

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
FUNDRAISER FOR REPRESENTATIVE JERRY LITTON

Kansas City, Missouri

April 7, 1974

Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished Guests:

I am delighted to visit Kansas today in order to speak on behalf of the re-election of Jerry Litton. Representative Litton is one of our more capable young Congressmen. We need to do everything to return him to office in November.

I am also delighted to help further the trend in this area toward the Democratic party. We see this development not only in the Midwest, but also in areas such as upper New England.

As residents in the heartland of America, you live in a district with a population almost evenly divided between metropolitan and rural interests.

You know what it means to work hard, get an education and move ahead. Almost half of your men have served in past wars.

You are the solid type of citizenry which forms the backbone of this nation.

In the last four Congressional elections you had the wisdom and good sense to vote Democratic. I know you will continue that good record in November.

As alert and intelligent citizens, you, too, are painfully aware of the current chaotic state of our national leadership.

There is an appropriate response to this deteriorated national leadership. And that response, as in the past, is to vote for the Democratic Party.

Jerry Litton, as a solid Democrat, needs your support in November. You need him as your Congressman in Washington.

This past year has been especially turbulent for American agriculture. Unfortunately, our national leadership has not responded to the challenge and the opportunity.

Our farmers have responded magnificently to the calls of the government to increase production to meet domestic and foreign needs.

The export of agricultural products increased to about \$13 billion last year. This year they will approach \$20 billion, which is a staggering record.

That record has been achieved in spite of shortages of fertilizer, fuel, baling wire, farm equipment and reasonable credit.

All of the farmers' production costs have gone up sharply. Fertilizer costs have about doubled. Farm costs will go up again this year by at least 15%.

Transportation of commodities for market, and production inputs such as fertilizer, has been held up because of inadequate transportation. It has been necessary for us in the Congress to point out these problems and prod the government to take action.

Your Congressman has been interested and involved, as I have, in these agricultural problems.

He has taken a major initiative to bridge the information gap between farmers and urban consumers. This problem is critical for our farmers. They have produced ample food for consumers and received an estimated 70 to 80 cents per hour for their labor.

In spite of recent food price increases, most farmers are still not getting an adequate return. While prices for grains have risen sharply, the dairy and cattle industries have been suffering serious losses.

Jerry Litton established the American Agriculture Council to tell this story to the consumer. The American people need to know the facts. We don't want, and we cannot afford to have a depressed agriculture.

This is not an issue which will respond to easy solution. It is important to our farmers, our export markets, and the entire economy.

Congressman Litton has also been interested in trying to restore confidence in government. He has increased the accessibility of public officials to the people of this district by bringing key leaders to the sixth district.

The monthly theatre-in-the-round session is one such innovation which has been extremely effective.

This openness on the part of leaders to criticism and suggestions is one of the strong beliefs of Jerry Litton and the Democratic Party.

It is clear that at this time of rapid change and uncertainty, a healthy dialogue between the people and officials, is absolutely essential.

We want and need leadership which is open, resourceful, flexible and pragmatic.

In accepting the Republican Presidential nomination on August 8, 1968, Richard Nixon stated, "America is in trouble today not because her people have failed, but because her leaders have failed, and what America needs are leaders to match the greatness of our people."

I must say that I agree with Mr. Nixon. We need leadership today more than ever before in our history.

I am not sure that he would wish to utter those words today.

Oh, my friends, if only we had more leaders today of the stature of the late President Truman. He came from Missouri, and as we all know, he told it as it was.

As we approach the fall election, we again need to get back to basic principles and think seriously about what we expect of our leaders and our government.

We believe in government with integrity, an essential virtue that we demand of our leaders, even as we demand it of ourselves, as individual citizens.

We believe in government by public trust, and that means leaders who deserve our trust, can win it and who fulfill it.

We have seen political power abused, and money abused as a means of buying power.

We have seen highly placed trustees of the public confidence betray their trust, and act as though they were above the law -- indeed, they have acted as though they were the law.

We must make ourselves understand the true, intrinsic value of our ideals. They are just as sturdy and dependable as they were when our nation was founded upon them nearly two centuries ago.

If we are to carry forward this grand experiment in democracy, emerge from our present set of trials and traumas once more renewed, invigorated, and triumphant, we must recapture these old values and principles that have served us so well in the past.

The Democratic Party stands today for a restoration of American values and for replacing the politics of slogans and rhetoric with the principles of action and performance.

So I am confident of America's future. I do not find reason to despair.

We have a strong candidate who believes in these principles and is already a proven leader in Congress.

My conclusion is that he should be supported for re-election. You will be doing a great service to yourself and your country.

#

Monkhouse

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Beclerger

⊗ Lavone Pat Danner

Steve, Shane, Shavonne⁽¹⁴⁾
Birkelley

⊗ xx
Beclerger

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

⊗ Mary + Mrs Charles Wheeler

FUNDRAISER FOR REPRESENTATIVE JERRY LITTON

⊗ Cong Jerry Litton + Cheri
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

APRIL 7, 1974

Adhominer

Charley Broomfield

State Sen Truman Wilson

skip

⊗ Springers

⊗ Tom Eagleton

Winn Danner - skip

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

I AM DELIGHTED TO VISIT ^{Missouri} ~~MISSOURI~~ TODAY IN ORDER TO SPEAK ON

BEHALF OF THE RE-ELECTION OF JERRY LITTON, REPRESENTATIVE

LITTON IS ONE OF OUR MORE CAPABLE YOUNG CONGRESSMEN. WE NEED TO

DO EVERYTHING TO RETURN HIM TO OFFICE IN NOVEMBER.

I AM ALSO DELIGHTED TO HELP FURTHER THE TREND IN THIS

AREA TOWARD THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. WE SEE THIS DEVELOPMENT NOT

ONLY IN THE MIDWEST, BUT ALSO IN AREAS SUCH AS UPPER NEW ENGLAND.

AS RESIDENTS IN THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA, YOU LIVE IN A

DISTRICT WITH A POPULATION ALMOST EVENLY DIVIDED BETWEEN METRO-

POLITAN AND RURAL INTERESTS.

~~YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO WORK HARD, GET AN EDUCATION~~

~~AND MOVE AHEAD. ALMOST HALF OF YOUR MEN HAVE SERVED IN~~

~~PAST WARS.~~

~~YOU ARE THE SOLID TYPE OF CITIZENRY WHICH FORMS THE BACK-
BONE OF THIS NATION.~~

(Bill Hull)

~~IN THE LAST FOUR CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS YOU HAD THE~~

~~WISDOM AND GOOD SENSE TO VOTE DEMOCRATIC~~ I KNOW YOU WILL

~~CONTINUE THAT GOOD RECORD IN NOVEMBER.~~

*Jerry Litton
candidate in 1972*

~~AS ALERT AND INTELLIGENT CITIZENS, YOU, TOO, ARE~~ *20,000*

~~PAINFULLY AWARE OF THE CURRENT CHAOTIC STATE OF OUR NATIONAL~~

~~LEADERSHIP.~~

⊕ Now about Jerry - He may run in Minn
spoken to Minn Bankers, Minn State FFA convention,
Minn State VO-Ag teachers, Minn State Student
Council Convention 2 times, Minn State Beet
growers - His School commencement
~~THERE IS AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO THIS DETERIORATED~~

~~spoken in over 50 Congressional
NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, AND THAT RESPONSE, AS IN THE PAST, IS TO
Disturb~~

~~VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.~~

JERRY LITTON, AS A SOLID ^{hardworking} DEMOCRAT, NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT IN
NOVEMBER. YOU NEED HIM AS YOUR CONGRESSMAN IN WASHINGTON.

THIS PAST YEAR HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY TURBULENT FOR AMERICAN
AGRICULTURE & ~~UNFORTUNATELY, OUR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP HAS NOT~~
~~RESPONDED TO THE CHALLENGE AND THE OPPORTUNITY.~~

OUR FARMERS HAVE RESPONDED MAGNIFICENTLY TO THE CALLS OF
THE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE PRODUCTION TO MEET DOMESTIC AND
FOREIGN NEEDS.

THE EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS INCREASED TO ABOUT
\$13 BILLION LAST YEAR. THIS YEAR THEY WILL APPROACH ~~\$18~~ \$20 BILLION,
WHICH IS A STAGGERING RECORD,

↳ THAT RECORD HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN SPITE OF SHORTAGES OF
FERTILIZER, FUEL, BALING WIRE, FARM EQUIPMENT AND ~~REPAIRS~~ ^{transportation}
CREDIT.

↳ ALL OF THE FARMERS' PRODUCTION COSTS HAVE GONE UP SHARPLY —
^{18% last year}
FERTILIZER COSTS HAVE ~~ABOUT~~ ^{more than} DOUBLED. FARM COSTS WILL GO UP
AGAIN THIS YEAR BY AT LEAST ~~15%~~ 20%

~~TRANSPORTATION OF~~ COMMODITIES FOR MARKET, AND PRODUCTION

INPUTS SUCH AS FERTILIZER, HAS BEEN HELD UP BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE

TRANSPORTATION / IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY FOR US IN THE CONGRESS

TO POINT OUT THESE PROBLEMS AND PROD THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ACTION.

/ YOUR CONGRESSMAN HAS BEEN INTERESTED AND INVOLVED, AS I

HAVE, IN THESE AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS.

/ HE HAS TAKEN A MAJOR INITIATIVE TO BRIDGE THE INFORMATION

GAP BETWEEN FARMERS AND URBAN CONSUMERS / THIS PROBLEM IS CRITICAL

FOR OUR FARMERS / THEY HAVE PRODUCED AMPLE FOOD FOR CONSUMERS

AND RECEIVED AN ESTIMATED 70 TO 80 CENTS PER HOUR FOR THEIR LABOR.

IN SPITE OF RECENT FOOD PRICE INCREASES, ~~THE~~ ^{many} FARMERS ARE STILL NOT GETTING AN ADEQUATE RETURN, WHILE PRICES FOR GRAINS HAVE RISEN SHARPLY, THE DAIRY AND CATTLE INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN SUFFERING SERIOUS LOSSES,

L JERRY LITTON ESTABLISHED THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURE COUNCIL TO TELL THIS STORY TO THE CONSUMER. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW THE FACTS. WE DON'T WANT, AND WE CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE A DEPRESSED AGRICULTURE.

THIS IS NOT AN ISSUE WHICH WILL RESPOND TO EASY SOLUTION. IT IS IMPORTANT TO OUR FARMERS, OUR EXPORT MARKETS AND THE ENTIRE ECONOMY.

L CONGRESSMAN LITTON HAS ALSO BEEN INTERESTED IN TRYING TO
RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT L HE HAS INCREASED THE
ACCESSIBILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS DISTRICT
BY BRINGING KEY LEADERS TO THE SIXTH DISTRICT.

L THE MONTHLY THEATRE-IN-THE-ROUND SESSION IS ONE SUCH
INNOVATION WHICH HAS BEEN EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE.

L THIS OPENNESS ON THE PART OF LEADERS TO CRITICISM AND
SUGGESTIONS IS ONE OF THE STRONG BELIEFS OF JERRY LITTON AND
THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

IT IS CLEAR THAT AT THIS TIME OF RAPID CHANGE AND UNCERTAINTY,

that A HEALTHY DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND OFFICIALS, IS
ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. *open govt!*

WE WANT AND NEED LEADERSHIP WHICH IS OPEN, RESOURCEFUL,
FLEXIBLE AND PRAGMATIC.

IN ACCEPTING THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION ~~in~~
~~At~~ 1968, RICHARD NIXON STATED, "AMERICA IS IN TROUBLE
TODAY NOT BECAUSE HER PEOPLE HAVE FAILED, BUT BECAUSE HER
LEADERS HAVE FAILED, AND WHAT AMERICA NEEDS ARE LEADERS TO
MATCH THE GREATNESS OF OUR PEOPLE."

I MUST SAY THAT I AGREE WITH MR. NIXON WE NEED LEADER-
SHIP TODAY MORE THAN EVER BEFORE IN OUR HISTORY.

I suggest that President Nixon repeat
~~an now cure that he would wish to offer those words~~

TODAY — *and then go look in the mirror*

~~ON MY FRIENDS~~ IF ONLY WE HAD MORE LEADERS TODAY OF THE
STATURE OF THE LATE PRESIDENT TRUMAN. HE CAME FROM MISSOURI *and*

~~AND AS WE ALL~~ HE TOLD IT AS IT WAS.

AS WE APPROACH THE FALL ELECTION, WE AGAIN NEED TO GET
BACK TO BASIC PRINCIPLES AND THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT WHAT WE
EXPECT OF OUR LEADERS AND OUR GOVERNMENT.

WE BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT WITH INTEGRITY, AN ESSENTIAL
VIRTUE THAT WE DEMAND OF OUR LEADERS, EVEN AS WE DEMAND IT OF
OURSELVES, AS INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS.

WE BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT BY PUBLIC TRUST, AND THAT MEANS
LEADERS WHO DESERVE OUR TRUST, CAN WIN IT AND WHO FULFILL IT,

↳ WE HAVE SEEN POLITICAL POWER ABUSED, AND MONEY ABUSED AS A
MEANS OF BUYING POWER.

↳ WE HAVE SEEN HIGHLY PLACED TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC CON-
FIDENCE BETRAY THEIR TRUST, AND ACT AS THOUGH THEY WERE ABOVE
THE LAW -- INDEED, THEY HAVE ACTED AS THOUGH THEY WERE THE LAW.

↳ WE MUST MAKE OURSELVES UNDERSTAND THE TRUE, INTRINSIC
VALUE OF OUR IDEALS. THEY ARE JUST AS STURDY AND DEPENDABLE AS
THEY WERE WHEN OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED UPON THEM NEARLY TWO
CENTURIES AGO.

↳ IF WE ARE TO CARRY FORWARD THIS GRAND EXPERIMENT IN
DEMOCRACY, EMERGE FROM OUR PRESENT SET OF TRIALS AND TRAUMAS

ONCE MORE RENEWED, INVIGORATED, AND TRIUMPHANT, WE MUST
RECAPTURE THESE OLD VALUES AND PRINCIPLES THAT HAVE SERVED US SO
WELL IN THE PAST.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY STANDS TODAY FOR A RESTORATION OF
AMERICAN VALUES AND FOR REPLACING THE POLITICS OF SLOGANS AND
RHETORIC WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF ACTION AND PERFORMANCE.

SO I AM CONFIDENT OF AMERICA'S FUTURE. I DO NOT FIND
REASON TO DESPAIR.

you in Jerry Little

WE HAVE A STRONG CANDIDATE WHO BELIEVES IN THESE PRINCIPLES
AND IS ALREADY A PROVEN LEADER IN CONGRESS.

MY CONCLUSION IS THAT HE SHOULD BE SUPPORTED FOR RE-ELECTION.
YOU WILL BE DOING A GREAT SERVICE TO YOURSELF AND YOUR COUNTRY.



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