

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

FOR CONGRESSMAN JAMES SYMINGTON

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

JULY 23, 1976

Now, a word about Jim Symington.

L You know him. You know him as a friend, a
neighbor, a fellow Missourian, a lawyer, a former
marine, a Democrat for sure and, of course, a
great young congressman.

L Let me tell you how I know Jim Symington.

L I know him as a long-time and close friend.

L I know him as an outstanding public servant in
every sense of the word.

L I know him from the days when he brought common
sense and imagination to the food for peace program
fifteen years ago as its deputy director.

L I KNOW HIM FROM THE ENERGY AND WISDOM HE
DEVOTED TO GOVERNMENT AS BOB KENNEDY'S ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, AND THE
INSIGHTS HE LATER PROVIDED IN JUSTICE ON THE COMPLEX
QUESTIONS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND CRIME.

L AND I KNOW HIM AS THE MAN WHO, ALONG WITH HIS
LOVELY WIFE SYLVIA, GAVE SUCH NEW AND FRESH DIMENSION
TO AMERICAN DIPLOMACY AS CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF THE
UNITED STATES.

L THROUGH THE PERILOUS SIXTIES, JIM'S SERVICE TO
HIS STATE AND COUNTRY SET A HIGH STANDARD, OR I
SHOULD SAY, CONTINUED THE HIGH STANDARD OF SERVICE
MISSOURI AND ALL AMERICA HAD COME TO EXPECT OF THE
SYMINGTON FAMILY.

↳ THOSE OF YOU WHO LIVE IN JIM'S DISTRICT MUST
HAVE HAD THIS AND MUCH MORE IN MIND WHEN, EIGHT
YEARS AGO, YOU GAVE HIM THE GREAT HONOR OF SERVING
YOU IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, ELECTING HIM
FROM A DISTRICT WHICH HAS ALWAYS HAD A DISTURBINGLY
LARGE NUMBER OF REPUBLICANS, AND RE-ELECTING HIM
BY LARGE MAJORITIES THREE MORE TIMES.

↳ AND LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING, MY FRIENDS,
YOU HAVE BEEN WELL-SERVED IN CONGRESS BY JIM SYMINGTON.

L AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE, JIM HAS SERVED YOU WELL,
HELPING TO WRITE, REFINE AND PASS THOSE CRUCIAL
BILLS ON CANCER, HEART, STROKE AND LUNG DISEASE,
HEALTH MANPOWER, BILLS TO GET MORE DOCTORS AND
NURSES FOR AMERICA, THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
BILL, CLEAN AIR AND WATER LEGISLATION, AND KEY BILLS
TO FIGHT DRUG ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM.

Some Record!

L ALL THIS BESIDES HIS WORK AS CHAIRMAN OF THE
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SCIENCE
COMMITTEE, WHERE HE HAS HELPED KEEP OUR GREAT
COUNTRY IN THE FOREFRONT OF WORLD SCIENCE AND EDU-
CATION, AUTHORIZING, MANAGING, PASSING AND EVEN
GETTING PRESIDENT FORD TO SIGN BILLS VITAL TO
AMERICA--THE METRIC BILL, THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTEC-
TION ACT, THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATIONS.

L YES, AND SPEAKING OF FIRE, THAT RARE AND UNUSUAL
BILL HE GOT THROUGH THE HOUSE AND SENATE TO REIMBURSE
MISSOURI FIRE DISTRICTS FOR THE FOUR DAY'S WORK THEY
DID CONTAINING THE GREAT FIRE AT THE MILITARY RECORDS
CENTER IN 1973.

↳ OH, YES, YOU KNOW HIS WORK AS A LEGISLATOR,
AND AN ADVOCATE UNAFRAID TO TACKLE THE BUREAUCRACY,
WHO HAS FOUGHT TO KEEP YOUR AIRPORT, YOUR JOBS,
AND YOUR HOPES. ↳ THAT'S THE MAN HE IS. ↳ NOW, WHAT
SHALL YOU DO WITH HIM? ↳ MUST I TELL YOU? YOU'RE
GOING TO SEND HIM TO THE SENATE, THAT'S WHAT--THE
UNITED STATES SENATE--TO SERVE YOU AND TO KEEP ME
COMPANY!

* * *



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