

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP OF AMERICAN SCHOOL
FOOD SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Shoreham Hotel

Washington, D.C.

March 8, 1973

It is a great pleasure to be here with you today.

First of all, I want to express my gratitude for presenting me with your executive director's award -- for "exceptional service to children."

I can think of no more worthwhile honor -- no better cause to involve myself in, than that of helping to provide our children with good nutrition.

Let me return the compliment and give you my own personal commendation -- as an outstanding nutrition group.

Led by your executive director, John Perryman, and Josephine Martin and Sam Vanneman, you've done fine work, not only in making sure our children get decent meals in school -- but in helping make the American public and the Congress aware of the importance of good nutrition.

Its importance to health.

Its importance to learning.

Its importance to emotional well-being -- not only of children, but obviously the well-being of the adults they'll become.

But I must warn you that, in this second Nixon Administration, you're going to have to work even harder.

You're going to have to work against policies of domestic retrenchment that this Administration is trying to create.

This is an Administration that has just declared that the urban crisis is all over.

Isn't that great news!

Next week, I expect to hear that the ghettos have disappeared entirely.

And the following week, that this nation no longer has a malnutrition problem.

A few of us around this town will be informing the emperor that he has no clothes, as these pronouncements proliferate.

I hope you will join me.

You are badly needed as a conscience to this Administration. To let them know, over and over again -- for they tend to be forgetful about these things -- to let them know that there are hundreds of thousands of children who are poorly fed.

To let them know that over half the poor are not served by the government's nutrition programs -- programs for which they are eligible.

So we have a neglect here -- a political neglect -- that you must help to counteract.

Beyond this neglect -- beyond this political neglect -- is a broader kind of neglect. It goes beyond politics.

It is the neglect of the nation as a whole, in failing to establish a national nutrition policy.

This nation has never set down as a matter of stated national policy that every child and adult, regardless of income, shall have access to a diet which will sustain a normal, healthy life.

Does such a policy seem overly ambitious?

Well, let me tell you something.

This nation may be short on housing.

It may be short on doctors.

We may have too few subways and rapid transit systems.

We may even have too little cash in the Federal Treasury -- given the way this President has given away revenues to corporations.

But do not -- please do not, anyone -- tell me we are short on food.

If there's one resource we can provide to every growing child in this nation, it's three decent meals a day.

I know this.

I sit on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

I know how much food is left over after farmers sell all they can. And I know how much more we could have, if we wanted, from unused acreage.

So I say it is not overly idealistic -- no, sir -- it is not overly idealistic to aim for a truly comprehensive national program of nutrition for all -- for expectant mothers and infants, for the elderly, as well as children.

And for a similar comprehensive of nutrition education.

That is why I introduced, along with Congressman Perkins in the House last year, a "Universal Child Nutrition and Nutrition Education Act.

You were the people we relied on for the hard work of helping draft this legislation.

You know, as well as I, the purposes of this bill.

First, to end the incredible patchwork of limiting legislation, administrative regulations and bureaucratic red tape that typifies our present child feeding programs.

Second, to expand child feeding to all children -- ending the economic caste system that taints our present efforts.

Third, to eliminate the widespread ignorance that underlies so many poor diets -- to do this through nutrition education.

Folks, we've got to aim at getting rid of that patchwork. You've got to be a Philadelphia lawyer's lawyer these days, just to buy lunch for a child. Frankly, I don't know how you people find your way through that thicket of categorical programs and rules.

Many people don't bother to try -- which is a major reason why we are not reaching all who are eligible.

We've got to do something else. We've got to decide whether we, as the richest nation in the world, can afford to let a country like China make us look positively inhuman when it comes to a national nutrition policy.

You know, there was recently a documentary film about China.

It was truly something to see.

What you saw in that film was a country dedicated to the proposition that everyone shall be fed -- not just kept from starving, but fed well, fed superbly.

No one, in that nation of 800 million people, is condemned to the kind of poverty-diet that millions have in this country. There is no hunger in China anymore.

And the way they're going, I doubt that there is even any malnutrition any more.

The challenge is clear. Can we as a democratic, pluralistic nation achieve in our own way what a communistic, monolithic nation has achieved -- in filling basic human needs like nutrition? We had damned well better try to.

Now, Congressman Perkins and I want to re-introduce that legislation.

And we are working with your officers, with Sam Vanneman and Miss Martin and others, in revising the bill for re-introduction this year.

I would like to introduce it as soon as possible, and I am eagerly looking forward to your suggestions so that we can introduce it.

And let me say this.

This bill may not go anywhere this year.

It may go nowhere next year.

But there is one lesson you should know about this town, about this United States Congress.

And that is -- to persevere.

That is how legislation gets passed. You introduce. You re-introduce in the next session. Then you re-introduce again. And again, if need be.

Every year another handful of Senators and Congressmen get interested in the bill. They cosponsor it. They talk to other Congressmen about it.

Then, one year, you realize that the majority of the Congress has been sufficiently educated, through this process, so that they will vote for the bill.

I went through this with Medicare.

I went through this with Food for Peace.

And many other bills.

That's my style -- to push year after year.

And that should be your style -- to keep lobbying, keep persisting.

Now what about the here and now? What are we going to do until such a comprehensive bill does get passed?

u

Well, the first order of business is to ride herd on this Administration to see that present programs are implemented.

For example -- due in good part to your good work, an amendment to the school lunch act has just passed the House and has been reported out of Senate committee.

It requires that Federal Commodity Assistance to school lunch programs be maintained at the level budgeted for the fiscal year 1972-73. I was the chief sponsor of that bill in the Senate.

We badly need this legislation. Because the Department has been unable to supply donated commodities to the school lunch program at the level that was earlier programmed and budgeted, many of your schools are coming up short of total needs. Your budgets were based on the promise of these commodity deliveries.

This bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to make cash grants to the schools in lieu of surplus commodities which had been promised, but not delivered. It says, in effect -- "Okay, we understand, you don't have food this year. So give them cash."

In this case, the Department is not actually to blame, because of difficulties they encountered in securing some of these commodities. But, as you know, there are other areas in which the Department is not so innocent.

You know of the problems we have had in getting it to implement the school feeding programs.

You may not be so familiar with the Department's foot-dragging and sabotage in another area.

It is failing to follow Congressional intent in the infant and maternal feeding program. This is a program I am especially interested in, not just because I am its author, but because of its importance in combatting the lasting adverse changes that malnutrition creates when it occurs in the very young.

The authorizing legislation for this program directed the Administration to create a new program of cash grants, funneled from the Agriculture Department to poverty-area health clinics.

The Act explicitly stated that this program was not to be substituted for existing programs directed to the same target population group.

My program was to be complementary to these existing programs, and not used as a reason for their elimination.

Well, the Administration, as far as we can make out, seems to be eliminating those older programs -- and has yet to implement the new one.

They will hear more from me later, on this whole subject.

You are badly needed in the fight to further strengthen our nation's food and nutrition programs. You must let the local press know what isn't being done. You must let the national press know. You must get to your Congressmen and Senators. You must work with other organizations.

The White House commands a lot of power. You have to work full time to deal with that power.

Beyond these measures, the Congress can take legislative steps to improve the programs.

Senators McGovern, Case, Hart, myself and others have been working with you on legislation which would further increase the rate of reimbursements to schools, under the school lunch program, and set in motion a nutrition education program.

This legislation is needed to improve the programs in the short term and we hope to deal with it between now and the beginning of school next fall. I will fight for it.

You should fight for it.

But, I will emphasize again that even while achieving the limited, but important, goals of this bill, we should keep in mind the ideal of a comprehensive, universal nutrition bill -- "The Possible Dream."

I'll leave you with one final thought.

Organizations like yours are going to find the future years rougher going than the past.

We are entering a new climate around this town.

A climate where anyone trying to do something for somebody else who is poor, or disabled, or sick, or needs help in any other way, will be asked: Why come to Washington for help? Go back home and ask your Mayor or Governor.

And your Mayor or Governor will say, "Oh my, that's a federal program. That's not our bag. Anyway, we don't have the money."

It's what they call the old run-around.

I call it giving you more discretion to spend less.

You're gong to see plenty of it in the next four years.

So start planning a strategy now. Don't wait until you've shuttled back and forth for six months between your state capitol and Washington to realize what's happening.

I, and other members of Congress will be here to help you.

However, all of us throughout this nation must join together to play for keeps. Because that's what the President is playing for.

#

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP OF AMERICAN FOOD
SERVICE ASSOCIATION

SHOREHAM HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MARCH 8, 1973

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU TODAY.

FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE FOR
PRESENTING ME WITH YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S AWARD -- FOR
"EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO CHILDREN."

I CAN THINK OF NO MORE WORTHWHILE HONOR ^{and} _A NO BETTER

CAUSE ~~TO INVOLVE MYSELF IN~~ THAN THAT OF HELPING TO PROVIDE
OUR CHILDREN WITH GOOD NUTRITION.

L LET ME RETURN THE COMPLIMENT AND GIVE YOU MY OWN
PERSONAL COMMENDATION -- AS AN OUTSTANDING NUTRITION GROUP

L LED BY YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOHN PERRYMAN, AND BY
JOSEPHINE MARTIN AND SAM VANNEMAN, YOU'VE DONE FINE WORK,

NOT ONLY IN MAKING SURE OUR CHILDREN GET DECENT

MEALS IN SCHOOL -- BUT IN HELPING MAKE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE
CONGRESS AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD NUTRITION.

-2-

ITS IMPORTANCE TO HEALTH.

ITS IMPORTANCE TO LEARNING.

ITS IMPORTANCE TO EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING -- NOT ONLY OF
CHILDREN, BUT OBVIOUSLY THE WELL-BEING OF THE ADULTS THEY'LL
BECOME.

↳ BUT I MUST WARN YOU THAT, IN THIS SECOND NIXON
ADMINISTRATION, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO WORK EVEN HARDER.

↳ YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO WORK AGAINST POLICIES OF DOMESTIC
RETRENCHMENT THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO CREATE.

THIS IS AN ADMINISTRATION THAT HAS JUST DECLARED THAT THE
URBAN CRISIS IS ALL OVER.

ISN'T THAT GREAT NEWS!

-3-

L NEXT WEEK, I EXPECT TO HEAR THAT THE GHETTOS HAVE

DISAPPEARED, ~~ENTIRELY~~

*that Poverty has vanished -
that crime has been stopped - that all*

L AND THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THAT THIS NATION NO LONGER HAS

A MALNUTRITION PROBLEM.

*americans are
well housed -*

++

~~L A FEW OF US AROUND THIS TOWN WILL BE INFORMING THE~~

~~EMPEROR THAT HE HAS NO CLOTHES, AS THESE PRONOUNCEMENTS~~

~~PROLIFERATE~~

~~I HOPE YOU WILL JOIN ME.~~

L YOU ARE BADLY NEEDED AS A CONSCIENCE TO THIS ADMINISTRATION.

L TO LET THEM KNOW, OVER AND OVER AGAIN -- FOR THEY TEND TO BE

FORGETFUL ABOUT THESE THINGS -- TO LET THEM KNOW THAT THERE

ARE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE POORLY FED.

TO LET THEM KNOW THAT OVER HALF THE POOR ARE NOT SERVED
BY THE GOVERNMENT'S NUTRITION PROGRAMS -- PROGRAMS FOR WHICH
THEY ARE ELIGIBLE.

L ~~SO WE HAVE A NEGLECT HERE -- A POLITICAL NEGLECT -- THAT~~
~~YOU MUST HELP TO COUNTERACT.~~

L BEYOND THIS NEGLECT -- BEYOND THIS POLITICAL NEGLECT --
IS A BROADER KIND OF NEGLECT, ~~BEYOND POLITICS.~~

L IT IS THE NEGLECT OF THE NATION AS A WHOLE, IN FAILING
TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL NUTRITION POLICY.

L THIS NATION HAS NEVER SET DOWN AS A MATTER OF STATED
NATIONAL POLICY THAT EVERY CHILD AND ADULT, REGARDLESS OF
INCOME, SHALL HAVE ACCESS TO A DIET WHICH WILL SUSTAIN A
NORMAL, HEALTHY LIFE.

DOES SUCH A POLICY SEEM OVERLY AMBITIOUS?

WELL, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING.

THIS NATION MAY BE SHORT ON HOUSING.

IT MAY BE SHORT ON DOCTORS.

WE MAY HAVE TOO FEW SUBWAYS AND RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEMS.

WE MAY EVEN HAVE TOO LITTLE CASH IN THE FEDERAL

TREASURY -- ~~GIVEN THE WAY THIS PRESIDENT HAS GIVEN AWAY~~

~~REVENUES TO CORPORATIONS~~

BUT DO NOT -- PLEASE DO NOT, ANYONE -- TELL ~~US THAT WE ARE~~ ^{us that we}

^{are} SHORT ^{of} FOOD.

IF THERE'S ONE ~~thing~~ ^{thing} WE CAN PROVIDE TO EVERY PERSON

IN THIS NATION, IT'S THREE DECENT MEALS A DAY.

-6-

~~I KNOW THIS.~~ As a member of the
~~SENATE~~ SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE,

I KNOW HOW MUCH FOOD IS LEFT OVER AFTER FARMERS SELL ALL
 THEY CAN. AND I KNOW HOW MUCH MORE WE COULD HAVE, IF WE
 WANTED, FROM UNUSED ACREAGE.

~~So I say~~ IT IS NOT OVERLY IDEALISTIC ~~NO, SIR~~ ---

~~IT IS NOT OVERLY IDEALISTIC~~ TO AIM FOR A TRULY COMPREHENSIVE
NATIONAL PROGRAM OF NUTRITION FOR ALL -- FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS
FOR INFANTS, FOR THE ELDERLY, FOR CHILDREN.

↳ IT IS NOT IDEALISTIC TO AIM FOR A NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM.

↳ THAT IS WHY I INTRODUCED, ALONG WITH CONGRESSMAN PERKINS
IN THE HOUSE LAST YEAR, A "UNIVERSAL CHILD NUTRITION AND
NUTRITION EDUCATION ACT.

L YOU WERE THE PEOPLE WE RELIED ON FOR THE HARD WORK OF
HELPING DRAFT THIS LEGISLATION.

L YOU KNOW, AS WELL AS I, THE PURPOSES OF THIS BILL.

L FIRST, TO END THE INCREDIBLE PATCHWORK OF LIMITING
LEGISLATION, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS AND BUREAUCRATIC
RED TAPE THAT TYPIFIES OUR PRESENT CHILD FEEDING PROGRAMS.

L SECOND, TO EXPAND NUTRITION EFFORTS TO ALL WHO NEED
THEM, ENDING --
THE ECONOMIC CASTE SYSTEM THAT TAINTS OUR PRESENT EFFORTS.

L THIRD, TO ELIMINATE THE WIDESPREAD IGNORANCE THAT
UNDERLIES SO MANY POOR DIETS -- TO DO THIS THROUGH NUTRITION
EDUCATION.

~~First~~ WE'VE GOT TO AIM AT GETTING RID OF THAT PATCHWORK.

L YOU'VE GOT TO BE A PHILADELPHIA LAWYER'S LAWYER THESE DAYS,

JUST TO BUY LUNCH FOR A CHILD. L FRANKLY, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU

PEOPLE FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH THAT THICKET OF CATEGORICAL

PROGRAMS AND RULES.
administrative

L MANY PEOPLE DON'T BOTHER TO TRY -- WHICH IS A MAJOR

REASON WHY WE ARE NOT REACHING ALL WHO ARE ELIGIBLE.

~~L WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ELSE. WE'VE GOT TO DECIDE
WHETHER WE, AS THE RICHEST NATION IN THE WORLD, CAN AFFORD TO
LET A COUNTRY LIKE CHINA MAKE US LOOK POSITIVELY INHUMAN WHEN
IT COMES TO A NATIONAL NUTRITION POLICY.~~

L YOU KNOW, THERE WAS RECENTLY A DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT
CHINA.

IT WAS TRULY SOMETHING TO SEE.

WHAT YOU SAW IN THAT FILM WAS A COUNTRY DEDICATED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT EVERYONE SHALL BE FED -- NOT JUST KEPT FROM STARVING, BUT FED WELL, FED SUPERBLY.

NO ONE, IN THAT NATION OF 800 MILLION PEOPLE, IS CONDEMNED TO THE KIND OF POVERTY-DIET THAT MILLIONS HAVE IN THIS COUNTRY. THERE IS NO HUNGER IN CHINA ANYMORE.

AND THE WAY THEY'RE GOING, I DOUBT THAT THERE IS EVEN ANY MALNUTRITION ANY MORE.

THE CHALLENGE IS CLEAR. CAN WE AS A DEMOCRATIC, PLURALISTIC NATION ACHIEVE IN OUR OWN WAY WHAT A COMMUNISTIC, MONOLITHIC NATION HAS ACHIEVED -- IN FILLING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS LIKE NUTRITION? WE HAD DAMNED WELL BETTER TRY TO.

-10-

L Now, CONGRESSMAN PERKINS AND I WANT TO RE-INTRODUCE THAT
LEGISLATION.

AND WE ARE WORKING WITH YOUR OFFICERS, WITH SAM VANNEMAN
AND MISS MARTIN AND OTHERS, IN REVISING THE BILL FOR RE-INTRODUCTION
THIS YEAR.

L I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND I
AM EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR SUGGESTIONS, ~~S~~
~~INTRODUCE IT.~~

AND LET ME SAY THIS.

THIS BILL MAY NOT GO ANYWHERE THIS YEAR.

T
IT MAY GO NOWHERE NEXT YEAR.

I WENT THROUGH THIS WITH MEDICARE.

I WENT THROUGH THIS WITH FOOD FOR PEACE.

AND MANY OTHER BILLS.

L THAT'S MY STYLE -- TO PUSH YEAR AFTER YEAR.

AND THAT SHOULD BE YOUR STYLE -- TO KEEP LOBBYING, KEEP
PERSISTING.

THAT IS THE WAY WE ULTIMATELY WILL ACHIEVE "THE POSSIBLE
DREAM OF UNIVERSALITY."

L I LIKE THESE BUTTONS. |

I'D LIKE A SUPPLY TO INCLUDE IN THE CO-SPONSORSHIP
LETTER I'LL BE SENDING TO MY COLLEAGUES -- INVITING THEM TO
JOIN ME AND CONGRESSMAN PERKINS IN INTRODUCING THE UNIVERSAL
BILL THIS YEAR.

-13-

NOW WHAT ABOUT THE HERE AND NOW? WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO

UNTIL SUCH A COMPREHENSIVE BILL DOES GET PASSED?

L WELL, THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS IS TO RIDE HERD ON THIS ADMINISTRATION TO SEE THAT PRESENT PROGRAMS ARE IMPLEMENTED.

FOR EXAMPLE -- DUE IN GOOD PART TO YOUR GOOD WORK, AN AMENDMENT TO THE SCHOOL LUNCH ACT HAS JUST PASSED THE HOUSE AND HAS BEEN REPORTED OUT OF SENATE COMMITTEE.

IT REQUIRES THAT FEDERAL COMMODITY ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS BE MAINTAINED AT THE LEVEL BUDGETED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1972-73. I WAS THE CHIEF SPONSOR OF THAT BILL IN THE SENATE.

↳ WE BADLY NEED THIS LEGISLATION, BECAUSE THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SUPPLY DONATED COMMODITIES TO THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AT THE LEVEL THAT WAS EARLIER PROGRAMMED AND BUDGETED, MANY OF YOUR SCHOOLS ARE COMING UP SHORT OF TOTAL

NEEDS (YOUR BUDGETS WERE BASED ON THE PROMISE OF THESE

COMMODITY DELIVERIES.

↳ THIS BILL DIRECTS THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO MAKE CASH GRANTS TO THE SCHOOLS IN LIEU OF SURPLUS COMMODITIES WHICH HAD BEEN PROMISED, BUT NOT DELIVERED. IT SAYS, IN EFFECT -- "OKAY, WE UNDERSTAND, YOU DON'T HAVE FOOD THIS YEAR. SO GIVE THEM CASH."

-15-

L IN THIS CASE, THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT ACTUALLY TO BLAME, BECAUSE OF DIFFICULTIES THEY ENCOUNTERED IN SECURING SOME OF THESE COMMODITIES. BUT, AS YOU KNOW, THERE ARE OTHER AREAS IN WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT SO INNOCENT.

YOU KNOW OF THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE HAD IN GETTING IT TO IMPLEMENT THE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMS.

YOU MAY NOT BE SO FAMILIAR WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S FOOT-DRAGGING AND SABOTAGE IN ANOTHER AREA.

L IT IS FAILING TO FOLLOW CONGRESSIONAL INTENT IN THE INFANT AND MATERNAL FEEDING PROGRAM. THIS IS A PROGRAM I AM ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN, NOT JUST BECAUSE I AM ITS AUTHOR, BUT BECAUSE OF ITS IMPORTANCE IN COMBATTING THE LASTING ADVERSE CHANGES THAT MALNUTRITION CREATES WHEN IT OCCURS IN THE VERY YOUNG.

↳ THE AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION FOR THIS PROGRAM DIRECTED THE ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE A NEW PROGRAM OF CASH GRANTS, FUNNELED FROM THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT TO POVERTY-AREA HEALTH CLINICS.

↳ THE ACT EXPLICITLY STATED THAT THIS PROGRAM WAS NOT TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS DIRECTED TO THE SAME TARGET POPULATION GROUP.

MY PROGRAM WAS TO BE COMPLEMENTARY TO THESE EXISTING PROGRAMS, AND NOT USED AS A REASON FOR THEIR ELIMINATION.

WELL, THE ADMINISTRATION, AS FAR AS WE CAN MAKE OUT, SEEMS TO BE ELIMINATING THOSE OLDER PROGRAMS -- AND HAS YET TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW ONE.

-17-

THEY WILL HEAR MORE FROM ME LATER, ON THIS WHOLE SUBJECT.

YOU ARE BADLY NEEDED IN THE FIGHT TO FURTHER
STRENGTHEN OUR NATION'S FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS.

YOU MUST LET THE LOCAL PRESS KNOW WHAT ISN'T BEING DONE.

YOU MUST LET THE NATIONAL PRESS KNOW. YOU MUST GET TO YOUR

CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS. YOU MUST WORK WITH OTHER
ORGANIZATIONS.

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMANDS A LOT OF POWER. YOU HAVE TO
WORK FULL TIME TO DEAL WITH THAT POWER.

[BEYOND THESE MEASURES,] THE CONGRESS MUST TAKE
LEGISLATIVE STEPS TO IMPROVE THE PROGRAMS.

-18-

SENATORS MCGOVERN, CASE, HART, MYSELF AND OTHERS HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH YOU ON LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD FURTHER INCREASE THE RATE OF REIMBURSEMENTS TO SCHOOLS, UNDER THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, AND SET IN MOTION A NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM.

THIS LEGISLATION IS NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE PROGRAMS IN THE SHORT TERM AND WE HOPE TO DEAL WITH IT BETWEEN NOW AND THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL NEXT FALL. I WILL FIGHT FOR IT.

YOU SHOULD FIGHT FOR IT.

BUT, I WILL EMPHASIZE AGAIN THAT EVEN WHILE ACHIEVING THE LIMITED, BUT IMPORTANT, GOALS OF THIS BILL, WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THE IDEAL OF A COMPREHENSIVE, UNIVERSAL NUTRITION BILL -- "THE POSSIBLE DREAM,"

-19-

I'LL LEAVE YOU WITH ONE FINAL THOUGHT.

ORGANIZATIONS LIKE YOURS ARE GOING TO FIND THE FUTURE
YEARS ROUGHER GOING THAN THE PAST.

WE ARE ENTERING A NEW CLIMATE AROUND THIS TOWN.

A CLIMATE WHERE ANYONE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING FOR
SOMEBODY ELSE WHO IS POOR, OR DISABLED, OR SICK, OR NEEDS
HELP IN ANY OTHER WAY, WILL BE ASKED: WHY COME TO WASHINGTON
FOR HELP? GO BACK HOME AND ASK YOUR MAYOR OR GOVERNOR.

AND YOUR MAYOR OR GOVERNOR WILL SAY, "OH MY, THAT'S
A FEDERAL PROGRAM. THAT'S NOT OUR BAG. ANYWAY, WE DON'T
HAVE THE MONEY."

-20-

IT'S WHAT THEY CALL THE OLD RUN-AROUND,

I CALL IT GIVING YOU MORE DISCRETION TO SPEND LESS,

YOU'RE ^gGOING TO SEE PLENTY OF IT IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS,

SO START PLANNING A STRATEGY NOW. DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU'VE
SHUTTLED BACK AND FORTH FOR SIX MONTHS BETWEEN YOUR STATE
CAPITOL AND WASHINGTON TO REALIZE WHAT'S HAPPENING.

I, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WILL BE HERE TO HELP
YOU.

HOWEVER, ALL OF US THROUGHOUT THIS NATION MUST JOIN
TOGETHER TO PLAY FOR KEEPS. BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THE PRESIDENT
IS PLAYING FOR.



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org