

Avenue 7 Flaps 0000678

(X) May-Ray Schissler

(X) Harry Bowles (Not a Shirt
Chairman 1959)

32'd Annual King Turkey
Day.

Jim Vance

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Francis Judge 26B

TURKEY DAY

Ben Vanda Koi (Stat Sen)

WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER 9, 1972

Marion Merriam - 26A

~~Leo Mann~~ - ~~26A~~

St. Sen Johnson Spencer Custer

CONGRESSMAN Zwack (Rock)

Rick Nolan

Torch Torres (Hat)

Ray Agan (Pres chair)

Al Swanson

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

TURKEY DAY

WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER 8, 1972

I WANT TO TALK WITH YOU TODAY FOR JUST A MOMENT ABOUT A
SUBJECT CLOSE TO MY HEART -- A SUBJECT THAT IS ON THE MINDS
OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF NOBLES COUNTY AND OF ALL MINNESOTANS:
THE FUTURE OF RURAL AMERICA.

RURAL AMERICA IS THE STRENGTH OF AMERICA -- IT'S THE
BACKBONE OF THE NATION, AND TOO MANY PEOPLE TAKE IT FOR GRANTED.

WITHOUT AGRICULTURE WE WOULDN'T HAVE OUR GREAT CITIES,
WE WOULDN'T HAVE OUR GREAT INDUSTRIES. WITHOUT THE WORTHINGTONS,
THE WAVERLY'S, AND THE MOOREHEADS WE WOULDN'T HAVE THE TWIN
CITIES, THE ROCHESTERS, AND THE DULUTHS.

THERE'S A CRISIS IN RURAL AMERICA, AND IT AFFECTS ALL
OF US -- YOUNG AND OLD.

LIGHTS ARE GOING OUT ALL OVER RURAL AMERICA.

EACH LIGHT REPRESENTS A FAMILY FARM.

AS FAMILY FARMS DIE, AS OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE
DIMINISHES, THEY LEAVE RURAL AMERICA FOR THE OVERCROWDED CITIES
OF OUR LAND.

EVERY SIX FAMILY FARMS WE LOSE IN RURAL MINNESOTA MEANS
THAT ONE SMALL BUSINESS WILL DIE. THAT'S THE REASON FOR THE
EMPTY BUSINESS BUILDINGS WE OFTEN SEE, THE DIMINISHING
SERVICES AND THE SKYROCKETING PROPERTY TAXES IN MOST OF OUR
RURAL COMMUNITIES.

THE RESULT OF THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE OUT OF RURAL AMERICA TO THE CITIES HAS CAUSED A NATIONAL CRISIS: 75 PERCENT OF OUR PEOPLE ARE NOW CROWDED ON TO 2 PERCENT OF THE LAND. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES IN THE NEXT 30 YEARS, 100 MILLION MORE AMERICANS WILL BE CRAMMED INTO THE BIG CITIES WHERE 150 MILLION ARE ALREADY LIVING.

I SAY TO YOU THAT WE MUST SLOW DOWN THIS EXODUS FROM RURAL AMERICA WHICH THREATENS OUR CITIES AND EMPTIES RURAL AREAS OF PROMISE AND HOPE FOR THE PEOPLE WHO REMAIN.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

FIRST, ALL OF US CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF RURAL AMERICA MUST MAKE SURE THAT THE FAMILY FARMER IS NEVER FORGOTTEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON. TO SOME PEOPLE, AMERICAN AGRICULTURE IS THE BOARD ROOM OF RALSTON PURINA.

BUT TO ME, AMERICAN AGRICULTURE IS RIGHT HERE IN NOBLES COUNTY -- RIGHT HERE IN WORTHINGTON.

SECOND, WE MUST PROVIDE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF RURAL AMERICA. THIS MEANS:

-- LOANS FOR YOUNG FARMERS WHO NEED CREDIT TO ENTER FARMING AND CAN'T GET IT.

-- RURAL COMMUNITIES ALSO NEED CREDIT TO ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION AND THEY NEED A NEW METHOD OF FINANCING TO PAY FOR THE NEW SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS NEEDED IN RURAL TOWNSHIPS.

THIRD, TO SAVE RURAL AND URBAN AMERICA WE MUST HAVE A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY TO PLAN AND CREATE A BALANCE BETWEEN THESE TWO PARTS OF AMERICA.

BY THIS I MEAN THAT WE MUST DEVELOP POLICIES THAT ALLOW PEOPLE TO HAVE A REALISTIC CHOICE ABOUT WHERE THEY WILL LIVE AND THEY WILL WORK -- NOT A CHOICE DICTATED BECAUSE THERE ARE NO JOBS IN RURAL AREAS, NO GOOD MEDICAL FACILITIES OR A LACK OF GOOD SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES. PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN SMALL TOWNS ARE ENTITLED TO THE SAME SERVICES AS THOSE WHO LIVE IN A CITY OR SUBURB.

I BELIEVE THAT IF THERE IS TO BE A HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE PROSPEROUS AND FREE AMERICA, WE MUST REJUVENATE, REVITALIZE AND MODERNIZE THE VAST AREAS OF RURAL AMERICA.

RURAL AND URBAN AMERICA ARE LINKED INSEPARABLY -- BOTH OF THEIR PROBLEMS MUST BE DEALT WITH. THIS IS NOT A LIBERAL ISSUE OR A CONSERVATIVE ISSUE. IT IS NOT A PROBLEM OF ANY ONE REGION OF THE COUNTRY. ALL AMERICANS MUST FACE IT AND BEGIN WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN EVERY CITY, TOWN AND COUNTY OF THIS NATION.

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