

Boytoun Band
Carl Bleik
7

Chr Mitchell

Morrin

Maurice Bregert

Marge Werve

7 other women
should be added

NOTES

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

DEMOCRATIC MEETING

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

FEBRUARY 2, 1968

L First, a word from my sponsor. Lyndon Johnson has asked me to bring you his personal greetings.

L I've had a good day today -- beginning with some fine young Americans at Creighton University... responsible, idealistic, concerned, well-educated young people who are ready to shoulder the burdens of leadership in this country.

Creighton
Chamber
KETV-TV

Commerce-Projetzes
got coupe
reception

Er:

Then I met with the Omaha Chamber of Commerce which helped employ 5 thousand needy youngsters last summer through its Project Y.E.S., and which promises even more for the summer ahead.

TV JMC Corp

Now I find myself with good Democrats in the part of the country that is home to me.

So I feel encouraged.

Yes, we have some serious problems: inequity for our farmers in our generally prosperous economy... inadequate schools for too many of our children... cities and neighborhoods that are less than we want them to be.

Problems
Yes

But to a country ~~that is~~ so rich in material and human resources... a country whose people and free institutions are responding to the work that needs doing --

those are not mortal threats. They are challenges...
unfinished business... opportunities for progress.

Challenges

And that is why I am also optimistic about the future of the Democratic Party.

↳ The unfinished business of America has always been the business of Democrats.

unfinished Business

It is the business of people who trust their hopes rather than their fears... who look forward rather than back... who believe in America and do not sell it short.

Record

↳ The record is clear and I won't try to recite it.

But think of some of the major milestones of progress that have been passed just in the last four years: Medicare... Elementary and Secondary Education Act... Higher Education Act... Teacher Corps... Mental Health Centers... New G. I. Bill of Rights... Two new Cabinet Departments... A Treaty for the Peaceful Use of Outer Space... Civil Rights Act of 1964 ...

Record

Water Pollution and Air Pollution Control...Auto Highway Safety...Law Enforcement Assistance Act...an increase in the minimum wage and in Social Security.

↳ That is a brilliant record.

But you and I know that people -- long accustomed to Democratic progress-as-usual -- don't vote for yesterday. They vote for tomorrow.

Vote
for tomorrow

There is the sad story about the husband who decided to surprise his wife on Christmas Day. He bought her a lovely skunk coat and placed it under their Christmas tree.

On Christmas morning she opened the package... held the coat up and declared..."How is it possible? Such a beautiful skin from such a smelly little animal."

He replied: "Well, I didn't necessarily expect gratitude. But you don't have to insult me."

↳ Many applaud the gains of the last few years --
particularly the people who needed them most.

↳ But tomorrow is what counts to the voter, and
that's as it should be.

It also gives the party with a program for the future
a distinct advantage. And I don't think the Republicans
have a program -- except maybe the well-worn call
for a Pause.

↳ The Republican candidates and their mixed bag
of positions and issues are beginning to look a lot like
that new canned diet food. You know the one I have in
mind. ↳ The label is lovely. ↳ The advertising is great.
The can itself is giant size and made of stainless steel.
Then they open it up on T.V.....and it's empty.

our new program
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↳ The Democratic agenda is different. You heard it in the President's State of the Union Message:

- a manpower program to wipe out hard-core unemployment;
- a sixfold increase in the rate of low and middle income housing construction over the next decade;
- a child health program;
- increased consumer protection;
- drug control, to "stop the sale of slavery to the young;"

-- a study of the auto insurance system that is largely responsible for the torrent of litigation that delays justice in America.

↳ Now I want to say a few words about another very important item on that Democratic agenda -- first class treatment for the American farmer and his community.

Farmer

Agria

2 Farmers are going to have to bargain for that position in our society. ~~They deserve to bargain.~~ They need to bargain. And this administration intends to see that they can bargain.

It was with that need in mind that we made a fundamental change in support loan policy, for instance, to enable more farmers to maintain control of their grain until they choose to sell it.

But we need more. And as President Johnson pledged in this State of the Union Message, he intends to recommend a security commodity reserve to protect the market from price-depressing stocks that would undercut bargaining power. He is also pledged, in his words, "to recommend programs to help farmers bargain more effectively for fair prices."

Rural America

-8-

Those programs are going to need your support.

And let me emphasize that this is not a question of farm prices alone.

It goes to the heart of economic and social development in rural America.

It has to do with schools that provide an up-to-date education...homes that offer all the modern conveniences that America so abundantly produces...jobs...a rural environment that is a satisfactory alternative for every American who does not choose to live in the city.

Yes, we want a better, safer, freer America. And we are prepared to build toward that ideal knowing full well that the path ahead will be rough, and that our task, in our growing, changing society may never be done.

But let us also recognize now that America can never be entirely free or safe until freedom from want and safety from aggression are a greater reality for all nations of the world.

The obligations of world leadership which history has thrust upon us cannot be escaped in this nuclear age.

The past progress made by Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson cannot be cashed in today for a retreat from responsibility.

Nor can we mortgage the hopes of the future to the doubts of the present.

Security and development at home...security and development abroad are a single challenge -- one and inseparable.

I believe this nation has the power, the wealth,
the endurance and the courage to meet that challenge --
and to go on meeting it as long as it remains before us.

As President Johnson said in his State of the
Union Message:

"If ever there was a nation that was capable
of solving its problems, it is this nation.

"If ever there were a time to know the
pride and excitement and the hope of being an
American, it is this time."

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