

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Washington, D.C.

May 7, 1974

As people strongly interested in the forestry and timber products industry, you have a vital stake in our current national economic plight.

This is an important time for you to be in Washington and be able to speak to Legislators personally.

You know what inflation has done to the building and lumber industry. I am sorry to have to say it, but the end is not yet in sight.

Our rate of inflation is now running at around fourteen percent, and it is likely to go higher.

Contracts for labor will be going up as will other prices.

The Federal Reserve Board's response to inflation has been to keep raising the interest rates. The result has been fewer houses built and prices no one can afford. Only the Bankers have benefited.

The Administration has done little about inflation except to give us more rhetoric and higher prices.

It has pursued policies of reaction rather than action.

The budget policies pursued on timber sales, reforestation and roads can only be characterized as shortsighted.

The Administration has not let you twist slowly in the wind. It has given you a spin whenever it looked like you were merely hanging. The way in which it has handled housing has compounded the problems of supplying forest products.

Beyond our present problems, we need to look at our resources and needs. In doing this, we need to learn from our past mistakes.

During the 200 years of our national history, we have utilized our resources and land recklessly. Now at a time of scarcity, we must make up for our past negligence. We need also to develop a plan for the future.

Our history - in terms of utilizing our resources - has been an ongoing attempt to avoid the rules of conservation. While there were warning voices, we have used up our resources at an alarming rate.

Since the birth of our nation, we have had bountiful supplies of land, timber, minerals and capable people.

Our early settlers could use the soil and then move on after it was exhausted. Our loggers cut the timber and got out. They certainly had no idea of what the future resource needs would be. The term "inventory" was almost totally unknown.

In the past few years, the danger of this profligacy has become increasingly evident. A society is governed by the laws of nature as much as by the laws of man. We have begun to realize this at a serious cost.

It would accomplish little to point out what we should have done.

The uncomfortable fact is that we are a highly consumption-oriented nation of 212 million people. We are wasting resources at an alarming rate.

We have also had a great aversion to planning in any form. The motto, "Don't tread on me," of our early history has been a strongly held attitude for many rugged individuals. We did not want to be told what to do. The future would somehow take care of itself.

Planning has also had strongly ideological overtones in more recent years. Other countries had five year plans for national economic growth, but not our country.

In the late 1930's, we established the National Resources Planning Board to carry out long term planning. However, after the war, we returned to our old haphazard ways. The future would have to take care of itself. We believe there was no limit to growth - no end to consumptive levels.

The pressure on all our resources has been growing.

In fact, in the 1950's and 60's we invented the "Throw Away" concept.

We must now take a major forward step. The Senate-passed bill, S. 2296, which 27 Senators joined with me in introducing, attempts to chart new directions in the valuable resources of our forests and range. Hopefully, it will serve as model legislation for other resource areas.

In designing the bill, we had to keep in mind that a forest is a resource with multiple values and uses.

We thus had to think in terms of fish and wildlife, water, air and soil. We decided to look at the totality of the forests and range.

It seemed to me that what we needed was an integrated assessment of these lands and their resources. With such an assessment we would be in a position to develop a sound national program.

I also felt that time was of the essence in getting a first crack at an assessment and program. Refinements in the program could come later.

Further, we needed to retain some flexibility to deal with the inevitable changes.

Finally, we believe, the Federal role should be to provide leadership as a land manager without usurping the private initiative. In fact, it could assist the private effort.

From the assessment, we can develop a program, which outlines our goals and priorities. The Program will need to balance the multiple uses of our forests. It must also include a schedule which phases the Program's implementation.

We know that by thinning and improved management, forest output can be increased substantially. Our estimated timber requirements will increase by at least fifty percent in the next three decades. If we can find reasonable ways to increase supplies on a sustained yield basis, forest products will meet demand.

Washington State has already incorporated practices and funding techniques to increase the yield of State Forests. State and Federal Forests can, if properly managed, yield more uses on a sustained basis.

A study by the General Accounting Office noted that much more solid reforestation and stand improvement work would pay dollar and conservation dividends.

There is a new awareness that these positive steps are needed now. We also have time to deal with this problem and lay out a strategy that can succeed.

While I am optimistic about the bill and what it will accomplish, we should not expect instant miracles. It will take time to make the Assessment and develop the Program.

In the meantime, we can make improvements in the present Forest System operations.

Briefly, I would suggest five steps which would serve this end:

1. The FY 1975 Funding for the Forest Service needs to be increased.

I have pointed out to the Committee on Appropriations that the FY 1975 funding proposed by the Administration is just not adequate. In my view, an additional \$193 million is needed.

The National Forest Service needs beefing up if it is to increase the intensity of its timber management.

There is also a backlog of 3 million acres requiring reforestation, and another 13 million acres needing timber stand improvement.

Additional funds would help catch up on this work and lead to an increased timber off-take.

2. Incentives are needed to encourage small private owners.

Small private timber holdings account for 60 per cent of total commercial timberlands. However, they carry only 20 per cent of the softwood timber inventory. Timber management levels on most of these lands, other than for fire protection, are low.

We need to enlist more small owners in a good forest practices program in order to increase the timber supply.

3. We Must Encourage Good Land Use.

Good land use is the business of every land owner, public and private. It is of paramount importance that private forest owners practice good forest management.

On public forests, there is serious disagreement over how this land is used. Some groups would like to see more land allocated to one use. Some would opt for more wilderness. Some would give a priority to timber production. Others say wildlife values are dominant. Still others see water values as most important. Finally, the great rank and file of people think of the forest as a public park.

There is no easy answer to how we resolve this dilemma. In my view the great bulk of the commercial forest lands in our National Forests are and ought to be in multiple-use management.

4. The National Forest output can be increased.

National Forest timber management should be directed towards making its proper contribution to the nation's forest product requirements. This means prompt reforestation and securing the fullest and best output of all resources.

And it also means adequate funding on a continuing basis.

Intensive management requires a long-term commitment to maintain the effort. If you are going to plant genetically superior tree stock, there must be the commitment to secure the full benefit of its superior growth -- decade after decade.

5. The use of cut trees and Mill Waste must be increased.

I have been increasingly concerned over the Wood waste which is presently not used. There is much dead and diseased wood which can be carefully removed from the forest.

The Forest Service normally does not secure the removal of all wood waste left by primary loggers. I have urged that funds be appropriated so that this wood can be utilized.

In this era of wood shortages, I see no reason why we should be so slow in utilizing this supply. Unfortunately, this is typical as to how we have treated our resources.

Despite the problems which you had to face in terms of impounded funds, and frozen programs, the forest and lumber industry can be proud of its performance.

I congratulate you and I encourage you.

We all know that the days ahead will test us all. Each generation of Americans has had its own challenges. Some are inherited from the past, some created in the present.

A major challenge and responsibility - in a world growing ever closer together - will be to develop and manage our resources more effectively. We are starting late, but with the help of people such as you, it can be done.

Recycling

MEETING OUR FUTURE NEEDS FOR FOREST PRODUCTS

4 NATIONAL LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIAL

DEALERS ASSOCIATION<sup>11</sup>

WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAY 7, 1974

No Effort  
and Protection

No Dessert

Richard Snyder - Exec. V.P.

J. Herbert Walker - Pres - New Orleans

Jim Toepel -  
Northwestern Lumberman Inc  
(Bill Bardeaux)

L AS PEOPLE STRONGLY INTERESTED IN THE FORESTRY

AND TIMBER PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, YOU HAVE A VITAL

STAKE IN OUR CURRENT NATIONAL ECONOMIC PLIGHT,

L THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR YOU TO BE IN

WASHINGTON AND BE ABLE TO SPEAK TO LEGISLATORS

PERSONNALLY.

L YOU KNOW WHAT INFLATION HAS DONE TO THE BUILDING

AND LUMBER INDUSTRY. I AM SORRY TO HAVE TO SAY IT,

BUT THE END IS NOT YET IN SIGHT.

L OUR RATE OF INFLATION IS NOW RUNNING AT

AROUND FOURTEEN PERCENT, AND IT IS LIKELY TO GO

HIGHER.

L CONTRACTS FOR LABOR WILL BE GOING UP AS WILL  
OTHER PRICES.

L THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD'S RESPONSE TO  
INFLATION HAS BEEN TO KEEP RAISING THE INTEREST  
RATES. L THE RESULT HAS BEEN FEWER HOUSES BUILT

AND PRICES NO ONE CAN AFFORD. ~~ONLY THE BANKERS~~  
~~HAVE BENEFITED.~~

L THE ADMINISTRATION HAS DONE LITTLE ABOUT INFLATION  
EXCEPT TO GIVE US MORE RHETORIC AND HIGHER  
PRICES.

~~IT HAS PURSUED POLICIES OF REACTION RATHER~~  
~~THAN ACTION.~~

*Farmer Home Ad  
Sept 502*

ADDED NOTES

*FHA  
235  
726*

*Housing  
Subsidies*

(1) Careful long-range planning and utilization of our resources are required if we are to meet our housing needs for this decade.

(2) A recent M.I.T. - Harvard joint study indicated 23 million new housing units will be needed in this decade.

(3) An earlier Kaiser report estimated the need for new units at 18-20 million.

(4) The President's Committee on Population and the American Future indicated that there will be a 33% jump in new households established in this decade.

*heavy pressure on our  
timber resources +  
other materials*

*Report of Jop*

THE BUDGET POLICIES PURSUED ON TIMBER SALES,  
REFORESTATION AND ROADS CAN ONLY BE CHARACTERIZED  
AS SHORTSIGHTED.

THE ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT LET YOU<sup>4</sup> TWIST  
SLOWLY IN THE WIND. IT HAS GIVEN YOU A "SPIN"  
WHENEVER IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE MERELY HANGING,

THE WAY IN WHICH IT HAS HANDLED HOUSING HAS  
COMPOUNDED THE PROBLEMS OF SUPPLYING FOREST  
PRODUCTS. (Housing needs)

BEYOND OUR PRESENT PROBLEMS, WE NEED TO LOOK  
AT OUR RESOURCES AND NEEDS. IN DOING THIS, WE  
NEED TO LEARN FROM OUR PAST MISTAKES.

↳ DURING THE 200 YEARS OF OUR NATIONAL HISTORY, WE HAVE  
UTILIZED OUR RESOURCES AND LAND RECKLESSLY ↳ NOW AT A TIME  
OF SCARCITY, WE MUST MAKE UP FOR OUR PAST NEGLIGENCE. WE  
NEED ALSO TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.

OUR HISTORY - IN TERMS OF UTILIZING OUR RESOURCES - HAS  
BEEN AN ONGOING ATTEMPT TO AVOID THE RULES OF CONSERVATION.

↳ WHILE THERE WERE WARNING VOICES, WE HAVE USED UP OUR RESOURCES  
AT AN ALARMING RATE.

SINCE THE BIRTH OF OUR NATION, WE HAVE HAD BOUNTIFUL  
SUPPLIES OF LAND, TIMBER, MINERALS AND CAPABLE PEOPLE.

↳ OUR EARLY SETTLERS COULD USE THE SOIL AND THEN MOVE  
ON AFTER IT WAS EXHAUSTED. OUR LOGGERS CUT THE TIMBER  
AND GOT OUT. THEY CERTAINLY HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT THE FUTURE  
RESOURCE NEEDS WOULD BE. THE TERM "INVENTORY" WAS ALMOST  
TOTALLY UNKNOWN.

↳ IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE DANGER OF THIS ~~PROBLEM~~ <sup>wasteful attitude</sup> HAS  
BECOME INCREASINGLY EVIDENT. A SOCIETY IS GOVERNED BY THE  
LAWS OF NATURE AS MUCH AS BY THE LAWS OF MAN. WE HAVE  
BEGUN TO REALIZE THIS AT A SERIOUS COST.

↳ IT WOULD ACCOMPLISH LITTLE TO POINT OUT WHAT WE SHOULD  
HAVE DONE.

↳ THE UNCOMFORTABLE FACT IS THAT WE ARE A HIGHLY  
CONSUMPTION-ORIENTED NATION OF 212 MILLION PEOPLE. WE ARE  
WASTING RESOURCES AT AN ALARMING RATE.

WE HAVE ALSO HAD A GREAT AVERSION TO PLANNING IN ANY FORM,

L THE MOTTO, "DON'T TREAD ON ME", OF OUR EARLY HISTORY

HAS BEEN A STRONGLY HELD ATTITUDE FOR MANY RUGGED INDIVIDUALS.

L WE DID NOT WANT TO BE TOLD WHAT TO DO. L THE FUTURE WOULD

SOMEHOW TAKE CARE OF ITSELF.

L PLANNING HAS ALSO HAD STRONG IDEOLOGICAL OVERTONES

IN MORE RECENT YEARS. L OTHER COUNTRIES HAD FIVE YEAR PLANS FOR

NATIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH, BUT NOT OUR COUNTRY.

L IN THE LATE 1930's, WE ESTABLISHED THE NATIONAL

RESOURCES PLANNING BOARD TO CARRY OUT LONG TERM PLANNING.

L HOWEVER, AFTER THE WAR, WE RETURNED TO OUR OLD HAPHAZARD

WAYS. L THE FUTURE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF ITSELF.

*Believed*

WE ~~BELIEVED~~ THERE WAS NO LIMIT TO GROWTH - NO END TO CONSUMPTIVE

LEVELS.

L IN FACT, IN THE 1950's AND 60's WE INVENTED THE "THROW AWAY" CONCEPT.

*Electricity cheap-cheap -  
"Turn Down your thermostat."*

THE PRESSURE ON ALL OUR RESOURCES HAS BEEN GROWING.

*Fuel - Food - Fiber - no Planning  
Access to Supply -*

WE MUST NOW TAKE A MAJOR FORWARD STEP. THE SENATE-

PASSED BILL, S. 2296, WHICH 27 SENATORS JOINED WITH ME IN

INTRODUCING, ATTEMPTS TO CHART NEW DIRECTIONS IN THE

VALUABLE RESOURCES OF OUR FORESTS AND RANGE. HOPEFULLY,

IT WILL SERVE AS MODEL LEGISLATION FOR OTHER RESOURCE AREAS.

L IN DESIGNING THE BILL, WE HAD TO KEEP IN MIND THAT

A FOREST IS A RESOURCE WITH MULTIPLE VALUES AND USES.

*Need of Planning - Transportation  
Resources*

↳ WE THUS HAD TO THINK IN TERMS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE,  
WATER, AIR AND SOIL. ↳ WE DECIDED TO LOOK AT THE TOTALITY  
OF THE FORESTS AND RANGE.

↳ IT SEEMED TO ME THAT WHAT WE NEEDED WAS AN  
INTEGRATED ASSESMENT OF THESE LANDS AND THEIR RESOURCES. WITH  
SUCH AN ASSESMENT WE WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO DEVELOP  
A SOUND NATIONAL PROGRAM.

↳ I ALSO FELT THAT <sup>"</sup>TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE IN  
GETTING A FIRST CRACK AT AN ASSESMENT AND PROGRAM. REFINEMENTS  
IN THE PROGRAM COULD COME LATER.

↳ FURTHER, WE NEEDED TO RETAIN SOME FLEXIBILITY TO DEAL  
WITH THE INEVITABLE CHANGES.

FINALLY, ~~WE BELIEVE~~ THE FEDERAL ROLE SHOULD BE TO  
PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AS A LAND MANAGER WITHOUT USURPING THE  
PRIVATE INITIATIVE. IN FACT, IT COULD ASSIST THE PRIVATE  
EFFORT.

FROM THE ASSESSMENT, WE CAN DEVELOP A PROGRAM, WHICH  
OUTLINES OUR GOALS AND PRIORITIES. THE PROGRAM WILL NEED  
TO BALANCE THE MULTIPLE USES OF OUR FORESTS. IT MUST ALSO  
INCLUDE A SCHEDULE WHICH PHASES THE PROGRAM'S IMPLEMENTATION.

WE KNOW THAT BY THINNING AND IMPROVED MANAGEMENT, FOREST  
OUTPUT CAN BE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALY. OUR ESTIMATED TIMBER  
REQUIREMENTS WILL INCREASE BY AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT IN

THE NEXT THREE DECADES. IF WE CAN FIND REASONABLE WAYS TO  
INCREASE SUPPLIES ON A SUSTAINED YIELD BASIS, FOREST PRODUCTS  
WILL MEET DEMAND.

h WASHINGTON STATE HAS ALREADY INCORPORATED PRACTICES AND FUNDING TECHNIQUES TO INCREASE THE YIELD OF STATE FORESTS.

h STATE AND FEDERAL FORESTS CAN, IF PROPERLY MANAGED, YIELD MORE USES ON A SUSTAINED BASIS.

h A STUDY BY THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE NOTED THAT MUCH MORE SOLID REFORESTATION AND STAND IMPROVEMENT WORK WOULD PAY DOLLAR AND CONSERVATION DIVIDENDS.

h Reforestation  
THERE IS A NEW AWARENESS THAT THESE POSITIVE

STEPS ARE NEEDED NOW. WE ALSO HAVE TIME TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM AND LAY OUT A STRATEGY THAT CAN SUCCEED.

h WHILE I AM OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE BILL AND WHAT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH, WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT INSTANT MIRACLES. IT WILL TAKE TIME TO MAKE THE ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOP THE PROGRAM.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE CAN MAKE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PRESENT  
FOREST SYSTEM OPERATIONS.

BRIEFLY, I WOULD SUGGEST FIVE STEPS WHICH WOULD SERVE  
THIS END:

1. THE FY 1975 FUNDING FOR THE FOREST SERVICE NEEDS TO  
BE INCREASED.

~~I HAVE POINTED OUT TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS THAT  
THE FY 1975 FUNDING PROPOSED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IS  
JUST NOT ADEQUATE. IN MY VIEW, AN ADDITIONAL \$193 MILLION  
IS NEEDED.~~

THE NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE NEEDS BEEFING UP IF IT  
IS TO INCREASE THE INTENSITY OF ITS TIMBER MANAGEMENT.

✓ THERE IS ALSO A BACKLOG OF 3 MILLION ACRES REQUIRING  
REFORESTATION, AND ANOTHER 13 MILLION ACRES NEEDING TIMBER  
STAND IMPROVEMENT.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS WOULD HELP CATCH UP ON THIS WORK AND  
LEAD TO AN INCREASED TIMBER OFF-TAKE.

2. INCENTIVES ARE NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE SMALL PRIVATE OWNERS.

✓ SMALL PRIVATE TIMBER HOLDINGS ACCOUNT FOR 60 PER CENT  
OF TOTAL COMMERCIAL TIMBERLANDS. HOWEVER, THEY CARRY ONLY  
20 PER CENT OF THE SOFTWOOD TIMBER INVENTORY. ✓ TIMBER  
MANAGEMENT LEVELS ON MOST OF THESE LANDS, OTHER THAN FOR  
FIRE PROTECTION, ARE LOW o

WE NEED TO ENLIST MORE SMALL OWNERS IN ~~A~~<sup>an improved</sup> FOREST

PRACTICES PROGRAM IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE TIMBER SUPPLY.

3. WE MUST ENCOURAGE GOOD LAND USE.

GOOD LAND USE IS THE BUSINESS OF EVERY LAND OWNER,  
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE. IT IS A PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE THAT  
PRIVATE FORESTS OWNERS PRACTICE GOOD FOREST MANAGEMENT.

ON PUBLIC FORESTS, THERE IS SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT OVER  
HOW THIS LAND IS USED. SOME GROUPS WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
MORE LAND ALLOCATED TO ONE USE. SOME WOULD OPT FOR MORE  
WILDERNESS. SOME WOULD GIVE A PRIORITY TO TIMBER PRODUCTION.  
OTHERS SAY WILDLIFE VALUES ARE DOMINANT, STILL OTHERS SEE  
WATER VALUES AS MOST IMPORTANT. FINALLY, THE GREAT RANK  
AND FILE OF PEOPLE THINK OF THE FOREST AS A PUBLIC PARK.

THERE IS NO EASY ANSWER TO HOW WE RESOLVE THIS DILEMMA.

IN MY VIEW THE GREAT BULK OF THE COMMERCIAL FOREST LANDS IN  
OUR NATIONAL FORESTS ARE AND OUGHT TO BE IN MULTIPLE-USE  
MANAGEMENT.

4. THE NATIONAL FOREST OUTPUT CAN BE INCREASED.

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER MANAGEMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED  
TOWARDS MAKING ITS PROPER CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATION'S  
FOREST PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS. THIS MEANS PROMPT REFORESTATION  
AND SECURING THE FULLEST AND BEST OUTPUT OF ALL RESOURCES.

AND IT ALSO MEANS ADEQUATE FUNDING ON A CONTINUING BASIS.

↳ INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT REQUIRES A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT  
TO MAINTAIN THE EFFORT. IF YOU ARE GOING TO PLANT GENETICALLY  
SUPERIOR TREE STOCK, THERE MUST BE THE COMMITMENT TO SECURE  
THE FULL BENEFIT OF ITS SUPERIOR GROWTH -- DECADE AFTER  
DECADE.

*no Joe - Joe - stop + Ho.  
Wasteful*

5. THE USE OF CUT TREES AND MILL WASTE MUST BE INCREASED.

I HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY CONCERNED OVER THE WOOD WASTE  
WHICH IS PRESENTLY NOT USED. THERE IS MUCH DEAD AND DISEASED  
WOOD WHICH CAN BE CAREFULLY REMOVED FROM THE FOREST.

↳ THE FOREST SERVICE NORMALLY DOES NOT SECURE THE REMOVAL  
OF ALL WOOD WASTE LEFT BY PRIMARY LOGGERS. I HAVE URGED  
THAT FUNDS BE APPROPRIATED SO THAT THIS WOOD CAN BE UTILIZED.

IN THIS ERA OF WOOD SHORTAGES, I SEE NO REASON WHY  
WE SHOULD BE SO SLOW IN UTILIZING THIS SUPPLY.

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS IS TYPICAL AS TO HOW WE HAVE  
TREATED OUR RESOURCES.

DESPITE THE PROBLEMS WHICH YOU HAD TO FACE IN TERMS  
OF IMPOUNDED FUNDS, AND FROZEN PROGRAMS, THE FOREST  
AND LUMBER INDUSTRY CAN BE PROUD OF ITS PERFORMANCE.

I CONGRATULATE YOU AND I ENCOURAGE YOU.

WE ALL KNOW THAT THE DAYS AHEAD WILL TEST US ALL. EACH  
GENERATION OF AMERICANS HAS HAD ITS OWN CHALLENGES. SOME  
ARE INHERITED FROM THE PAST, SOME CREATED IN THE PRESENT.

A MAJOR CHALLENGE AND RESPONSIBILITY - IN A WORLD GROWING  
EVER CLOSER TOGETHER - WILL BE TO DEVELOP AND MANAGE OUR  
RESOURCES MORE EFFECTIVELY. WE ARE STARTING LATE, BUT  
WITH THE HELP OF PEOPLE SUCH AS YOU, IT CAN BE DONE.

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