

Sent
5/5/72
7:10 P.M.

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

MAY 6, 1972

THE 1970'S WILL BE THE DECADE OF DECISION FOR THE
AMERICAN FARMER AND FOR RURAL AND SMALL TOWN AMERICA.

--FARM STATES ARE LOSING POPULATION AND REPRESENTATION
IN CONGRESS. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, THE POLITICAL MUSCLE
OF FARMERS, RANCHERS, RURAL RESIDENTS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES
WILL BE FURTHER ERODED.

--THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON IS ATTEMPTING
TO STRIP THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF ALL OF ITS
EXISTING NONFARM AGENCIES.

NEXT YEAR THE AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 1970 WILL EXPIRE.
THIS WILL BE A MAJOR TURNING POINT. THE SHAPE AND
PHILOSOPHY BEHIND THIS MAJOR LEGISLATION FOR NEBRASKA WILL

BE STRONGLY INFLUENCED BY WHOEVER IS PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES.

NEVER WILL IT BE MORE IMPORTANT TO PEOPLE OF THIS
STATE TO HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO UNDERSTANDS THE PROBLEMS OF
RURAL AMERICA, WHO HAS THE EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH FARM
AND RURAL PROBLEMS, WHO HAS THE COURAGE TO STAND UP AND FIGHT
FOR THE FARMER AND WHO HAS THE TOUGH KNOW-HOW TO GET THINGS
DONE.

--I HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR THE REVITALIZATION OF RURAL
AMERICA.

--I HAVE PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN TRYING TO GET THE
SENATE TO APPROVE A GRAIN RESERVE BILL.

--I HAVE FOUGHT TO INCREASE THE LOAN RATE FOR WHEAT AND FEED GRAINS BY AT LEAST 25 PERCENT.

--I HAVE ASKED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE SUPPLY-MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS BECAUSE THE SET ASIDE PROGRAM NOW BEING USED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IS A FAILURE. IT'S COSTING MORE THAN ANY PROGRAM IN THE PAST AND IT HAS PROVEN TO BE THE LEAST EFFECTIVE IN BRINGING SUPPLY IN LINE WITH DEMAND.

--I HELPED LEAD THE FIGHT TO GET U.S. NEGOTIATORS TO FIGHT FOR MINIMUM PRICING FOR WHEAT AND FEED GRAINS IN WORLD MARKETS.

--I HAVE SPONSORED AND FOUGHT FOR AN IMPROVED FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM.

--AND I PERSONALLY LED THE FIGHT ON THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE AGAINST THE NOMINATION OF EARL BUTZ TO BE RICHARD NIXON'S SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

IF NOMINATED AND ELECTED PRESIDENT, I WILL STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND GIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE NUMBER ONE NEED OF THE FAMILY FARMER -- THE RESTORATION OF DECENT FARM PRICES.

THE ECONOMIES OF NEBRASKA'S CITIES, SMALL TOWNS, RANCHES AND FARMS ARE LINKED TOGETHER.

IF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IS TO BE HEALTHY IN THE CITIES, WE MUST HAVE A PROSPEROUS RURAL AMERICA. AND PROSPERITY CAN ONLY RETURN TO THE COUNTRYSIDE WITH AN ADMINISTRATION THAT IS PLEDGED TO HELP RURAL AMERICA.

FACTS ABOUT NEBRASKA

Sent
5/5/72
7:35 PM

Agriculture

--Nebraska is 6th in value of crops produced, 3rd in cattle, 6th in hogs and pigs

--Main agricultural products include: wheat, corn, forage and livestock

--The average age of farmers is 50 years old; there are 9,200 farmers 65 or older

--The number of farms has declined but the size and value per acre has increased

--There are over 72,000 farms in Nebraska

--Work off the farm was reported by 28,000 farmers and 10,000 of that number worked 200 or more days at off-farm jobs

Education

--Nebraska has 28 colleges and universities with approximately 67,000 students enrolled

--There are 50,000 students enrolled in private, parochial or day schools out of a total 380,000 children

Labor

--Nebraska's work force is about 700,000. The state has high productivity. The work force is 17 percent unionized. Nebraska has the lowest percentage of strikes in the Nation.

Oil and Minerals

--Oil is found in the SW. corner of Nebraska and 53 percent of the State's mineral wealth comes from oil. 1970 production of oil was 11.5 million barrels.

--The total value of minerals (including such things as sand and gravel) exceeded \$75 million in 1970.

Population

--Population increased over the last decade 5.1 percent to 1.48 million (The D.S.A. increased at an average of 13.3 percent).

--There has been a migration from the rural to the urban areas in Nebraska

--Metropolitan areas increased 17 percent while the rural areas decreased 2.3 percent

--The Omaha and Lincoln metropolitan areas contain more than 40 percent of Nebraska's population

--Only 3.4 percent of Nebraska's population is non-white

--The movement of people from rural to urban areas can be dramatized by the fact that the number of counties in Nebraska with under 1,000 population increased in the last decade from 2 to 7.

Taxes

--Corporate income tax is 2 percent

--Personal income tax is 10 percent

--Sales and use tax is 2.5 percent

--There is no state property tax just local property tax.

Utilities

--Electric rates are the 5th lowest in the U.S.

Miscellaneous

--Sam Yorty is originally from Lincoln, Neb.

--53 percent of all Nebraskans hold church memberships; the national average is 49 percent

--Nebraska has S.A.C. headquarters and the Mutual of Omaha

002071

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