

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

AFL-CIO CONVENTION

Albuquerque, New Mexico

October 15, 1971

I come to you today with a simple question, a simple answer, and a simple but important message.

The question is this: What does the Nixon economic plan do for the more than 5 million Americans out of work?

The answer is -- they ignore them.

The message is this: What the Nixon Administration does not understand is that the number one domestic priority is Jobs-Jobs-Jobs.

When the unemployment rate in the construction industry is over 10 percent, I say we need jobs.

When the teenage unemployment rate is over 17 percent, I say we need jobs.

When minority unemployment is over 35 percent, I say we need jobs.

When unemployed workers lose their compensation benefits at the rate of over 45,000 a week, I say we need jobs.

But what is the response of the Nixon Administration? They say that first we must stop inflation, then we will think about getting everybody employed.

I am for stopping inflation. I am for stopping inflation that has increased over 14 percent since the Nixon Administration took office.

But, I have discovered the secret administration plan for controlling inflation: You put everybody out of work, then there is no income, no money, no spending, hence, no inflation.

I say to you that when the President of the United States can ignore the plight of the poor, when he can postpone welfare reform, when he can ignore the crisis in health care, the crisis of the cities, when he can ignore hungry children, and pay lip service to the American Indians, then I say to you that it is time to blow the whistle.

What does the tax package do for the ordinary citizen?

-- business gets a tax relief of nearly \$9 billion dollars. The individual is limited to a one-time only benefit of less than 1/3 that given corporate business.

And, only last week, the Secretary of the Treasury comes to Congress and says that business needs another \$800 billion in tax relief.

I ask you: where is the concern for the working man, where is the concern for the poor, where is the concern for the small businessman?

What we need for this economy is concern for the people.

And, the labor movement has it.

You have been in the forefront of the fight for human rights.

It was with your help that the battle for equal and quality education was begun.

It was with your help that we were able to outlaw discrimination by the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

It was with your help that we passed the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

But, we cannot rest on the past.

I call upon the Labor Movement now to break down the barriers to full economic partnership among all our people.

I have said in many speeches that the 1970's should be a decade of Domestic Development.

I say now that this development will not be complete unless the Chicanos, the Latins, and the Indians have economic purchasing power.

Economic development is the key -- to go into the market place, to be an economic force to be recondited with -- this will add immeasurably to the self-respect and identity of minorities.

The right to a share in America is basic for all our people.

Here is what we must do:

First, we can extend the coverage of unemployment compensation for farm laborers. And, we need to add another 26 weeks for all workers to the regular unemployment compensation programs. Back in July, I proposed a bill that would extend the duration of coverage. I took it to the Senate floor. It lost then, but I am going to bring it up again, and again, and again.

Second, we can bring farm workers under the minimum wage laws. And, we can pass a \$2.25 minimum wage immediately.

Third, we can intensify educational and economic programs so that schools are relevant to the needs of the community, and an economic base for minority entrepreneurs is guaranteed.

Fourth, Chicanos should run for convention delegates, run for office, get involved in politics -- because economic power and political power go hand in hand.

I believe that the labor movement offers a great opportunity of bringing full economic participation to our citizens.

I want to work with you in that effort.

Finally, I want to make a few comments about Phase II of the Nixon program.

You know, this administration is great for redefining things. They redefined poverty or at least they have attempted to.

They call a business tax credit a job development credit.

They are attempting to reorganize and redefine the function of the nonpartisan unemployment statistics bureau in Washington to report rosier findings.

Well, they have redefined Phase II -- now it is titled the Post-Freeze Economic Stabilization Program -- the PFESP -- I call it the Permanently Frozen Employment Selection-out Program.

I want to know a few things about this program. I think you will be interested in the answers also.

-- What happens to all the wage benefits lost during the freeze? Who gets them? Not the workers. But, business certainly did not lose any profits during the freeze.

-- I want to know what is going to happen to all the wage increases pending for the next six months. What is going to happen to those contracts?

-- I want to know how this administration is going to control windfall profits.

-- I want to know how this Administration is going to bring down the interest rates.

-- I want to know how this Administration can claim fairness when it is much easier to control wages than prices.

-- Finally, I suggest that this Administration is asking Congress to play a back-seat role.

I oppose this. Congress should be the co-equal partner. And, with the President's proposals -- without the advice or consent of the Senate or any board member, with any effective Congressional means of keeping a watch on the Cost of Living Council or the Price Commission, Congress is like a sleeping giant -- unable to effectively exercise its constitutional responsibilities.

In short, the elected representatives of the people will have little to say over the details of the people's economic livelihood.

Labor and the Democratic party have marched together before.

And, we shall march together again -- to bring this country back to full employment, to cool inflation, and to give those who have less a stake in the economic wealth of this nation.

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REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

AFL-CIO STATE CONVENTION

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

OCTOBER 15, 1971

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- X Gov. Bruce King
- X Senator Montoya (Pala)
- X Clinton Anderson

Congressman ~~Raymond~~
 (Hanged) Rumruts
Neal Gonzales

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I COME TO YOU TODAY WITH A SIMPLE QUESTION, A SIMPLE

ANSWER, AND A SIMPLE BUT IMPORTANT MESSAGE.

Chr Mike
~~Moyle~~
 Sahryyah

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THE QUESTION

IS THIS: WHAT DOES THE NIXON ECONOMIC PLAN DO FOR THE MORE THAN 5 MILLION AMERICANS OUT OF WORK?

THE ANSWER

IS -- THEY IGNORE THEM!

Chr Mike
 Lawes

THE MESSAGE

IS THIS: WHAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION DOES

NOT UNDERSTAND IS THAT THE NUMBER ONE DOMESTIC PRIORITY

IS JOBS-JOBS-JOBS.

Jobs Unemp in Mexico 7%

WHEN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

IS OVER 10 PERCENT, I SAY WE NEED JOBS!

WHEN THE TEENAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS OVER 17 PERCENT,

I SAY WE NEED JOBS!

COPE

President Rodriguez
Neal Gonzales

(X) Mary Sue
Dowaliby
C.O.P.E.

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WHEN MINORITY UNEMPLOYMENT IS OVER 35 PERCENT, I SAY WE
 NEED JOBS.

WHEN UNEMPLOYED WORKERS LOSE THEIR ^{unemployment} COMPENSATION BENEFITS
 AT THE RATE OF OVER 45,000 A WEEK, I SAY WE NEED JOBS.

BUT WHAT IS THE RESPONSE OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION?

THEY SAY THAT FIRST WE MUST STOP INFLATION, THEN WE WILL
 THINK ABOUT GETTING EVERYBODY EMPLOYED.

I AM FOR STOPPING INFLATION, I AM FOR STOPPING INFLATION
 THAT HAS INCREASED OVER 14 PERCENT SINCE THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION
 TOOK OFFICE.

Dr. Myron Prescriptions

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BUT, I HAVE DISCOVERED THE SECRET ADMINISTRATION PLAN

FOR CONTROLLING INFLATION: YOU PUT ~~MEANS~~ ^{plenty of people} OUT OF WORK, THEN

THERE IS ~~NO~~ ^{loss} INCOME, ~~NO~~ ^{less} MONEY, ~~NO~~ ^{less} SPENDING, HENCE, ~~NO~~ ^{Less} INFLATION.!

I SAY TO YOU THAT WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
CAN IGNORE THE PLIGHT OF THE POOR, WHEN HE CAN POSTPONE WELFARE
REFORM, WHEN HE CAN IGNORE THE CRISIS IN HEALTH CARE, THE
CRISIS OF THE CITIES, WHEN HE CAN IGNORE HUNGRY CHILDREN, AND
PAY LIP SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN INDIANS, THEN I SAY TO YOU
THAT IT IS TIME TO BLOW THE WHISTLE.

now WHAT DOES THE ^{myon} TAX PACKAGE DO FOR THE ORDINARY CITIZEN?

-- BUSINESS GETS A TAX RELIEF OF NEARLY \$9 BILLION

DOLLARS, THE INDIVIDUAL IS LIMITED TO A ONE-TIME ONLY BENEFIT
OF LESS THAN 1/3 THAT GIVEN CORPORATE BUSINESS.

AND, ONLY LAST WEEK, THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
COMES TO CONGRESS AND SAYS THAT BUSINESS NEEDS ANOTHER \$800

29 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF,

I ASK YOU? WHERE IS THE CONCERN FOR THE WORKING MAN,
WHERE IS THE CONCERN FOR THE POOR, WHERE IS THE CONCERN FOR
THE SMALL BUSINESSMAN? *for the farmer & Rancher!*

WHAT WE NEED FOR THIS ECONOMY IS CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE.
Care about people.

AND, THE LABOR MOVEMENT HAS IT.

YOU HAVE BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE FIGHT FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS.

IT WAS WITH YOUR HELP THAT THE BATTLE FOR EQUAL AND QUALITY
EDUCATION WAS BEGUN. *educ*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS THE KEY -- TO GO INTO THE MARKET PLACE, TO BE AN ECONOMIC FORCE TO BE RECONDITED WITH -- THIS WILL ADD IMMEASURABLY TO THE SELF-RESPECT AND IDENTITY OF MINORITIES.

THE RIGHT TO A SHARE IN AMERICA IS BASIC FOR ALL OUR PEOPLE.

HERE IS WHAT WE MUST DO:

FIRST, WE CAN EXTEND THE COVERAGE OF UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR FARM LABORERS. AND, WE NEED TO ADD ANOTHER 26 WEEKS FOR ALL WORKERS TO THE REGULAR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROGRAMS. BACK IN JULY, I PROPOSED A BILL THAT WOULD EXTEND THE DURATION OF COVERAGE.

I TOOK IT TO THE SENATE FLOOR. IT LOST THEN, BUT I AM GOING

TO BRING IT UP AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN,

need your help

(2) SECOND, WE CAN BRING FARM WORKERS UNDER THE MINIMUM

WAGE LAWS. AND, WE CAN PASS A ~~\$2.25~~ ^{\$2.00 or 2.25} MINIMUM WAGE IMMEDIATELY.

(3) THIRD, WE CAN INTENSIFY EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMS

~~AND THEREBY PROVIDE AN~~
SO THAT SCHOOLS ARE RELEVANT TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND

~~AN ECONOMIC BASE FOR MINORITY ENTREPRENEURS IS GUARANTEED.~~

(4) FOURTH, CHICANOS SHOULD RUN FOR CONVENTION DELEGATES, RUN

FOR OFFICE, GET INVOLVED IN POLITICS -- BECAUSE ECONOMIC POWER

AND POLITICAL POWER GO HAND IN HAND.

I BELIEVE THAT THE LABOR MOVEMENT OFFERS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY

OF BRINGING FULL ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION TO OUR CITIZENS.

I WANT TO WORK WITH YOU IN THAT EFFORT,

FINALLY, I WANT TO MAKE A FEW COMMENTS ABOUT PHASE II OF
THE NIXON PROGRAM.

Phase II

~~YOU KNOW, THIS ADMINISTRATION IS GREAT FOR REDEFINING
THINGS. THEY REDEFINED POVERTY OR AT LEAST THEY HAVE ATTEMPTED
TO.~~

~~THEY CALL A BUSINESS TAX CREDIT A JOB DEVELOPMENT CREDIT.~~

~~THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO REORGANIZE AND REDEFINE THE FUNCTION
OF THE NONPARTISAN UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BUREAU IN WASHINGTON
TO REPORT ROSIER FINDINGS.~~

WELL, THEY HAVE REDEFINED PHASE II -- NOW IT IS TITLED
THE POST-FREEZE ECONOMIC STABILIZATION PROGRAM -- THE PFESP
-- I CALL IT THE PERMANENTLY FROZEN EMPLOYMENT SELECTION-OUT
PROGRAM.

I WANT TO KNOW A FEW THINGS ABOUT THIS PROGRAM. I THINK

YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE ANSWERS ALSO.

-- WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL THE WAGE BENEFITS LOST DURING
THE FREEZE? WHO GETS THEM? NOT THE WORKERS! BUT, BUSINESS
CERTAINLY DID NOT LOSE ANY PROFITS DURING THE FREEZE.

-- I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO ALL THE
WAGE INCREASES PENDING FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS, WHAT IS GOING
TO HAPPEN TO THOSE CONTRACTS?

~~L I WANT TO KNOW HOW THIS ADMINISTRATION IS GOING TO
 CONTROL WINDFALL PROFITS!~~

~~L I WANT TO KNOW HOW THIS ADMINISTRATION IS GOING TO
 BRING DOWN THE INTEREST RATES!~~

~~L I WANT TO KNOW HOW THIS ADMINISTRATION CAN CLAIM
 FAIRNESS WHEN IT IS MUCH EASIER TO CONTROL WAGES THAN PRICES.~~

~~-- FINALLY, I SUGGEST THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION IS
 ASKING CONGRESS TO PLAY A BACK-SEAT ROLE.~~

~~L I OPPOSE THIS. CONGRESS SHOULD BE THE CO-EQUAL PARTNER.~~

Unity - Work together -
 Care about People -
Health, Educ, Homes
etc

Confidential
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AND, WITH THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS -- WITHOUT THE ADVICE OR
CONSENT OF THE SENATE OR ANY BOARD MEMBER, WITH ANY EFFECTIVE
CONGRESSIONAL MEANS OF KEEPING A WATCH ON THE COST OF LIVING
COUNCIL OR THE PRICE COMMISSION, CONGRESS IS LIKE A SLEEPING
GIANT -- UNABLE TO EFFECTIVELY EXERCISE ITS CONSTITUTIONAL
RESPONSIBILITIES.

IN SHORT, THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE WILL
HAVE LITTLE TO SAY OVER THE DETAILS OF THE PEOPLE'S ECONOMIC
LIVELIHOOD.

L LABOR AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAVE MARCHED TOGETHER BEFORE.

AND, WE SHALL MARCH TOGETHER AGAIN -- TO BRING THIS COUNTRY
BACK TO FULL EMPLOYMENT, TO COOL INFLATION, AND TO GIVE THOSE WHO
HAVE LESS A STAKE IN THE ECONOMIC WEALTH OF THIS NATION.

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