

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

DEMOCRATIC DINNER

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

October 20, 1971

I want to talk to you about economic reality.

And, I am not going to use any fancy words such as dollar floating, financial irreversibility, liquidity, or incomes policy.

I am going to talk about jobs and about Nixonian propaganda.

And, I am going to say that the Democratic Party has a responsibility to restore confidence in national government and to revitalize the pay checks of every worker in the United States.

I charge tonight, that the Nixon Administration's policies are nothing short of a "giant cosmetic job."

-- When they are failing, they do not admit it, they "cover-up."

-- When they cannot cure the ills of the economy, "cover-up."

-- When they make wrong decisions, "cover-up."

But, if you strip all the "make-up", if you strip away all the "cover-up," here is what you will find:

-- over 5 million unemployed

-- an unemployment rate here in Allegheny County of over 6 percent

-- inflation that has drained the checks of workers by over fifteen percent in the last 34 months

-- a refusal to put a lid on profits or interest rates

-- opposition to school lunches, to health care reform to food stamps

-- and a calculated Nixon policy that what is good for business is good -- including higher and higher and higher profits.

I say to you that when the President of the United States can ignore the plight of 8,000 steel workers in Allegheny county, when he can ignore the pleas of taxpayers by postponing revenue sharing and welfare reform, when he can ignore the crisis of the cities, when he can ignore hungry children, and when he can pay lip service to our elderly, then I say it is time to blow the whistle.

The President has recently announced his new plan for curing inflation ills. He has set up a plethora of boards and agencies -- agencies that will come to have great power over the lives of our citizens.

And, he did it all without asking for intimate participation of Congress.

Last Sunday, I said that I was going to introduce legislation that would require each member of the Pay Board and Price Commission to be confirmed by the Senate.

This a necessary step because it maintains our democratic process from the threat of executive erosion.

Today, I am calling for the Congress of the United States to use every means at its command to thoroughly examine the entire Presidential program.

I urge all of our committees -- Banking and Currency, Government operations, Joint Economic, Finance, and Judiciary -- to hold extensive and detailed hearings on each board, each commission, each committee, and each new policy.

These hearings should be public -- and all Administration officials from the Secretary of the Treasury to the appointed field officers should come to Congress and thoroughly explain their goals, the objectives of their agency, the composition and functioning of it.

Furthermore, each agency commission and board should be required to make periodic reports to the Congress on its activities.

Congress simply must have a basis for judging whether this administrative set-up is appropriate for solving the twin problem of inflation and unemployment.

The stakes are too great to allow control by executive fist.

If this program is to succeed -- if we are going to stop inflation and reduce unemployment, then the confidence of the people and the involvement of the elected representatives of the people is of prime importance.

And, while I do believe that there is promise for the control of inflation, I do not believe that there is any promise for decreasing unemployment.

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

I ask you: where is the concern for the working man? Where is the concern for the wage earner? Where is the concern for the small businessman?

What this nation needs is a people-based economy.

And, what this nation needs is an Administration that has a concern for people.

We have a common goal:

I am going to do all I can to end four years of Republican Mal-Administration in Washington, if you will continue the progressive record of government here in Allegheny County.

And, while I am not going to speculate on who the best man is to end the mess in Washington, I do know that we must re-elect the Staisey-Foerster team and send John Connelly to Congress.

The Staisey-Foerster team are builders -- they make things go, they get things done:

-- reduced 1971 county real estate taxes by 1 1/2 mills -- the biggest tax reduction in twenty years

-- triggered the development of the new international facility at Greater Pittsburgh Airport

-- adopted the toughest Air Pollution Control Code in the United States

-- launched a far-reaching mental health and mental retardation program

-- provided for an expanded day-care program.

And John Connelly is well-qualified to sit in Congress. He lives in his district; he knows it; he grew up in it.

He is a successful businessman. And he has an impressive list of accomplishments in ecological and social developments.

I understand his opponent -- who bears a rather famous name -- is technically part of the 6.4 percent unemployment here in Allegheny County. Now, I am for reducing unemployment. But, I do not think we have to do it by giving him a job in Congress.

Let's keep Mr. Heinz unemployed.

Finally, I want to say that if we are going to win -- both here and nation-wide, we must have unity.

We must have unity of purpose and unity of people.

The history of splinter politics is easily documented: it elects Republicans -- and Republicans elect unemployment, tight money, high interest rates and increasing inflation.

I reject splinter politics. I reject the politics of rule or ruin.

Then, I believe we need positive, progressive programs.

We need to have programs that will produce 25 million new jobs in the next five years.

We have to provide for the more than 320 million Americans who will live in this nation by the year 2000.

We must clean our air, our rivers, and our streams.

We must have programs that decrease the crime rate.

And we must move boldly to attack the problem of drug abuse.

Lastly, I believe we must talk straight to the American people. We have to restore the confidence, the trust, the oneness and sameness that people should feel for their government.

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Democratic Dinner
Pittsburgh, Pa

October 20, 1971

I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ECONOMIC REALITY,

AND, I AM NOT GOING TO USE ANY FANCY WORDS SUCH AS

DOLLAR FLOATING, FINANCIAL IRREVERSIBILITY, LIQUIDITY, OR

INCOMES POLICY.

new con plan
NEP - Nixon Ec. Propaganda

L I AM GOING TO TALK ABOUT JOBS AND ABOUT NIXONIAN PROPAGANDA,

L AND, I AM GOING TO SAY THAT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS

A RESPONSIBILITY TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

AND TO RESTORE THE PURCHASING POWER OF
THE PAY CHECKS OF EVERY WORKER IN THE UNITED

STATES,

L I CHARGE TONIGHT, THAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S POLICIES

ARE NOTHING SHORT OF A "slick COSMETIC JOB." Designed to
"cover up" the bumps, the wrinkles, and the

-- WHEN THEY ARE FAILING, THEY DO NOT ADMIT IT, THEY "COVER-UP."

Things go wrong - who, me? never!
It's the economy, or the consumer
want spend -
wage + prod.

Business - won't succeed.

-- WHEN THEY CANNOT CURE THE ILLS OF THE ECONOMY, "COVER-UP."

-- WHEN THEY MAKE WRONG DECISIONS "COVER-UP."

BUT, IF YOU ^{remove} ~~strip~~ ALL THE "MAKE-UP", IF YOU STRIP AWAY ALL

THE "COVER-UP," HERE IS WHAT YOU WILL FIND:

-- OVER 5 MILLION UNEMPLOYED

1 1/2 hidden "

-- AN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HERE IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY OF OVER 6

PERCENT

-- INFLATION THAT HAS DRAINED THE CHECKS OF WORKERS BY

OVER FIFTEEN PERCENT IN THE LAST 34 MONTHS

-- A REFUSAL TO PUT A LID ON PROFITS OR INTEREST RATES

-- OPPOSITION TO SCHOOL LUNCHES, TO HEALTH CARE REFORM TO

FOOD STAMPS, *to hospital construction, to*
expanded aid to educ, to helping the poor,
to farmers.

*but wages - ok, hold down
→ Projects, the fuel that feeds economy
Trickle Down - Percolate up*

-- AND A CALCULATED NIXON POLICY THAT WHAT IS GOOD FOR

BUSINESS IS ^{just} GOOD -- INCLUDING HIGHER AND HIGHER AND HIGHER PROFITS.

Sect. 1045 at Hot Springs Business Council

~~I SAY TO YOU~~ WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

CAN IGNORE THE PLIGHT OF 8,000 STEEL WORKERS IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY,

*local property
taxpayers*

WHEN HE CAN IGNORE THE PLEAS OF TAXPAYERS BY POSTPONING REVENUE

SHARING AND WELFARE REFORM, WHEN HE CAN IGNORE THE CRISIS OF

*lets programs to put people
to work*

THE CITIES, WHEN HE CAN IGNORE HUNGRY CHILDREN, AND WHEN HE CAN

ignore the disastrous plight of our farmers, the needs of our elderly
~~PAY LIP SERVICE TO OUR ELDERLY~~

THEN I SAY IT IS TIME TO BLOW

THE WHISTLE. *! - loud + crystal clear*

THE PRESIDENT ~~IS~~ RECENTLY ANNOUNCED HIS ^{game} PLAN FOR CURING

INFLATION ILLS, HE HAS SET UP boards and ~~AGENCIES~~ --

AGENCIES THAT WILL COME TO HAVE GREAT POWER OVER THE LIVES OF

OUR CITIZENS.

AND, HE DID IT ALL WITHOUT ASKING FOR INTIMATE PARTICIPATION
OF CONGRESS.

~~LAST SUNDAY, I SAID THAT I WAS GOING TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION
THAT WOULD REQUIRE EACH MEMBER OF THE PAY BOARD AND PRICE COMMISSION
TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE.~~

~~THIS A NECESSARY STEP BECAUSE IT MAINTAINS OUR DEMOCRATIC
PROCESS FROM THE THREAT OF EXECUTIVE EROSION.~~

TODAY, I AM CALLING FOR THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
TO USE EVERY MEANS AT ITS COMMAND TO THOROUGHLY EXAMINE THE ENTIRE
PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAM.

The new game plan

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CONGRESS SIMPLY MUST HAVE A BASIS FOR JUDGING WHETHER THIS ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP IS APPROPRIATE FOR SOLVING THE TWIN PROBLEM OF INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE STAKES ARE TOO GREAT TO ALLOW CONTROL BY EXECUTIVE *order.*

And remember, the so called COST OF LIVING Council consists of officers of Govt. who have repeatedly stated they didn't believe in the very program they are now called upon to master-mind

~~IF THIS PROGRAM IS TO SUCCEED -- IF WE ARE GOING TO STOP~~

SO →

INFLATION AND REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT, THEN THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE

AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE

IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE.

~~AND, WHILE I DO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS PROMISE FOR THE CONTROL~~

~~OF INFLATION, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE IS ANY PROMISE FOR~~

~~DECREASING UNEMPLOYMENT.~~

Everhauer years - 3 recessions in 8
yrs - but a pause to refresh -
Nixon years - 3 years one recession!

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THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THAT THE NUMBER

ONE DOMESTIC PRIORITY IS JOBS - JOBS - JOBS. - *which means income.*

I ASK YOU: WHERE IS THE CONCERN FOR THE ~~WORKING MAN?~~ *Consumer?* WHERE

IS THE CONCERN FOR THE WAGE EARNER? WHERE IS THE CONCERN FOR THE

SMALL BUSINESSMAN? *for the farmer?*

WHAT THIS NATION NEEDS IS A PEOPLE-BASED ECONOMY. !

AND, WHAT THIS NATION NEEDS IS AN ADMINISTRATION THAT HAS

A CONCERN FOR PEOPLE.

*We need an administration that
cares for the unemployed
Teenager.*

WE HAVE A COMMON GOAL:

*cares for the elderly, the sick,
the handicapped, lunch
cares for the child - health*

I AM GOING TO DO ALL I CAN TO END FOUR YEARS OF REPUBLICAN

~~W~~-ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON, *and back you to* ~~IF YOU~~ CONTINUE THE

PROGRESSIVE RECORD OF GOVERNMENT HERE IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY.

L AND, WHILE I AM NOT GOING TO SPECULATE ON WHO THE BEST MAN
(we have lots of talent)

IS TO END THE MESS IN WASHINGTON, I DO KNOW THAT WE MUST RE-ELECT
Staysy-Foerster
THE STAYSEY-FOERSTER TEAM AND SEND JOHN CONNELLY TO CONGRESS.

L THE STAYSEY-FOERSTER TEAM ARE BUILDERS -- THEY MAKE THINGS

GO, THEY GET THINGS DONE:

-- REDUCED 1971 COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAXES BY 1 1/2 MILLS --

THE BIGGEST TAX REDUCTION IN TWENTY YEARS

-- TRIGGERED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL FACILITY

AT GREATER PITTSBURGH AIRPORT

-- ADOPTED THE TOUGHEST AIR POLLUTION CONTROL CODE IN THE

UNITED STATES

-- LAUNCHED A FAR-REACHING MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION
PROGRAM

-- PROVIDED FOR AN EXPANDED DAY-CARE PROGRAM.

L AND JOHN CONNELLY IS WELL-QUALIFIED TO SIT IN CONGRESS. HE
LIVES IN HIS DISTRICT; HE KNOWS IT; HE GREW UP IN IT.

L HE IS A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN. AND HE HAS AN IMPRESSIVE LIST
OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS.

L Idea Proposals for Senior Citizens + Housing
I UNDERSTAND HIS OPPONENT -- WHO BEARS A RATHER FAMOUS

NAME -- IS TECHNICALLY PART OF THE 6.4 PERCENT UNEMPLOYMENT HERE

IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY L Now, I AM FOR REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT. BUT,

I DO NOT THINK WE HAVE TO DO IT BY GIVING HIM A JOB IN CONGRESS.

LET'S KEEP MR. HEINZ UNEMPLOYED

FINALLY, I WANT TO SAY THAT IF WE ARE GOING TO WIN -- BOTH

HERE AND NATION-WIDE, WE MUST HAVE ~~UNITY~~ ^A *not only Party unity*

but WE MUST HAVE UNITY OF PURPOSE AND UNITY OF PEOPLE.

L THE HISTORY OF SPLINTER POLITICS IS EASILY DOCUMENTED:

IT ELECTS REPUBLICANS -- AND REPUBLICANS ELECT UNEMPLOYMENT,

TIGHT MONEY, HIGH INTEREST RATES AND INCREASING INFLATION.

L I REJECT SPLINTER POLITICS, I REJECT THE POLITICS OF

RULE OR RUIN.

THEN, I BELIEVE WE NEED POSITIVE, PROGRESSIVE PROGRAMS.

But the #1 Reform the Country needs - is a Democrat in the White House -

and

WE NEED TO HAVE PROGRAMS THAT WILL PRODUCE 25 MILLION NEW

JOBS IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

WE HAVE TO PROVIDE FOR THE MORE THAN 300 MILLION AMERICANS

WHO WILL LIVE IN THIS NATION BY THE YEAR 2000.

L WE MUST CLEAN OUR AIR, OUR RIVERS, AND OUR SEAS *lakes*

L WE MUST HAVE PROGRAMS THAT DECREASE THE CRIME RATE.

L AND WE MUST MOVE BOLDLY TO ATTACK THE PROBLEM OF DRUG

ABUSE.

LASTLY, I BELIEVE WE MUST TALK STRAIGHT TO THE AMERICAN

PEOPLE. WE HAVE TO RESTORE THE CONFIDENCE, *and* THE TRUST, ~~THE ONENESS~~

~~ATTITUDES~~ THAT PEOPLE SHOULD FEEL FOR THEIR GOVERNMENT.

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