With three Senators, we might just be able to swing it!"

Let me come to the point.

You have in Gaylord Nelson a truly gifted and truly exceptional public servant, who has earned the respect and admiration of Americans, regardless of party and regardless of economic background, all

across this nation.

↳ Gaylord is one of a small handful of men of vision who are deeply concerned about the quality of life in America today. He, more than anyone else I know, has taken up the challenge of using our material abundance to serve our deepest human needs for a safe and satisfying environment, free of needless waste, free of poisons, free of want.

↳ And he has another quality which is every bit as important as humanistic vision -- he knows how to get things done. In the relatively short time he has been in the Senate he has significantly advanced both the cause of Wisconsin and the cause of the American people. Calvin Gaylord

↳ Everybody knows of Gaylord's great dedication to conservation, and everybody knows that dedication has produced action.

↳ His Apostle Islands National Lakeshore bill.

warmly endorsed by both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson,
has passed the Senate and is ready for final action by
the House. This will be the most important recreational
project in Wisconsin's history.

↳ His proposal to preserve the St. Croix, Namekagon *Samuel Kagon*
and Wolf Rivers as a permanent part of a National Wild
and Scenic Rivers system has also passed the Senate and
is ready for final action by the House.

↳ His package of bills on water and air pollution --
the first comprehensive legislative program ever
introduced to deal with those broad threats to our
environment -- is attracting wide attention and is already
encouraging industry and government all along the line
to speed up their efforts to eliminate pollution.

↳ He got the same kind of advance compliance from
the soap and detergent industry when he introduced a bill

which would require a changeover to a new kind of detergent chemical. The industry didn't even wait for it to pass -- they saw it coming and they changed over voluntarily just to stay ahead of Senator Nelson.

But his effort to achieve a better life for all Americans is not limited to conservation. I remember when Gaylord introduced his first bill to set national tire safety standards. Then he introduced his bill to give the Secretary of Commerce authority to set minimum automobile safety standards. A lot of people said they would never pass. But before the year was out, both of these proposals, folded into the Administration's comprehensive traffic safety legislation, passed both houses of the Congress unanimously.

His National Teacher Corps program, ably supported by Senator Ted Kennedy and warmly endorsed by President Johnson, stands today as one of the most creative of this

decade's education programs. It has already attracted many bright young people into teaching and provided extra manpower assistance to those disadvantaged schools which need it the most and can afford it the least.

His bill to establish a Nation-wide Teacher Aide program, to bring housewives, young people and prospective teachers into the classroom to help our teachers with their routine duties, is attracting tremendous support.

We think it may very well pass the Senate this session.

In northern Wisconsin and in the 20 other states where it is working, they tell me that the Nelson Amendment to the poverty program is one of the most successful of all the various programs we have enacted in the War on Poverty. This is the great program which puts unemployed older farmers and other jobless adults

Green Throat

to work on badly needed conservation, beautification and recreation projects. They build parks, they improve forests, they develop boat launching sites -- all of immediate value to the state and the community.

Here in Polk County you know of the fight Gaylord has been waging for the farmer, especially the dairy farmer of Wisconsin, who has been caught in the ruthless squeeze between rising costs and falling prices.

The whole nation is watching Senator Nelson's courageous investigation into the high prices of certain prescription drugs -- and believe me, as a registered pharmacist, I appreciated his firm response when some of the manufacturers tried to pass the buck to the local pharmacist.

The information Senator Nelson is digging out on the price discrepancies and purchasing procedures for

Qualities of a Good Senator -

- (1) 6 yr term
- (2) Independence
- (3) foresight -
- (4) courage
- (5) Diligence - work
- (6) conscience

life-saving drugs may turn out to be the greatest single contribution he has made during his first five years in the United States Senate.

↳ Well, what makes a man like that tick? I think I have known Gaylord Nelson long enough to give you an answer.

↳ It has a lot to do with growing up in a small community like Clear Lake,

↳ a community where people want only the opportunity to work with and enjoy the abundance God gave them,

↳ a community where politics and public service are taken seriously as a noble obligation, but *also* where public business is handled with wit and sensitivity,

↳ --a community which knew back in the 'thirties and knows today that you have to keep working and fighting to protect the kind of life America is meant to offer.

I have had a chance to watch Gaylord Nelson in the Senate for some time now. When the issues get complicated and tempers get a little hot, he is likely to stand up and, with a gentle wit and a story about Clear Lake, remind everybody that the grass roots, where the people are, is what counts. No matter whether the issue is courts or clean lakes or labor or taxes, he is likely to start off by saying "Well, in Wisconsin...^{or}

I have come to the conclusion over the years that his goal is to make the rest of the United States as much like Wisconsin as possible, and I think that would be a good thing. U

in Clear Lake

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