

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

NEW JERSEY BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL CONVENTION

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

June 3, 1976

It is a pleasure to be here in New Jersey with my friends in the building and construction trades. I always have been proud of my close association with American labor. Through their unions, American workers have helped to shape the structure and enrich our economy, our society and our culture.

Throughout our nation's history the American labor movement has been the cutting edge for social and economic justice. Because the basic concern of the labor movement has been to provide the greatest good for the greatest number of people, its efforts have helped to give substance and reality to the promise inherent in America's democratic ideals.

So I am proud of my relationship with labor, my friendship with you, and I always shall be.

I know the newspapers are always filled with bad news. But tonight I have some good news for you: We will have a Democrat in the White House on January 20, 1977.

Yes, in just eight months, a Democrat will stand on the steps of the Capitol to assume the leadership of our Nation!

And once again, the American people will have a friend like FDR, JFK and LBJ in the White House, and majority government will have been restored.

When the people have to make a choice between the politics of Democratic courage and compassion and the politics of Republican retreat and indifference, they will make the right choice -- a Democratic victory.

This year the American people are filled with the Bicentennial spirit.

In 1776, the American people proclaimed their independence and threw out the British Torys.

In 1976, the American people will once again affirm our independence and vote out the "Republican Torys."

That's the Bicentennial spirit that assures a good beginning for the next 100 years. Let's get the party of Jefferson and Jackson back in power!

In the last 24 years, we've had Republicans in the White House 16 of those years. Gerald Ford didn't arrive in town just last week. The recent seven sad years of the Nixon-Ford Administration have clearly demonstrated that Republicans are incapable of running the country in the interest of all the people. And the Nixon-Ford team has been in charge since 1969.

So, if there is a mess in Washington, it's their mess. If there are too many regulations, they wrote them. If no one is listening, it's their ears that are plugged.

Now, if you were a Republican, wouldn't you run against Washington? But remember, Gerry Ford has been there since 1949.

Let's look at their record.

We are not going to let Republicans cover up the fact that since 1969, 57 million Americans were thrown out of work by two recessions and Herbert Hoover economics.

Despite the song of recovery being sung at the White House, nearly 16 percent of our nation's construction workers are out of work nationally, and in many areas of the country the figures are much higher.

You can't pay your mortgage, feed your family, and send your kids to school on a Wall Street recovery. You need decent jobs and good wages and an America that is building, expanding and meeting the people's needs.

We are not going to let Republicans run away from the fact that America's working families have seen their entire income gain of the 1960's wiped out by the policies of the Wall Street boys who occupy the White House corridors.

Republicans can't run away from ninety-two vetoes which say No! No! No! to the hopes and aspirations of the American people.

And the Republicans cannot run away from their promise made in the heated days of 1968 that they would bring law and order to the Republic.

Instead, they brought lawlessness and corruption to the nation's highest office and crime in the streets has reached unprecedented levels!

You in the construction trades in New Jersey have experienced the disregard of the law in the Nixon-Ford Administration first hand. Senator Williams and Jim Grogan have led the fight to prevent Republican government contracts at the Military Ocean Terminal, Fort Monmouth, and elsewhere from undercutting your wage rates.

The election of 1976 will mark one of those historic moments in the history of American politics when the people will demand an accounting. I predict they will say, loud and clear, "No more, we've had enough."

We've had enough of those who claim recovery and prosperity after bringing us the longest and worst recession since the Great Depression.

Enough of inflation -- enough of high interest rates.

Yes, we've had enough of those who proclaim the work ethic and expand the welfare rolls.

Enough of those who denounce deficits and then by their policies cause deficits to grow even larger.

Enough of those who worship at the shrine of free enterprise and let monopolies flourish.

We've had enough of those who want to cover up a record of doubt, defeat and despair -- that's not good enough for America.

I say enough of these Republicans. Yes, more than enough. It's time to clean house -- throw the rascals out!

But the people have a right to ask: What do we Democrats stand for?

What do we want for the American people?

Well, let me give you some idea.

If we believe in work and a productive America, then our government must be committed to full employment that assures decent jobs at decent wages. Work, not welfare -- paychecks, not the dole.

If we believe in the right of every American to a full life, then we need a national health care system that provides quality health care to all.

If we believe in our cities, we must have a program that replaces slums with decent homes and make home ownership a reality for the working people of America once again. We will produce one million fewer homes this year than we must have to meet our national housing goals.

If we believe in ending prejudice, then we must see that equal opportunity reaches into every aspect of American life.

If we believe in our young people, then let us champion the cause of education.

If we love and respect our senior citizens, then let us assure them of generous and decent care.

And, if we believe in the future of America, we must see that men and women guided by a sense of vision and fairness are elected to lead our nation.

These are just some of our vital goals.

For many reasons, the trust and confidence of the American people in their government has been seriously eroded. We are experiencing a crisis of confidence in our national leadership unprecedented in modern times.

All of you know the sting and the hurt of a President who has gone back on his word on signing vital legislation -- the Common Situs Picketing Bill -- into law.

This is no way to close the gap that has grown to a chasm between the American people and their White House. A man that is not as good as his word is not good enough to be your President.

The time is at hand to use your influence to elevate to public office men and women whose word is a sacred trust, whose vision of America includes you and your families, whose commitment to the well being of America's workers is not a subject for public debate but a matter of public record.

Our hopes for victory in November can be realized if we work together in the days ahead.

Unity will bring us more than victory.

It will bring us opportunity -- opportunity to govern a nation with compassion and justice.

Opportunity to get this nation moving once again in the spirit of Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson.

Opportunity for America once more to be confident and happy -- this is our promise to the American people!

✓ Jim Brogan Pres N.J.
Building Trades
✓ Charlie Marciani
Pres A4h-C10

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CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY

JUNE 3, 1976

↳ IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE IN NEW JERSEY WITH MY FRIENDS
IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES. I ALWAYS HAVE BEEN
PROUD OF MY CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH AMERICAN LABOR. ↳ THROUGH
THEIR UNIONS, AMERICAN WORKERS HAVE HELPED TO SHAPE THE STRUCTURE
AND ENRICH OUR ECONOMY, OUR SOCIETY AND OUR CULTURE,

↳ THROUGHOUT OUR NATION'S HISTORY THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT
HAS BEEN THE CUTTING EDGE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE.

↳ BECAUSE THE BASIC CONCERN OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT HAS BEEN TO
PROVIDE THE GREATEST GOOD FOR THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE,
ITS EFFORTS HAVE HELPED TO GIVE SUBSTANCE AND REALITY TO THE
PROMISE ~~INHERENT IN~~ ^{of} AMERICA'S DEMOCRATIC IDEALS.

↳ SO I AM PROUD OF MY RELATIONSHIP WITH LABOR, MY FRIENDSHIP
WITH YOU, AND I ALWAYS SHALL BE.

— Pete Williams

I KNOW THE NEWSPAPERS ARE ALWAYS FILLED WITH BAD NEWS.

this morning

BUT ~~THAT~~ I HAVE SOME GOOD NEWS FOR YOU: WE WILL *select a*

DEMOCRAT ~~IN THE WHITE HOUSE ON JANUARY 20, 1977~~ *in November, 1976.*

L YES, IN JUST EIGHT MONTHS, A DEMOCRAT WILL STAND ON THE
take the oath of office and
STEPS OF THE CAPITOL ~~TO~~ ASSUME THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR NATION!

L AND ONCE AGAIN, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL HAVE A FRIEND
HST
LIKE ~~FDR~~ *FDR*, ~~JFK~~ *JFK* AND ~~LBJ~~ *LBJ* IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AND MAJORITY

GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE BEEN RESTORED.

L WHEN THE PEOPLE HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN THE POLITICS
OF DEMOCRATIC COURAGE AND COMPASSION AND THE POLITICS OF

REPUBLICAN RETREAT AND INDIFFERENCE, THEY WILL MAKE THE RIGHT

CHOICE -- A DEMOCRATIC VICTORY

L THIS YEAR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE FILLED WITH THE

BICENTENNIAL SPIRIT.

Bicentennial

In 1776, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE PROCLAIMED THEIR INDEPENDENCE
AND THREW OUT THE BRITISH TORYS.

In 1976, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL ONCE AGAIN AFFIRM OUR
INDEPENDENCE AND VOTE OUT THE "REPUBLICAN TORYS."

That's the BICENTENNIAL SPIRIT THAT ASSURES A GOOD
BEGINNING FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS. LET'S GET THE PARTY OF
JEFFERSON AND JACKSON BACK IN POWER!

In the last 24 years, we've had REPUBLICANS IN THE WHITE
HOUSE 16 OF THOSE YEARS. GERALD FORD DIDN'T ARRIVE IN TOWN
JUST LAST WEEK. *and* THE RECENT SEVEN SAD YEARS OF THE NIXON-FORD

ADMINISTRATION HAVE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT REPUBLICANS ARE

INCAPABLE OF RUNNING THE COUNTRY IN THE INTEREST OF ALL THE

PEOPLE. AND THE NIXON-FORD TEAM HAS BEEN IN CHARGE SINCE 1969.

Mess in DC

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↳ So, IF THERE IS A MESS IN WASHINGTON, IT'S THEIR MESS.!

↳ IF THERE ARE TOO MANY REGULATIONS, THEY WROTE THEM. IF NO ONE

IS LISTENING, ITS THEIR EARS THAT ARE PLUGGED.!

↳ Now, IF YOU WERE A REPUBLICAN, ^{candidate} WOULDN'T YOU RUN AGAINST

WASHINGTON? BUT REMEMBER, GERRY FORD HAS BEEN THERE SINCE 1949.

↳ LET'S LOOK AT THEIR RECORD,

WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET REPUBLICANS COVER UP THE FACT
THAT SINCE 1969, 57 MILLION AMERICANS WERE THROWN OUT OF
WORK BY TWO RECESSIONS AND HERBERT HOOVER ECONOMICS.

↳ DESPITE THE SONG OF RECOVERY BEING SUNG AT THE WHITE
HOUSE, NEARLY 16 PERCENT OF OUR NATION'S CONSTRUCTION WORKERS
ARE OUT OF WORK NATIONALLY, AND IN MANY AREAS OF THE COUNTRY
THE FIGURES ARE MUCH HIGHER.

L YOU CAN'T PAY YOUR MORTGAGE, FEED YOUR FAMILY, AND SEND
YOUR KIDS TO SCHOOL ON A WALL STREET RECOVERY. YOU NEED
DECENT JOBS AND GOOD WAGES AND AN AMERICA THAT IS BUILDING,
EXPANDING AND MEETING THE PEOPLE'S NEEDS.

L WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET REPUBLICANS RUN AWAY FROM THE
FACT THAT AMERICA'S WORKING FAMILIES HAVE SEEN THEIR ENTIRE
INCOME GAIN OF THE 1960'S WIPED OUT BY THE POLICIES OF
THE WALL STREET BOYS WHO OCCUPY THE WHITE HOUSE CORRIDORS.

L REPUBLICANS CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM NINETY-TWO ^{Million Ford} VETANS
WHICH SAY No! No! No! TO THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

L AND THE REPUBLICANS CANNOT RUN AWAY FROM THEIR PROMISE
MADE IN THE HEATED DAYS OF 1968 THAT THEY WOULD BRING LAW
AND ORDER TO THE REPUBLIC.

~~You, Nixon took Crime of the Street~~
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INSTEAD, THEY BROUGHT LAWLESSNESS AND CORRUPTION TO
THE NATION'S HIGHEST OFFICE AND CRIME IN THE STREETS HAS
REACHED UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS!

YOU IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADES IN NEW JERSEY HAVE
EXPERIENCED THE DISREGARD OF THE LAW IN THE NIXON-FORD

ADMINISTRATION FIRST HAND. SENATOR WILLIAMS AND JIM
GROGAN HAVE LED THE FIGHT TO PREVENT REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT
CONTRACTS AT THE MILITARY OCEAN TERMINAL, FORT MONMOUTH,
AND ELSEWHERE FROM UNDERCUTTING YOUR WAGE RATES.

THE ELECTION OF 1976 WILL MARK ONE OF THOSE HISTORIC
MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN POLITICS WHEN THE
PEOPLE WILL DEMAND AN ACCOUNTING. I PREDICT THEY WILL SAY,
LOUD AND CLEAR, "NO MORE, WE'VE HAD ENOUGH."

L WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO CLAIM RECOVERY AND

PROSPERITY AFTER BRINGING US THE LONGEST AND WORST

RECESSION SINCE THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

We've had
ENOUGH OF INFLATION -- ENOUGH OF HIGH INTEREST RATES, that
crippled our economy

L YES, WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO PROCLAIM THE WORK

ETHIC AND EXPAND THE WELFARE ROLLS.

We've had budget
ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO DENOUNCE DEFICITS AND THEN BY THEIR

those
POLICIES CAUSE DEFICITS TO GROW EVEN LARGER.

We've had ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO WORSHIP AT THE SHRINE OF FREE

ENTERPRISE AND LET MONOPOLIES FLOURISH, & bankruptcies increase.

WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO WANT TO COVER UP A RECORD

OF DOUBT, DEFEAT AND DESPAIR -- J Ray, THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR

AMERICA.

~~I SAY ENOUGH OF THESE REPUBLICANS. YES, MORE THAN~~

~~ENOUGH.~~ L IT'S TIME TO CLEAN HOUSE -- THROW THE RASCALS OUT!

h BUT THE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO ASK: WHAT DO WE DEMOCRATS

STAND FOR?

L WHAT DO WE WANT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE?

WELL, LET ME GIVE YOU SOME IDEA.

L IF WE BELIEVE IN WORK AND A PRODUCTIVE AMERICA, THEN

OUR GOVERNMENT MUST BE COMMITTED TO FULL EMPLOYMENT THAT

ASSURES DECENT JOBS AT DECENT WAGES. L WORK, NOT WELFARE --

PAYCHECKS, NOT THE DOLE. (- Humphrey-Hawkins)

L IF WE BELIEVE IN THE RIGHT OF EVERY AMERICAN TO A FULL

LIFE, THEN WE NEED A NATIONAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM THAT

PROVIDES QUALITY HEALTH CARE TO ALL *at the lowest possible cost.*

h

IF WE BELIEVE IN OUR CITIES, ^{then} WE MUST HAVE A PROGRAM

THAT REPLACES SLUMS WITH DECENT HOMES AND MAKE HOME

OWNERSHIP A REALITY FOR THE WORKING PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

Just remember,
~~ONCE AGAIN,~~ WE WILL PRODUCE ONE MILLION FEWER HOMES THIS

YEAR THAN WE MUST HAVE TO MEET OUR NATIONAL HOUSING GOALS.

h

IF WE BELIEVE IN ENDING PREJUDICE, THEN WE MUST SEE

THAT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY REACHES INTO EVERY ASPECT OF

AMERICAN LIFE,

h

IF WE BELIEVE IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE, THEN LET US CHAMPION

THE CAUSE OF EDUCATION *Quality for all.*

h

IF WE LOVE AND RESPECT OUR SENIOR CITIZENS, THEN LET

US ASSURE THEM OF GENEROUS AND DECENT CARE.

h. AND, IF WE BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE OF AMERICA, WE MUST
SEE THAT MEN AND WOMEN GUIDED BY A SENSE OF VISION AND
FAIRNESS ARE ELECTED TO LEAD OUR NATION.

h. THESE ARE JUST SOME OF OUR VITAL GOALS!

h. FOR MANY REASONS, THE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY

ERODED. h. WE ARE EXPERIENCING A CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE IN
OUR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP UNPRECEDENTED IN MODERN TIMES.

h. ALL OF YOU KNOW THE STING AND THE HURT OF A PRESIDENT
WHO HAS GONE BACK ON HIS WORD ON SIGNING VITAL LEGISLATION --
THE COMMON SITUUS PICKETING BILL -- INTO LAW.!

h. THIS IS NO WAY TO CLOSE THE GAP THAT HAS GROWN TO A
CHASM BETWEEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR WHITE HOUSE.

A MAN THAT IS NOT AS GOOD AS HIS WORD IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH

TO BE YOUR PRESIDENT.

↳ THE TIME IS AT HAND TO USE YOUR ^{vote} ~~INFLUENCE~~ TO ELEVATE

TO PUBLIC OFFICE MEN AND WOMEN WHOSE WORD IS A SACRED

TRUST, WHOSE VISION OF AMERICA INCLUDES YOU AND YOUR

FAMILIES, WHOSE COMMITMENT TO THE WELL BEING OF AMERICA'S

WORKERS IS NOT A SUBJECT FOR PUBLIC DEBATE BUT A MATTER

OF PUBLIC RECORD.

↳ OUR HOPES FOR VICTORY IN NOVEMBER CAN BE REALIZED IF

WE WORK TOGETHER IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

↳ UNITY WILL BRING US MORE THAN VICTORY.

↳ IT WILL BRING US OPPORTUNITY -- OPPORTUNITY TO GOVERN

A NATION WITH COMPASSION AND JUSTICE.

Victory in Vietnam
will get us the -12-

1 OPPORTUNITY TO GET THIS NATION MOVING ONCE AGAIN IN

THE SPIRIT OF ROOSEVELT, TRUMAN, KENNEDY AND JOHNSON.

Victory will give us the

OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICA ONCE MORE TO BE CONFIDENT, and

AND HAPPY -- THIS IS OUR PROMISE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE!

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