



news release

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VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY PROPOSES 10-POINT PROGRAM FOR REVITALIZATION OF RURAL AMERICA

Sioux Falls, S. D., September 19 - Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey today proposed a 10-point program of "next steps and new starts in the revitalization of rural America."

Speaking to the Western States Water and Power Consumers Conference, the Vice President said he had "spent a lifetime of public service fighting for rural electrification, fighting for programs that will protect farm and rural people, fighting for the kind of rural America I would like my children and grandchildren to grow up in."

Vice President Humphrey pointed out that net farm income fell by \$3 billion in the "Nixon-Benson" years and has risen by \$3 billion since John F. Kennedy was elected in 1960. Nixon, Vice President Humphrey noted, promises to change the farm program, "but he doesn't say how he'll change it."

The Vice President urged farmers and rural people to find out before November what Nixon would do to farm and rural programs. "What about REA? He (Nixon) was against it all the way in Congress," Vice President Humphrey said.

"It is time to bring agriculture into the mainstream of our American economy -- not a generation from now, not a decade from now, but in the next four years," he said.

He called for cheap and plentiful electricity, representation of agricultural interests at key points in government, a "sizable increase" in Farmers Home Administration lending, tax reform to "remove artificial incentives for the movement of non-farmers into agriculture", permanent enactment of improved farm legislation, stronger farm cooperatives, and greater farm bargaining power.

The text of his speech is attached.

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REMARKS OF
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
WESTERN STATES WATER AND POWER CONSUMERS CONFERENCE
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA
SEPTEMBER 19, 1968

As one who knew South Dakota in the depression and dust storm days of the 1930's, it is a special honor to speak before the Western States Conference. Your championship of water and power development has moved this region -- and indeed all of America -- forward toward a kind of life which we once saw only dimly in our dreams.

Eight years ago a young senator from Massachusetts addressed you at another time of great decision.

Looking back over the 1950's -- when "no new starts" was public policy on resource development ... when Mr. Khrushchev said he would bury us economically...John Kennedy said, "I hope that in the United States in the sixties... no slogan is ever put forward which says no new starts, no movement forward, let us stand still."

John Kennedy got America moving again. We have kept on moving.

-- 478 new starts in watershed projects;

-- 36 new starts by the Bureau of Reclamation;

-- New starts on 494 dams and other structures by the Corps of Engineers.

And we have moved forward on farm income, too -- not nearly as far as we must go ... but far enough to repair some of the Nixon-Benson damage of the 1950's.

Net farm income reached a peak with Harry Truman, and then fell three billion dollars in the next eight years. It is back up three billion since 1960.

1968 finds rural America on the road to revitalization.

Where do we go from here?

Once again we are in a year of great decision, and we find Mr. Nixon in Iowa, claiming to plow a straight furrow with a corn picker ... and promising to change the farm program. But he doesn't say how he'll change it.

Would he change the wheat program? Or would he eliminate the certificates? Or would he repeal it altogether?

Would he change the feed grains program? Would he repeal it?

What about Farmers Home Administration credit. I think we ought to find out before November.

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And what about REA? He was against it all the way in Congress.

Would we have more of the special interest decisions of the 1950's -- the kind that required a private Western States Water and Power Consumers Conference to defend the public interest?

Let him speak out.

I've spent a lifetime of public service fighting for rural electrification ...fighting for programs that will protect farm and rural people...fighting for the kind of rural America I would like my children and grandchildren to grow up in.

Success is in sight. And I am not -- as Adlai Stevenson used to say -- going to let another Republican Administration "snatch defeat from the jaws of victory."

* * *

Today, I want to put before you a ten-point program of next steps and new starts in the revitalization of rural America -- a program addressed to the farmers, . the businessmen, and the families who live in rural America.

First, we must move forward quickly with some ongoing efforts.

This is no time to cut back on the great plains conservation program. It is an investment in soil resources that will be repaid many fold. Funds for it should be restored.

And let's speed up -- not slow down -- the Garrison Dam Project and the Oahe Reservoir.

Today, we have an enormous recreational and economic opportunity in the development of the upper Missouri. Let's put that great resource to work quickly for the people of the Dakotas, Montana and all Americans.

In 1965, we passed a Public Works and Economic Development Act over the opposition of 92 percent of the Republicans in the House. That Act provides for creation of a Regional Development Commission in the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska. The authority is there. Governors Guy and Morrison were for it, but some of their Republican colleagues were not. I say it's time to set it up and get on with the work of Regional Development in this area.

And while I am talking about ongoing efforts, let me pass on to you some good news from Norman Clapp, the Administrator of REA. I have received a most

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encouraging report on the progress of the loan application from Basin Electric Power Cooperative for funds to finance additional generating and transmission facilities.

Negotiations with the Bureau of Reclamation have been completed, the major technical questions have been resolved, and the processing of the loan is moving ahead promptly. The Administrator of REA assures me that the additional facilities are needed, that the basin proposal is essentially sound, and that he will take action on the application at the earliest possible moment.

Second, further modernization of rural America in the 1970's is going to depend even more on cheap and plentiful electricity than it has from the 1930's until now. Jobs...industrial growth...our ability to stem migration to the cities will depend on it.

That means area coverage without exception.

It means more and better facilities for power pooling -- and the full exploitation of atomic energy, in addition to more Federal multi-purpose development.

It is now time to consider construction of more Federal transmission lines to various regions and Federal power projects together. Customers of the private electrical systems, the municipals, the public power districts and the cooperatives will all benefit.

Territorial integrity, of course, should be a hard and fast rule.

As for nuclear power developed with public funds, its benefits must be available to all sectors of the power industry. In atomic energy, as in all other ~~public power generation~~, we must preserve the preference clause for municipalities and cooperatives.

It is in the best interests of all consumers that every electric utility-- large and small...public and private -- participate directly on a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory basis in the ownership, output and operation of nuclear power plants.

Now, for some more good news. Your good friend -- and my good friend -- Albert C. Hauffee of Leola, South Dakota, has agreed to serve as National Chairman for Rural Electric Americans for Humphrey-Muskie. Al Hauffee and his fellow workers are going to carry the Humphrey-Muskie message on REA to every corner of this nation.

Third, it is time to bring agriculture into the mainstream of our American economy: Not a generation from now ... Not a decade from now ... But in the next four years.

Agriculture is America's largest single industry.

It supports more families than any other.

It is basic to the viability of the small towns and cities that dot most of America.

Our farmers are the keystone of Americas economic strength, and food will be a source of enormous export earnings in the 1970's and 1980's.

But today agriculture is still the weakest point in our free enterprise system.

What ails agriculture? We know the problems include low farm prices and inadequate income ... high interest rates and a farm credit shortage ... ever-increasing production costs that take the profit out of farming.

But we must recognize that we do not now have all the answers -- and that no Washington bureaucracy has all the answers either.

So point four in my program for further revitalization of rural America is this: people with a specific background in agriculture must be permanently located at critical points throughout the government.

-- In the Tariff Commission, which deals with quotas and imports and other farm trade problems;

-- In the Council of Economic Advisers, which counsels the President on taxes, balance of payments, and other economic policy questions;

-- In the Budget Bureau, where spending guidelines are established;

-- On the Federal Reserve Board;

-- In the Department of Transportation;

-- And in the National Domestic Policy Council which I would establish in the White House to provide the same coordination and staffing for domestic programs which the National Security Council provides on foreign policy and national defense issues.

If I am elected, farm people will be there, making sure that agriculture gets the attention it deserves -- regularly.

Five, I recommend a sizable increase in Farmers Home Administration lending to ease the farm credit situation. I shall also continue to urge passage of legislation to enable young farmers to finance land purchases over period of up to 40 years.

Six. We must reform the Federal tax structure to remove artificial incentives for the movement of non-farmers into agriculture. These investors now enjoy an unfair tax write-off break which gives them an advantage over independent farmers. Family farmers are efficient enough to compete with anybody, providing the rules are fair. We have an obligation to see that they are.

Seven. For the foreseeable future, American agriculture will need strong public programs to deal with the difficult problems of maintaining reasonable prices and a balance of supply and demand. I want our basic farm programs improved and made permanent, and I want them adequately funded.

Mr. Nixon says he is for a one-year extension. Before November, you ought to find out what he has in mind after that.

No other important sector of our economy has to come back to Congress time after time to get basic legislation renewed. It is time to end this requirement for farmers, too.

Eight. We need strategic reserves of major farm commodities. I favor a program that keeps these reserves at common-sense, clearly-defined levels...one which specifies how and when they can be released so they do not interfere with the market...and one which relies on private inventories for normal business operations.

Nine. We also need stronger farm cooperatives. Farmers continue to face serious price problems, both in buying production items and in marketing commodities. We should expand credit for all farm cooperatives, including the rural electrics, and insist on a more extensive public effort to build and strengthen them.

Ten. Our farmers will not have true parity of income -- or full control over their own economic destinies until they have the right to bargain. They want bargaining power. They should have the opportunity to use it.

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Farm programs provide a floor of support. But they are not a total answer and never will be. I believe, however, that organized farm bargaining does hold the answer to full parity of income for farmers, and I shall do everything in my power to see that they have the right to bargain effectively.

My Friends, consider the options carefully this year.

The quality of life the vast majority of you and your children will enjoy -- the comfort of your homes...the calibre of your schools and hospitals...the strength of your communities -- will be determined by the choices we make this year.

And the choices we make for rural America will affect all America. They will decide whether our cities become more impacted.

... Whether our slums grow worse or start to disappear;

... Whether we put enough resources in the hands of our local police to enable them to do the job we want them to do ... or whether we ask them to fight crime with empty slogans in an atmosphere of increasing hatred and tension.

America today has the resources to guarantee our citizens -- rural and urban -- full economic and social opportunity. We have the know-how.

When peace comes in Vietnam -- and it will come ...

When we find a way to slow down and then reverse the arms race -- and if I am elected, we shall.

... Our opportunities here at home will be even greater.

Will we be in a position to take advantage of those opportunities?

Or will we be led by men who turn their backs on the future and neglect these critical areas of rural development -- and human development generally -- for which they have little understanding and less compassion?

It is going to be a hard race ... But with your help, I mean to win.

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1 SIOUX FALLS COLISEUM
2 SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA
3 SEPTEMBER 19, 1968
4

5 THE HONORABLE VICE-PRESIDENT OF
6 THE UNITED STATES, HUBERT H. HUMPHREY: Thank you
7 very much my dear friend, Senator McGovern. I would not
8 have asked this wonderful audience to expend their
9 applause, but I am afraid we're maybe paying for
10 television time, and I just didn't want to see it go
11 to waste.

12 Thank you my dear friends for
13 your wonderful reception! First, may I pay my
14 respects to Chairman Ed Smith, to all the officers
15 here of the Western States Power-Water and Power
16 Consumers Conference; many of my good friends that
17 have come from Washington, the Assistant Secretary
18 Ken Holum, my friend Bob Partridge and others, of course
19 Senator Burdick of North Dakota. We always like to
20 have somebody from North Dakota come down and see us
21 in South Dakota, and it is a privilege for them.

22 (Applause)

23 And it is a privilege for us. I want to join with
24 Senator McGovern tonight in congratulating Ben Strong
25 in getting that fine award. He surely deserved it.

1 But the gentleman that received the distinguished
2 service award here this evening is the man I should
3 like to pay my respects to for just a moment. He has
4 been kind enough, and Mr. Smith has been kind enough,
5 to mention Bob Chamberlain, the Democratic candidate
6 for Governor, and Frank Denholm, our candidate here
7 for Congress. These are two wonderful gentlemen,
8 they honor your state, they honor this party, they honor
9 you by their willingness to seek public office, and
10 I hope and pray that they may be honored by the majority
11 of this State. The man that means so much to me and
12 so much to you has just introduced me. I've got a
13 deep respect for this country. To pay my respects
14 to George McGovern, I know of no man, no man, that has
15 served more faithfully the people that he has been
16 called upon to represent. I know of no man that is
17 more faithful to the people of the Plains, to the
18 people of agriculture, the small businessmen, the laboring
19 men, the school child, the families of this country.
20 I know of no man who truly and deeply in his heart has
21 the cause of peace, personal peace, and international
22 peace more sincerely held than George McGovern, and I
23 want to call upon the people of this State. No matter
24 what you do for any of the rest of us, I want you to
25 see that the United States Senate is privileged to

1 have him back here again for another term.

2 (Applause)

3 Quite frankly, I haven't the
4 slightest doubt that is what's going to happen. I have
5 looked over the polls out here and I want to say right
6 now just to correct the record, I have got more
7 relatives out here than they gave me credit for in
8 that poll. Of course, I might just as well admit some
9 of them are politically unreliable. I intend to shape
10 them up before too long. But in the meantime, in the
11 meantime, do what I suggested. Do what you ought to
12 do; re-elect---elect---send back to the greatest liberty
13 body in the world, the United States Senate, a man
14 conscious, a man of conviction, a man of courage, and
15 your man and my man, George McGovern.

16 (Applause)

17 Senator McGovern has mentioned
18 my visit today in Boston. It was a wonderful, beautiful
19 day, and we had thousands and thousands and thousands
20 of people on an intersection as far back as a block
21 each way---four ways; a mass of humanity, good people.
22 A few that decided that they had a monopoly on what was
23 right or maybe what was wrong, I am not sure. But
24 let me join with Senator McGovern tonight and say just
25 this, that our freedoms are too precious to be abused

1 by anyone, or to be misused. Freedom of speech is
2 too precious to be denied by Government, or by a mob,
3 or by an angry shouting clack and, freedom of assembly
4 is too precious to ever be denied or abridged by a
5 Government or by a mob, or any group of people that feel
6 that they have to break up that freedom; freedom of vote.
7 To vote is too precious to ever be denied by Government
8 or by a mob or anyone else. My fellow Americans,
9 it's time to blow the whistle on those who would deny
10 the American people a chance to reason together; a
11 chance to think things out. There isn't a problem that
12 this country has that will be settled in anger, in
13 bitterness, in shouting, and there isn't a problem that
14 this country has that can be handled or solved in
15 violence, personal violence, international violence or
16 violence against one another or violence on the streets.
17 I want this fine group of Americans to know that if
18 I am permitted to be the President of the United
19 States, I shall mobilize every resource of the country
20 for the protection of our Democratic rights and, I will
21 never tolerate violence in any form, wherever I can
22 stamp it out or put it out. (Applause) But I grew
23 up out here and I'm proud of it. I've had a few people
24 say possibly, this dulls your vision, I don't think so,
25 I think the clean, fresh air of the Plains gives you a

1 better vision than the smog of some other places---
2 and it's a special honor to speak here in this Western
3 State Conference.

4 Eight years ago a young senator
5 from Massachusetts addressed you at another conference,
6 at another time of great decision, and how well you
7 remember it. And looking back over the '50's, the
8 1950's, when the "No New Starts" was a public policy
9 on resource development, when Mr. Krushchev said that
10 he would bury us economically---I think you remember
11 those days---John Kennedy said these words, "I hope that
12 in the United States in the 1960's no slogan is ever
13 put forward which says 'No New Starts', no movement
14 forward. Let us stand still".

15 Ladies and Gentlemen: Whenever
16 this country gets to a point where we say we're
17 unwilling to start something new, that we're unwilling
18 to move forward, that we ought to stand still or when
19 any candidate, says that, we're in trouble; this is a
20 forward looking country, this is a nation of tomorrow,
21 not of yesterday, and we need leadership in this country
22 at every level, White House, State House, Court House,
23 Congress, Legislature; wherever it is that has an
24 appreciation of the strength of this nation, and under
25 that we must move forward, and John Kennedy got this

1 country moving. We have kept it moving and let me tell
2 you how well it's moved. Four hundred and seventy-eight
3 "New Starts" since 1961 in watershed projects, thirty-six
4 "New Starts" by the Bureau of Reclamation; and "New
5 Starts" on four hundred and ninety-four dams and other
6 structures by the Corps of Engineers. We said we would
7 get this country moving, we said we wouldn't tolerate
8 this false doctrine of "No New Starts" and we kept our
9 word. And believe me, let me tell you, promises made
10 will be promises kept if I am permitted to serve
11 as your President.

12 (Applause)

13 We did a little something else too.
14 I know that things haven't been too good and I am the
15 last man in the world to come out here and say you never
16 had it so good because I know better. I want to tell
17 you something I can remember when we had worse. We had
18 moved forward even on farm income. I can remember
19 that the repair jobs that we had to do after the
20 Nixon-Benson damage of the 1950's net farm income reached
21 a peak with that grand fellow from Independence, Missouri,
22 that great president, Harry Truman. Then it fell three
23 billion dollars in the next year and then back up again
24 three billion dollars since 1960. It's taken us eight
25 years to repair the damage of eight years. Now, my

1 fellow Americans, I don't think you ought to play
2 yo-yo economics with American agriculture. Once you
3 got it going up, I think we ought to keep it going up.
4 (Applause) What are we going to do then from here on
5 out? Well, we're in another year of great decision,
6 just like when John Kennedy addressed you, what do
7 we hear? We find Mr. Nixon down in Iowa claiming to
8 plow a straight row with a corn picker. Now that's a
9 trick if you can do that, that's one I want to see. I
10 will tell you we can put that in the State Fair and get
11 rich. Then he also promised to change the farm program,
12 I heard that before. But I think it would be about
13 time you ask him what changes. Would he change the
14 wheat programs and get rid of the certificates or
15 would he repeal it altogether? What would he do about
16 the feed business program; would he repeal that? What
17 about the Farmers Home Administration Credit Program,
18 would he change that. No, I think we ought to find out
19 some answers before we start putting our ballots in
20 the ballot box. What about REA? He was against it all
21 the way when he served in Congress. Now, I know there
22 are some people that say there is a new Nixon, some
23 people say there is an old Nixon, I don't agree with
24 any of that. What I'm worried about is the real Nixon.
25 (Applause) What I am saying to this audience tonight,

1 let's find out. I'm going to tell you where I stand,
2 and you know where I stand. Let him speak out. Are
3 we going to have some more of that Nixon-Agnew-Benson
4 quackery or are we going to have some real medicine put
5 up along the lines of Humphrey-Muskee-and McGovern?

6 (Applause) Now, I spent a lifetime of public service
7 fighting for these farm programs, fighting for rural
8 electrification, fighting for rural telephones, fighting
9 for the kind of rural America I'd like to have and I'd
10 like my children to have and my grandchildren to grow
11 up in; and success is now in sight, and I am not, as
12 Adlai Stevenson used to say, going to let another
13 Republican administration snatch defeat from the jaws
14 of victory. I am just not going to do it.

15 (Applause.)

16 My fellow Americans I know that people sometimes feel
17 that we indulge in too much partisanship, but we have
18 political parties and we have platforms and we have
19 programs and it's right for us to come to you and speak
20 to you, it's right for all these candidates to come to
21 you and speak to you. You know the record of George
22 McGovern and you know when I served in the Senate with
23 him we voted side by side. You know the record of the
24 man that speaks to you tonight, you know that when the
25 going was tough we were there and you know that when you

1 had few supporters I was there and I knew that you had no
2 other supporters. To the years to come I will be
3 there if you let me be there. (Applause)

4 So tonight I just outlined for
5 you quickly, and I hope meaningful a ten point program
6 of the next steps and of "New Starts", none of this
7 no-go-go-slow-veto stuff, but "New Starts" in the
8 revitalization of rural America. First, this is no
9 time to cut back on the Great Plains Conservation
10 Program. It is an investment in soil resources that
11 you and I know will be paid in many fold, and funds are
12 needed to restore it and I will guarantee this audience
13 right now that to restore those funds we will, if
14 you give me the chance, it will be in the budget and
15 we will go to the Congress and if you keep Burdick
16 there from North Dakota, and McGovern from South Dakota,
17 we will have that program on the road. (Applause)
18 And let me tell you something else, let's speed up
19 not slow down, the Garrison Diversion Project and the
20 Oahe Irrigation unit. Good grief, these are wise
21 investments, I have worked on them all in my public
22 service days, so have these two senators. In fact, you
23 never get a day's peace when you have McGovern and Burdick
24 around. They want everything. They want to get these
25 things done yesterday; not tomorrow and believe me

1 that's when they should have been done and I will
2 guarantee you that we're not going to delay if we
3 get the chance, you help me and I'll help you and
4 we'll get the job done. (Applause)

5 While I am talking about ungoing efforts we know about
6 regional developments, we set up the Regional Development
7 Commission for the Dakota's, Montana, Wyoming and
8 Nebraska, the authority is there. I say it's time to
9 get it moving and get on with the work of regional
10 developments but let me pass on some good news. At least
11 the beginning of good news from Norman Clap, the
12 administrator of REA. I have received a most encouraging
13 report on the progress of the loan applications from
14 Basin Electric Power and Co-operative for funds to
15 finance additional generation and transmission facilities
16 and I want to say to this audience that I begin to call
17 it the McGovern and Burdick Basin Electric. I have never
18 seen anything like it. Senator McGovern and Senator
19 Burdick, they don't even say hello without saying how
20 is the loan application of the Basin Electric Power
21 Co-operative coming along. The negotiations with the
22 Bureau of Reclamation have been completed and major
23 technical questions, which are difficult have been
24 resolved and the process of the loan is moving forward
25 promptly. The administration of REA assures me that

1 the additional facilities are needed, that the Basin
2 proposal is essentially sound and Mr. Clap has assured
3 me that he will take action on this application at
4 the earliest possible moment and I was on the telephone
5 to make sure that that man as soon as humanly possible,
6 and let me tell you if he doesn't get it done, and
7 he better, I am going to use all of my effort and power
8 to get it done. If he doesn't get it done when I sit
9 in the White House it will get done, I want you to know
10 that. (Applause) But, we're not going to have to wait
11 that long, that's what is most important, but I want
12 a little safety valve there because Ed Smith is sitting
13 behind me and a few others and I know what they think
14 about this program and so do I.

15 Now, comes the second thing we need
16 to have more and plenty of electricity for the modernization
17 of rural America. The electrical program of the
18 1930's was for the 30's. What we need now is an
19 electrical program for the 1970's. We need to think
20 about using the REA as the front line and the lead agency
21 in this country for rural development because our REA's
22 in particular have that unique ability in management
23 and finance of technical experts that can be used to
24 develop rural America. This means jobs, this means
25 industrial growth, it means our ability to extend the

1 migration into the cities, we'll depend on it. You
2 know, one of the problems in the cities today is due to
3 the problem in rural America. The way you stop a flood
4 is not to build a higher dike downstream, the way to
5 stop a flood is to get up and do something about the water
6 shed upstreams and the way to stop the urban crisis is
7 to do something to make modern rural America better;
8 to make it a place where young people want to live;
9 to make it a place where the next one hundred million
10 Americans can come to live and live a good life and
11 that's what we intend to do. (Applause)

12 Let me just say a little more about this electrical energy
13 development, what I am talking about is area coverage
14 without exception and it means better and better
15 facilities for cooling power and a full exploitation of
16 atomic energy in addition to more Federal multi-purpose
17 developments. I think it's now time to consider the
18 construction of more Federal transmission lines to make
19 various regions and Federal power projects together.
20 Customers of private electrical systems, the municipal,
21 the public power districts and co-operatives will all
22 benefit. No one is hurt by these programs, this is an
23 investment in what Senator McGovern said is a better
24 America. What better thing can you do for this world
25 than to fulfill what Abraham Lincoln once said to this

1 nation by making it a better America he said, this is
2 the last best hope of earth and he was a prophet in
3 his time and he was right so let's make this last
4 best hope of earth better and better and better and
5 what we're talking about in this conference is just
6 to make America better. Not somebody particularly
7 richer, no special interest but to make America, every
8 American just a little better. (Applause) Then there
9 is this matter of what our friends in the power industry
10 know REA and public power and private power people know
11 is territorial integrity that should be a hard and fast
12 rule. As for nuclear power developed with public funds,
13 its benefits must be available to all sectors in the power
14 industry. In atomic energy as in all other public
15 power generations, we must preserve the preference clause
16 for municipalities and co-operatives and that will be
17 the policy of the Humphrey-Muskee administration, no doubt
18 about it. (Applause) It is in the best interest of
19 all of the consumers that every electrical utility,
20 large and small, public and private, participate
21 directly on a fair and reasonable nondistributory
22 basis in the ownership, the output and the operation
23 of a nuclear power plant. A great new source of energy.

24 Now, thirdly, I think it's time
25 to bring agriculture into the mainstream of American

1 economy. In fact, we're about fifty years late. Not
2 a generation from now, not a decade from now, but in
3 the next four years. I have been fighting for this all
4 my life and now I have my chance, and you have your
5 chance, Ladies and Gentlemen, that at least you have
6 a man standing for the office of president that comes
7 for you that is one of you that has lived with you,
8 worked with you, fought with you, suffered with you,
9 was defeated with you and enjoyed victory with you.
10 Let's not miss this opportunity to do what you and I
11 have been wanting to do all of our lives. Let's
12 get this job done. I want to serve you and I think
13 I will. (Applause) And I know that you don't
14 plow a straight furrow with a corn picker. (Applause)
15 I also know that agriculture is America's largest
16 single industry. I know it supports more families than
17 any others. I know it is basically the viability and
18 indeed the vitality of the small towns and cities that
19 dot most of Ameica. I wish the candidates of the
20 opposition were as important in the prosperity of the
21 towns of America as they are in seeing that we have
22 more jails, more penitentiaries, and more policemen.
23 I am for law enforcement; I am for law and order, but
24 I would like to have a little law and order and law
25 enforcement along with a little prosperity, if you

1 don't mind, I think it would help. (Applause)
2 Our farmers are the keystones of America's economic
3 strength and I know it, and you know it, and food will
4 be the source of enormous export earnings through the
5 1970's and 1980's, but I also know that agriculture
6 is still the weakest point in our free enterprise
7 system. What ails it? Well, it's hard to know, we know
8 the problems include low farm prices, that is where
9 you start and inadequate income. We know the problem
10 is also high interest rates and a farm credit shortage.
11 We know it's also increasing production costs, literally
12 squeezing the profits out of the farm. We know all
13 of these things. We can do something about every one
14 of them. I have had people say well, when are you
15 going to speak out, Mr. Vice-President. Well, let me
16 tell you I am speaking out tonight, I have talked about
17 a new day in this country, but I want you to know
18 there is going to be a new and better day for the farm
19 family of America and the rural America when I become
20 your president because I have been born and brought up
21 here and I know what rural America needs. (Applause)
22 Our farm people are not going to sit in the back row,
23 they're going to be up front, you wait and see. I
24 can tell my friend, Tony DeShan sitting over here
25 if things work out as I hope they will you will be

1 sitting as close to the inaugeral stand of the president
2 of the United States as you're sitting to a candidate
3 right now. (Applause) But, Tony, if they don't, don't
4 make the trip.

5 Now, point four in my program for
6 the revision of rural America is this. People with
7 a specific knowledge and background with agriculture
8 must be permanently located at critical points throughout
9 the Government. Now, some of us know there is no use
10 of having folks in the bleachers, they don't win the
11 games, they don't call the plays, you have to have them
12 down with the team and where are those points of
13 decision that effect American agriculture. Well,
14 in the Tariff Commission which deals with quotas
15 and imports and other farm trade problems. The Council
16 of Economic Advisors which advise the president on
17 taxes and balance of payments and other policy questions.
18 The Bureau of Budget where the spending guidelines are
19 established and do you need somebody there on the
20 Federal Reserve Board where the interest rates are
21 established in the Department of Transportation that
22 has a great deal to do about how you're going to get
23 your goods to market. And in the National Domestic
24 Policy Council that I intend to establish when I
25 become your President to co-ordinate all of these

1 civilian domestic peace-time programs. If I am
2 elected, farm people will not be there, not as guests,
3 not as onlookers, but they will be there making sure
4 that the agriculture gets the attention it deserves and
5 gets it everyday, that's the only way to have it. (Applause)

6 Now, fifthly, I want to recommend
7 a sizeable increase to the Farmers Home Administration,
8 lending to ease farm credit. You know we need that,
9 I shall always continue to urge passage of legislation
10 to enable young farmers to finance land of periods up
11 to forty years.

12 Six, we must reform the Federal
13 Tax structure to remove artificial incentive for the
14 movement of nonfarmers into agriculture as a tax haven.
15 In fact, that whole tax structure needs renovation
16 and it will get it, make no mistake about it, I will
17 be back to talk to you about it, I think I know a little
18 bit about it. I fought this tax structure once before.
19 These investors that I speak of now join in unfair tax
20 bylaws that have the advantage over the independent
21 farmer, it's not right, it's wrong. If it's wrong we
22 ought to get rid of it and I pledge to you I will
23 get rid of it. (Applause)

24 Seven, we need our basic farm
25 programs, we need the improvements made permanent.

1 I noticed today the Conference Committee, Senator
2 McGovern, just agreed on a one year extension, what
3 a pity, what a pity! Mr. Nixon said he would go for
4 a one year extension, what a pity. I know what that
5 means; that means we've got to start our fight for
6 agriculture all over again next year. We have got to
7 go through the same routine we have before and some
8 of you remember we passed that bill three times before
9 we could get it through both Houses. Ladies and
10 Gentlemen: you have got a fight on your hands, this isn't
11 my fight, let me tell you dear friends, it isn't so
12 terribly important that I become your president except
13 that I represent your fight. And when people attack
14 these programs that we're talking about, they're not
15 attacking me, they're attacking you. We're in this
16 battle together and mark my words if we lose this
17 election, Edward Taft Benson will look like a social
18 worker compared to what you will get. (Applause) Boy!
19 What a social worker he was. He did more to advance
20 the cause of poverty than any single man and we have
21 had a war on it ever since. (Applause.)

22 I can still see those scenes, the Republican nominee
23 for President now walking arm in arm coming into the
24 joint meeting of the Congress with that stahl word,
25 defender of backward movement and rural poverty as

1 Edward Taft Benson. Well, my dear friends, now you
2 listen to these names if you think you're going to
3 get any comfort you know the record as well as I do,
4 you know it better, if you think you're going to get
5 any comfort out of Nixon-Agnew and Benson, then
6 you have been drinking something that I haven't.

7 (Applause)

8 Eight, we need strategic reserves,
9 major farm commodities, and I favor a program that
10 keeps these reserves and common sense on a clearly defined
11 level and one that specifies how and when they can be
12 released so they do not interfere with the market. If
13 I am permitted to be your President, we're not going
14 to let something happen like has happened. When the price
15 of corn dropped a little or when another price got up
16 a little somebody dumped something in the market, not
17 on your life! The farmer is entitled since he has
18 to take a lot of bumps, he's entitled occasionally to
19 get to the sky once in a while to see what it looks
20 like around there. And I believe we should let
21 that market--- (Applause) I believe we should let that
22 market rise. Let me lay it on the line again and
23 we're here in the view of the whole nation, there isn't
24 any reason at all why the American farmer has to subsidize
25 the rest of the nation, it's time for the American farmer

1 to get his fair share of the great rewards of this
2 economy and it's a pity that he hasn't had it. (Applause)
3 He's not going to get it unless we get point number
4 nine.

5 He needs stronger farm co-operatives,
6 farmers continue to face serious price problems, both
7 in buying products, items and market the commodities
8 as we have and expand the credit for all farm co-operatives
9 including rural electrics. I want you to know that
10 I understand the necessity of supplemental financing.
11 I have already addressed myself to the REA people
12 on this and I also understand the necessity of having
13 an REA administration that appreciates that this
14 is 1970, not 1940, and that we have things to do.
15 So we need to build our farm co-operatives and you can't
16 build them out of promises, you build them out of credit
17 and you build them out of an administration if you
18 please, that will protect them and defend them. I
19 remember what we had in the '50's, I remember when
20 they wanted to tax you out of existence, I remember
21 and I hope you do and may I say to the mothers and
22 fathers, if your children haven't been told about it,
23 you better tell them if they're going to live on a
24 farm because if they get an administration that is
25 unfriendly to the farm co-operative you haven't got a

1 prayer and you know it. (Applause)

2 And then my final point, our farmers
3 will never have and, I repeat, never have true parity
4 of income or full control over their economic destinies
5 until they have what the rest of this economy has, what
6 business has, and what laborers have and what everyone
7 has from a schoolteacher, to a doctor, to a dentist,
8 to a lawyer, or a working man, until they have the
9 right to bargain in the market place for a better
10 price. (Applause) They want this right and they shall
11 have it, that is if you get somebody that is willing
12 to support it. Farm programs provide only a floor
13 of support, no one will ever get rich off a farm program,
14 that's a minimum, they are not the total answer. They
15 never intended to be. I believe, however, that organized
16 farm bargaining, strengthening our co-operatives,
17 adequate credit does hold the answer to full parity
18 of income of our farmers and I shall do everything if
19 I am the President of the United States; everything
20 in my power to see that they have the right to bargain
21 and effectively, so that they can do something about
22 their income and their prices. (Applause)

23 Finally, my friends, America today does have the
24 resources guarantee our citizens rural and urban full
25 and equal social opportunity, there was a time that

1 we talked only of social security, that's not good
2 enough anymore. Dear friends, now we must have
3 opportunity and not just for some, but for everybody.
4 It's the time that we're going to decide whether your
5 citizens become more impacted; whether our slums
6 grow worse or start to disappear; whether we put enough
7 resources into the hands of our local police to enable
8 them to do the job we want them to do, whether we ask
9 them to fight crime against slogans and opportunities
10 seeking hatred and vengeance, yes America has the
11 resources if it has the will; if it has the leadership,
12 I know we have the knowhow. And when peace comes in
13 Viet Nam and it will come, and my dear friends, it is
14 no secret to you (Applause)---It is no secret to you
15 that my life has been one that has been dedicated to
16 the works of peace, the Peace Corps, the Nuclear Test
17 Ban Treaty, Food for Peace, The Disarmament Agency,
18 the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, these are the
19 hallmarks of a career. Ladies and Gentlemen: I took
20 as a top item on my agenda when I become your President
21 on January 20, 1969, I put it at the top of the list
22 to find a way to end this war and to make this country
23 once again united---(Applause)---Thank you. Thank you
24 very much, my friends, you have given me your answer.
25 I have given you my commitment, I know that the days

1 ahead are difficult, I am fully aware of the problems
2 that we face, I am very aware of the difficulties of
3 this campaign, but I say to you tonight that whatever
4 we will to do we can do, there has never been anything
5 that we couldn't do if we had our minds to the task.
6 Some people have said that doing the impossible is
7 impossible. I say to you that doing what some people
8 think is impossible, is what makes you great. I think
9 there is a basic goodness of this country, and I
10 think there is a basic greatness. That goodness will
11 come to the forefront when a leader calls it and
12 that greatness will come to the forefront when a
13 leader asks for it and Ladies and Gentlemen, tonight
14 I ask you to join me in the revival of the goodness
15 of the nation and I ask you to join in the rebirth of
16 the greatness of this nation and together we can get
17 the job done, thank you!

1
2 Coliseum Speech, Sioux Falls, S.D.
September 19, 1968

3 Vice President Humphrey. I just want to say that I
4 am highly honored to tender this distinguished service
5 award to a man who is distinguished, to a man whose whole
6 life has been dedicated to service; that is your Senator,
7 Senator George McGovern.

8 Senator McGovern. Thank you very much, Mr. Cochran,
9 Mr. Smith, my colleague in the Senate, Senator Burdick
10 of North Dakota, who is with us tonight, the candidate
11 for Congress, Mr. Frank Denholm, the candidate for Governor,
12 Mr. Robert Chamberlain, and other distinguished guests, ladies
13 and gentlemen.

14 Let me take just a moment before I present the Vice
15 President, who is our speaker for tonight, to express my
16 very deep appreciation for the award that your Association
17 has just presented to me. I understand before I came into
18 the auditorium tonight that my legislative assistant, during
19 the nearly six years I have served in the U.S. Senate, MMr.
20 Ben Stong, was also given an award, the George W. Norris
21 award. I have the feeling that if Senator Norris were here
22 tonight, he would applaud that decision, because I think
23 perhaps I, better than anyone else here, have been in a
24 position in recent years to appreciate the enormous contri-
25 bution that Ben Stong has made to the cause of conservation
and resource development, not only during the years he spent
with me as my chief adviser on legislative matters, but also
during a long lifetime of devotion to the cause of conserva-
tion and the peaceful development of our country.

16 I am very pleased, too, with the recognition you have
17 brought to me tonight in this award. It adds a special note
18 when it comes from the hands of Clay Cochran, and especially
19 from the Vice President of the United States, who also have
20 given their public careers and their lives to the cause of a
21 better America.

22 So I thank you from the very depth of my being for
23 this recognition of our common interest in the constructive
24 development of the resources of this beautiful and great
25 country of ours that we all love and that we all cherish.

26 Now, it is my privilege to present an old friend, a
27 neighbor of mine in Chevy Chase, Maryland, for nearly all of
28 the years that I have been privileged to serve in Washington,
29 D.C. He moved up town after he became Vice President, but we
30 have continued our friendship and our association over the
31 years. Both of us have remembered our common origin in the
32 soil of South Dakota and the friends and acquaintances that
33 we have in this part of the rural heart land of America.

34 I want to say that it is with great pride that I give
35 my endorsement and that of many of my colleagues in the
U.S. Senate -- Senator Kennedy, who introduced the Vice Presiden

1 in Boston early today; Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, who
2 spoke briefly at the airport a couple of hours ago and
3 added his warm support to the Vice President, Senator Burdick,
4 who shares this stage with me, and many other members of the
5 U.S. Senate and the Congress who are doing what they can to
6 see that Hubert Humphrey becomes the next President of the
7 United States.

8 (Applause)

9 Senator McGovern. We do that not because he has asked
10 us to support him one hundred percent on every single question
11 that comes before the country, but because we believe that
12 better than any other candidate seeking the presidency this
13 year, he is the man who offers this country the best hope for
14 peace abroad and for progress and development here at home.

15 (Applause)

16 Senator McGovern. I think the Vice President meets
17 the four criteria that I have in my own mind of what a great
18 President ought to embody in his own presidency and his candi-
19 dacy. He ought to be a man who can communicate with the
20 American people. What an important quality that is. At a
21 time when there is so much trouble and frustration in this
22 great country of ours, how important it is to have a man who
23 speaks with a clear tongue, who in the words of Time Magazine,
24 speaking about Mr. Humphrey years ago, says that he has the
25 best coordination of mind and tongue of any man in public
life today, and that we endorse.

This morning, he spoke in one of our great cities, stand-
ing with Senator Kennedy of Boston, and they were heckled,
they were booed by ill-mannered people who don't understand
what the American political process is all about, and who
do not understand that we ought to be able to have honest
differences among ourselves and still treat each other with
respect and still give the other man a chance to a respectful
and decent hearing. Yet in spite of that, I am told by the
press who is traveling with the Vice President that he handled
the situation beautifully. His capacity to communicate broke
through even that very difficult situation and he made one
of the greatest speeches that he has made in the campaign to
date.

I want to tell the Vice President that here in South
Dakota, he is not going to be heckled, he is not going to be
booed. I can't promise him one hundred percent of the vote
in this state, but I can tell him that everybody in this state

1 but I can tell him that everybody in this state and in this
2 part of the country respects him and we want him to have a
3 hearing and we want his voice to be heard in this very important
4 election. So he has the capacity to communicate and he has,
5 secondly, the quality of compassion that is so important in
6 the next President of the United States.

7 This is a man with peace in his soul and good will in
8 his heart and warmth in his spirit. I know him as a neighbor
9 and friend; I know his love for children and the old people
10 of this country, for all the citizens of this land, and I know
11 something about the warmth and the compassion and the dreams
12 that he has for this great country of ours.

13 Then the next President must have a sense of history. By
14 that, I mean he must know what it is that is important, what
15 it is that is worth giving priority to. And that is the theme
16 of this conference, that is worth giving the great power of
17 the presidency to for moving our country ahead here at home
18 and restoring peace abroad.

19 Finally, the next President of the United States must
20 have what Hubert Humphrey has, and that is the capacity not to
21 appeal to our fears and our frustrations and our anxieties
22 and our basic instincts which we all have. But we must have
23 a man in this most exalted of all offices who draws on the
24 best that is within us, who draws on our dreams, our ideals
25 and our hopes and our aspirations for a better life. That
is the test of political leadership, the capacity to draw upon
the best that is in the American people.

We are a great people. We do not always show the best
side of our nature, but we are more apt to show it when we
have a man in the White House who is inspiring those best
ideals that we hold most dear in this country. It is on that
basis that I am proud to stand on this stage tonight with an
old friend, with a man we all know in this part of the country,
the Vice President of the United States, and I think the next
President of the United States, Hubert Humphrey.

(Applause)

Vice President Humphrey. Thank you very much, my dear
friend, Senator McGovern. I would not have asked this wonder-
ful audience to suspend their applause, but I am afraid we are
maybe paying for television time and I did not want to see it
go to waste.

Thank you, my dear friends, for your wonderful reception.

First may I pay my respects to Chairman Smith, to all the

1 officers here in the Western States Water and Power Consumers
2 Conference, to many of my good friends who have come from
3 Washington -- Assistant Secretary Ken Holum, my friend, Bob
4 Partridge, and others, and of course, to Senator Burdick from
5 North Dakota. We always like to have somebody from North
6 Dakota come down to see us in South Dakota. It is a privilege
7 for them.

8 (Applause)

9 Vice President Humphrey. And, it is a privilege for us.

10 I, too, want to join with Senator McGovern tonight in
11 congratulating Ben Stong for getting that fine award. He
12 surely deserves it.

13 But the gentleman who received the distinguished service
14 award here this evening is the man that I should like to pay
15 my respects to for just a moment. He has been kind enough
16 and Mr. Smith has been kind enough to mention John Chamberlain,
17 Democratic candidate for Governor, Fred Denholm, our candidate
18 here for Congress. These are two wonderful gentlemen. They
19 honor this State, they honor this party, they honor you by
20 their willingness to seek public office, and I hope and pray
21 that they may be honored by the majority of this state.

22 But the man who means so much to me and so much to you
23 has just introduced me. I have gone the length and breadth
24 of this country to pay my respects to Senator McGovern. I
25 know of no man, no man, that has served more faithfully the
people that he has been called upon to represent. I know of
no man that is more faithful to the people of the plains, the
people of agriculture, the small businessman, the laboring
man, the school child, the family of this country. I know
of no man who truly and deeply, in his heart, has the
cause of peace -- personal peace, inner peace, national peace,
and international peace -- more sincerely held than George
McGovern. And I want to call upon the people of this state,
no matter what you do for the rest of us, I want you to see
that it is the U.S. Senate's privilege to have him back there
again for another term.

26 (Applause)

27 Vice President Humphrey. Quite frankly, I have not the
28 slightest doubt that that is what is going to happen. I have
29 looked over the polls out here and I want to say right now,
30 just to correct the record, I have more relatives out here than
31 they gave me credit for in the polls. Of course, I might
32 just as well admit it, some of them are politically unreliable,
33 and they may have slipped, but I intend to shape them up before
34 too long. In the meantime, do what I have suggested, do what

1 you ought to do, re-elect, elect, send back to the greatest
2 deliberative body in the world, the U.S. Senate, a man of
3 conscience, a man of conviction, a man of courage, and your man
4 and my friend, George McGovern, the best that we have.

5 (Applause)

6 Vice President Humphrey. Senator McGovern has mentioned
7 my visit today to Boston. It was a wonderful, beautiful day.
8 We had thousands and thousands and thousands of people on an
9 intersection as far back as a block each way, four ways, a
10 mass of humanity -- good people, a few that decided that they
11 had a monopoly on what was right, or what was wrong. I am not
12 sure. But let me join with Senator McGovern tonight, saying
13 just this, that our freedoms are too precious to be abused by
14 anyone; freedom of speech is too precious to be denied by
15 government or by a mob or by an angry, shouting clique. Freedom
16 of assembly is too precious to ever be denied or abridged by
17 a government or by a mob or any group of people that feel
18 that they have to break up that freedom of assembly. And free-
19 dom to vote is too precious to ever be denied by a government,
20 by a mob, or anyone else.

21 My fellow Americans, it is time to blow the whistle on
22 those who would deny the American people a chance to reason
23 together, a chance to think things out. There is not a problem
24 that this country has that will be settled in anger and
25 hatred, in bitterness and shouting, and there is not a problem
26 that this country has that can be handled or solved by violence
27 -- personal violence, international violence, or violence
28 against one another or violence on the streets. And I want
29 this fine group of Americans to know that if I am permitted
30 to be President of the United States, I shall mobilize every
31 resource of this country for the protection of our Democratic
32 rights and I will never tolerate violence in any form wherever
33 I can stamp it out or put it out.

34 (Applause)

35 Vice President Humphrey. I grew up out here and I am
36 proud of it. I have had a few people say that possibly this
37 dulls your vision. I don't think so. I think that the clean
38 fresh air of the plains gives you a better vision than the smog
39 of some other places. And it is a special honor to me here
40 at this Western States Conference. Eight years ago, a young
41 Senator from Massachusetts addressed you at another time of
42 great decision. And how well you remember it.

43 And looking back over the 50's, the 1950's, when the "no
44 new starts" was a public policy on resource development, when
45 Mr. Khrushchev said that he would bury us economically -- I

1 think you remember those days -- John Kennedy said these
words: "I hope that in the (United States) sixties no slogan
2 is ever put forward which says no new starts, no movement
forward, let us stand still."

3
4 Ladies and gentlemen, whenever this country gets to a
point where we say that we are unwilling to start something
new, that we are unwilling to move forward, that we ought to
5 stand still, or when any candidate says that, we are in
trouble. This is a forward-looking country. This is a nation
6 of tomorrow, not of yesterday. We need leadership in this
country at every level -- White House, State House, Courthouse,
7 Congress, legislature -- wherever it is that has an appreciation
of the strength of this nation and understands that we must
8 move forward.

9 John Kennedy got this country moving and we have kept it
moving. Let me tell you how well it has moved. 478 new starts
10 since 1961 in water shed projects. 36 new starts by the Bureau
of Reclamation; new starts on 494 dams and other structures
11 by the Corps of Engineers.

12 We said we would get this country moving, we said we
would not tolerate this false doctrine of no new starts
13 and we have kept our words. And believe me, let me tell KM
you that promises made will be promises kept if I am permitted
14 to serve you as your President.

15 (Applause)

16 Vice President Humphrey. We did a little something else,
too. I know that things have not been too good and I am the
17 last man in the world to come out here and say you never had
it so good, because I know better. But I want to tell you
18 I can remember when we had it worse. We moved forward even
on farm income. I remember. I can remember that repair
19 job that we had to do after the Nixon-Benson damage of the
1950's. Net farm income reached a peak with that grand fellow
20 from ~~XXXXXX~~ Independence, Missouri, that great President
Harry Truman, and then it fell \$3 billion in the next eight
21 years. And it has been back up again \$3 billion since 1960.
It has taken us eight years to repair the damage of eight years.

22 Now, my fellow Americans, I don't think we ought to play
23 yo-yo economics with American agriculture. Once you have got
it going up, I think we ought to keep it going up.

24 (Applause)

25 Vice President Humphrey. But what are we going to do then
from here on out? Well, we are in another year of great
decision, just like when John Kennedy addressed you.

1 What do we hear? Well, we find Mr. Nixon down in Iowa
2 claiming to plow a straight furrow with a corn picker. Now,
3 that is a trick, that one. That is one I want to see. I
4 tell you, we can put that in the state fairs and get rich.

5 And then he also promised to change the farm program. I
6 heard that before. Well, I think it would be about time that
7 you ask him what changes?

8 Do we change the wheat program and get rid of the cer-
9 tificates, or would he repeal it altogether?

10 What would he do about the feed grains program? Will
11 he repeal that? What about the Farmers Home Administration
12 Credit program? Will he change that?

13 I think we ought to find out some answers before we
14 start putting our ~~XXXX~~ ballot in the ballot box.

15 What about REA? He was against it all the way when he
16 served in Congress. Now, I know there are some people who say
17 there is a new Nixon, some people say there is an old Nixon. I
18 don't agree with any of that. What I am worried about is the
19 real Nixon. I don't (think we want him).

20 (Applause)

21 Vice President Humphrey. So I am saying to this audience
22 tonight, let's find out. I am telling you where I stand and
23 you know where I stand. Let him speak out. Are we going to
24 have more of that Nixon-Agnew-Benson quackery, or are we
25 going to have some real medicine, put up along the lines of
Humphrey-Muskie-McGovern? I think that is the question.

 (Applause)

 Vice President Humphrey. I have spent a lifetime of
of public service fighting for these farm programs, fighting
for rural electrification, fighting for rural telephones,
fighting for the kind of rural America I would like to have
and I would like my children to have and my grandchildren to
grow up in. And success is now in sight.. And I am not, as
Adlai Stevenson used to say, going to let another Republican
Administration snatch defeat from the jaws of victory." I am
just not going to do it.

 (Applause)

 Vice President Humphrey. Oh, my fellow Americans, I
know that people sometimes think we indulge in too much parti-
sanship, but we have political parties and we have platforms

1 and we have programs and it is right for me to come to you and
2 speak out. It is right for all these candidates to come to
3 you and speak out to you. You know the record of George
4 McGovern and you know that when I served in the Senate with
5 him, we voted side by side. You know the record of the man
6 that speaks to you tonight. You know that when the going
7 was tough, we were there. And you know when we had few
8 supporters, I was there. And you know that when you have
9 no other supporters in the years to come, I will be there if
10 you let me be there.

11 (Applause)

12 Vice President Humphrey. So tonight I will just outline
13 for you, quickly and I hope meaningfully, a ten-point program
14 of next steps and of new starts. None of this no-go, go-slow,
15 veto stuff, but new starts in the revitalization of rural
16 America.

17 First, this is no time to cut back on the Great Plains
18 Conservation program. It is an investment in soil-resources
19 that you and I know will repay ~~his~~ many fold and funds are
20 needed to restore it. And I will guarantee this audience
21 right now that restore those funds we will, if you give me the
22 chance. It will be in the budget and will go to the Congress
23 and if you keep Burdick there from North Dakota and McGovern
24 from South Dakota, we will have that program on the road.

25 (Applause)

26 Vice President Humphrey. And let me tell you something
27 else: Let's speed up, not slow down the Garrison Diversion
28 program and the Oahe Irrigation unit. Good grief, these are
29 wise investments. I worked on them all my public service
30 days and saw these two Senators -- in fact, you never get
31 a day's peace when you have McGovern and Burdick around you.
32 They want everything. They want to get these things done
33 yesterday, not tomorrow. And believe me, that is when they should
34 have been done, and I will guarantee you that we are not going
35 to delay. If we get the chance, you help me and I will help you
and we will get the job done.

(Applause)

23 Vice President Humphrey. While I am talking about on-going
24 efforts, we know about regional development and we set up a
25 regional development commission for the Dakotas, Montana,
Wyoming and Nebraska. The authority is there. I say it is time
to get it moving and get on with the work of regional development.

1 But let me past on some good news -- at least the
2 beginning of good news from Norman Clapp, the Administrator
3 of REA. I have received a most encouraging report on the
4 progress of the loan application from Basin Electric Power
5 Cooperative for funds to finance additional generating and
6 transmission facilities. I want to say to this audience that
7 I began to call McGovern and Burdick "Basin," Basin Electric,
8 I have never seen anything like it. Senator McGovern and Senator
9 Burdick, they don't even say hello without saying how is the
10 loan application for the Basin Electric Power Cooperative coming
11 along?

12 Well, negotiations with the Bureau of Reclamation have
13 been completed and major technical questions which are difficult
14 have been resolved and the processing of the laon is moving
15 forward promptly. The Administrator of REA assures me that the
16 additional facilities are needed, that the Basin proposal is
17 essentially sound. Mr. Clapp has assured me that he will
18 take action on this application at the earliest possible
19 moment, and I was on the telephone to make sure that that
20 meant as soon as humanly possible.

21 And let me tell you that if he does not get it done, and
22 he had better, I am going to use all my effort and power to
23 get it done. If he does not get it done, when I sit in the
24 White House, it will get done. I want you to know that.

25 (Applause)

26 Vice President Humphrey. But we are not going to have
27 to wait that long. That is what is most important, but I
28 wanted a little safety bell there, because Ed Smith was standing
29 there, or sitting behind me, and a few others, and I know
30 what they think about this program, and so do I.

31 What is the second thing we need to do? We need to have
32 more and more plentiful and cheap electricity for the
33 modernization of rural America. The electrical program of the
34 30's was for the 30's. What we need now is an electrical
35 program for the 70's. We need to think about using the REA
36 as the front line, as the lead agency for this country for
37 rural development, because our REA's, in particular, have had
38 the ability and management and finance and the technical
39 ability to develop rural America. This means jobs, it means
40 industrial growth, it means our ability to stem the migration
41 into the cities will depend upon it.

42 You know, much of the problem in the cities today is
43 due to the problem of rural America. The way you stop a flood
44 is not to build a higher dyke downstream. The way to stop a
45 flood is to get up and do something about the watershed upstream

1 The way to stop the urban crisis is to find a way to make rural
2 America better, to make it a place young Americans want to
3 live, to make it a place where one hundred million Americans
4 want to live and come to live a good life. That is what we
5 need to do.

6 (Applause)

7 Vice President Humphrey. Let me say just a little more
8 about this electrical energy development. What I am talking
9 about is area coverage without exception. It means better
10 and better facilities for pooling power and the full exploita-
11 tion of atomic energy, in addition to more federal multi-
12 purpose development.

13 I think it is now time to consider the construction of
14 more federal transmission lines to link various regions and
15 federal power projects together. Customers of the private
16 power systems, the municipals, the public power districts,
17 and cooperatives will all benefit.

18 This is an investment in what Senator McGovern said is
19 a better America. And what better thing can you do for this
20 world than to fulfill what Abraham Lincoln once said of this
21 nation by making it a better America? He said this was the last
22 best hope of earth and he was a prophet-of-his-time- prophet
23 of his time and he was right. So let's make this last best
24 hope of earth better and better. What we want to do is make
25 America better -- not make somebody in particular richer, no
special interest, but just to make America a little better,
just a little better.

17 (Applause)

18 Vice President Humphrey. Then there is this matter of what
19 our friends in the power industry know, our REA and public and
20 private power people know, this territorial integrity. That
21 should be a hard and fast rule.

22 As for nuclear power development with public funds, its
23 benefit must be available to all sectors of the power industry.
24 In atomic energy as in all other public power generation, we
25 must preserve the preference clause for municipalities and
cooperatives. That will be the policy of the Humphrey-Muskie
administration, no doubt about it.

24 (Applause)

25 Vice President Humphrey. It is in the best interest of all
the consumers that every electrical utility, large and small,
public and private, participate directly on a fair, reasonable,
and non-discriminatory basis in the ownership, the output and

1 the operation of nuclear power plants, that great new source
2 of energy.

3 Now, thirdly, I think it is time to bring agriculture in-
4 to the mainstream of the American economy -- in fact, we are
5 about 50 years late -- not a generation from now; not a decade
6 from now, but in the next four years.

7 I have been fighting for this all my life and now I have
8 my chance and you have your chance, ladies and gentlemen. At
9 last you have a man standing for the office of the presidency
10 that comes from you, that is one of you, that has lived with
11 you, worked with you, fought with you, suffered defeat with
12 you and enjoyed victory with you. Let's not miss this oppor-
13 tunity to do what you and I have been wanting to do all of
14 our lives. Let's get this job done. I want to serve you and
15 I think we can do it together.

16 (Applause)

17 Vice President Humphrey. And I know that you don't plow
18 a straight furrow with a corn picker.

19 (Applause)

20 Vice President Humphrey. I also know that agriculture
21 is America's largest single industry. I know that it supports
22 more families than any other. I know that it is basic to the
23 viability and indeed to the vitality of the small towns and
24 cities that dot most of America.

25 I wish the candidates of the opposition were as interested
in the prosperity of the towns of America as they are in
seeing that we have more jails, more penitentiaries and more
policemen. I am for law enforcement, I am for law and order,
but I would like to have a little law and order and a little
enforcement along with a little prosperity, if you don't mind.
I think it would help.

(Applause)

26 Vice President Humphrey. Our farmers are the keystone
27 of America's economic strength and I know it and you know it.
28 Food will be a source of enormous export earnings in the
29 1970's and 1980's. But I also know that agriculture is still
30 the weakest point in our free enterprise system.

31 What ails it? Well, it is hard to know. We know the
32 problems include low farm prices -- and that is where you
33 start -- and inadequate income. We know the problem is also
34 high interest rates and a farm credit shortage. And we know

1
2 it is also increasing production costs that literally squeeze
3 the profit out of farming. And we know that all of these
4 things we can do something about, every one of them.

5
6 I have heard people say, well, when are you going to speak
7 out, Mr. Vice President? Well, let me tell you, I speak out
8 tonight. I have talked about a new day in the country. Well,
9 I want you to know that there is going to be a new and a
10 better day for the farm families of America and for rural
11 America when I become your President, because I have been born
12 and brought up here and I know what rural America needs.

13 (Applause)

14 Vice President Humphrey. And our farm people are not going
15 to sit in the back row. They are going to be up front. You
16 wait and see.

17 I can tell my friend, Tony DeChant, sitting over here,
18 Tony, if things work out as I hope they will, you will be
19 sitting as close to the Office of the President of the United
20 States as you are sitting to the candidate right now.

21 (Applause)

22 Vice President Humphrey. And, Tony, if they don't, don't
23 make the trip.

24 So point 4 in my program, for the revitalization of rural
25 America, is this: people with a specific knowledgeable back-
ground in agriculture must be permanently located at critical
points throughout the government. Now, someone must know
where those critical points are. You know, there is no use
in just having ~~farm~~ folks in the ~~bleachers~~ bleachers. They
don't win the game and they don't call the plays. You have
to have them down with the team.

26 Where are those points of decision that affect American
27 agriculture? Well, in the Tarrif Commission, which deals
28 with quotas and imports and other farm trade problems.

29 In the Council of Economic Advisers, which advises the
30 President on taxes and balance of payments and other policy
31 questions.

32 In the Bureau of the Budget, where the spending ~~guidelines~~
33 are established. You need somebody there.

34 On the Federal Reserve Board, where the interest rates
35 are established.

1
2 In the Department of Transportation, that has a great
deal to do about how you are going to get your goods to market.

3 And in the National Domestic Policy Council that I intend
4 to establish when I become President that will coordinate all
the domestic peace-time programs, and if I am elected, farm
5 people will be there -- not as guests, not as onlookers, but
they will be there making sure that agriculture gets the
6 attention that it deserves and gets it everyday. That is the
only way to have it.

7 (Applause)

8 Vice President Humphrey. Fifth, I want to recommend a
9 sizeable increase in the Farmers Home Administration lending
to ease farm credit. You know we need that.

10 I shall also continue to urge passage of legislation
11 to enable young farmers to finance land purchases over periods
up to 40 years.

12 Sixth, we must reform the federal tax structure to remove
13 artificial incentives for the movement of non-farmers into
agriculture as a tax haven. In fact, this whole tax structure
14 needs renovation. And it will get it, make no mistake about it.
I will be back to talk to you about it.

15 I think I know a little bit about it. I fought this
16 tax structure once before. These investors that I speak of
now enjoy an unfair tax write-off, giving them an advantage
17 over the independent farmer. It is not right, it is wrong.
And if it is wrong, we ought to get rid of it. And I pledge
18 to you, I will get rid of it.

19 (Applause)

20 Vice President Humphrey. Seventh, we need our basic
farm programs and we need them improved and made permanent.
21 I noticed today that the conference committee, Senator McGovern,
just agreed on a one-year extension. What a pity? What a pity?

22 Mr. Nixon said he would go for a one year extension.
23 What a pity. I know what that means. It means we have to
start our fight for agriculture all over again next year. We
24 have to go through the same misery that we had before.

25 Some of you remember that we had to pass that bill three
times before we could get it through both houses.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have a fight on your hands.

1 This is not my fight. Let me tell you, dear friends, it isn't
2 so terribly important that I become your President, except that
3 I represent your rights, and when people attack these programs
4 that we are talking about, they are not attacking me, they are
5 attacking you. We are in this family together. Mark my words,
6 if we lose this election, Ezra Taft Benson will look like a
7 social worker compared to what you will get.

8 (Applause)

9 Vice President Humphrey. Boy, what a social worker he was.
10 He did more to advance the cause of poverty in eight years than
11 any single man and we have had to wage war on it ever since.

12 (Applause)

13 Vice President Humphrey. I can still see those proceed-
14 ings, with the Republican presidential nominee walking arm in
15 arm, coming into the conference with that stalwart defender
16 of backward movement, of rural poverty, Ezra Taft Benson.

17 My dear friends, just listen to these names if you think
18 you are going to get any comfort. You know the record as well
19 as I do. You know it better. If you think you are going to get
20 any comfort out of Nixon, Agnew, and Benson, then you have
21 been drinking something that I have not.

22 (Applause)

23 Vice President Humphrey. Then eight. We need strategic
24 reserves of major farm commodities, and I favor a program that
25 keeps these reserves at common sense, clearly defined levels,
and one which specifies how and when they can be released
so they do not interfere with the market.

And if I am permitted to be your President, we are not
going to let something happen like what has happened, that when
the price of corn got up a little or another price got up a
little, somebody dumped something in the market. Not on your
life. The farmer is entitled, since he has to take a little
bump, he is entitled to get to the sky once in a while to see
what it looks like around there.

26 (Applause)

27 Vice President Humphrey. I believe we should let that
28 market rise. Let me lay it on the line again, and we are here
29 in the view of the whole nation -- there is not any reason at
30 all why the American farmer has to subsidize the rest of the
31 nation. It is time for the American farmer to get his fair share
of the great rewards of this economy and it is a pity that he

1 has not had it.

2 (Applause)

3 Vice President Humphrey. He is not going to get it unless
4 we get point number nine. He needs stronger farm cooperatives.
5 Farmers continue to face serious price problems, both in buying
6 production items and in marketing commodities, and we have to
expand the credit to all farm cooperatives, including rural
electrics.

7 I want you to know I understand the necessity of sup-
8 plementing financing. I have already addressed myself to the
9 REA people on this. And I also understand the necessity of
having a REA administration that appreciates that this is
1970, not 1940, and that we have got things to do.

10 So we need to build our farm cooperatives and you can't
11 build them out of promises, you build them out of credit. And
12 you build them with an administration, if you please, that will
protect them and defend them.

13 I remember what we had in the 50's. I remember when they
14 wanted to tax you out of existence. I remember. And I hope
you do.

15 May I say to the mothers and fathers, if your children
16 have not been told about it, you had better tell them if they
17 are going to live on the farm, because if they get an admini-
stration that is unfriendly to the farm cooperative, you have
not got a prayer, and you know it.

18 (Applause)

19 Vice President Humphrey. Then my final point: Our farmers
20 will never have, and I repeat, never have true parity of income
or full control over their economic destinies until they have
21 what the rest of this economy has, what business has, what labor
has, and what everyone has, from a school teacher to a doctor,
to a dentist or a lawyer or a working man: until they have the
right to bargain in the marketplace for a better price.

22 (Applause)

23 Vice President Humphrey. They want this right and they
24 shall have it. That is, if you are willing to get somebody
that is willing to support it.

25 Farm programs provide only a portion of support. No one
will ever get rich off a farm program. That is a minimum.
They are not the total answer. They never were intended to be.

1 I believe, however, that organized farm bargaining, strengthening
2 our cooperatives, adequate credit, do hold the answer to full
3 parity of income for our farmers. And I shall do everything
4 if I am the President of the United States, everything in my
5 power to see that they have the right to bargain and effectively
6 so that they can do something about their income and their prices.

(Applause)

7 Vice President Humphrey. Finally, my friends, America
8 today does have the resources to guarantee our citizens, rural
9 and urban, full and equal social opportunity. There was a time
10 that we talked only of social security. That is not good enough
11 anymore, dear friends. Now we must have opportunity, and not
12 just for some, but for everybody.

13 It is the time that we are going to decide whether our
14 cities become more impacted, whether our slums grow worse or
15 start to disappear, whether we put enough resources into the
16 hands of our local police to enable them to do the job that we
17 want them to do, whether we ask them to fight crime with empty
18 slogans in an atmosphere of increasing hatred and tension. Yes,
19 America has the resources if it has the will, if ~~it~~ it has the
20 leadership. I know that we have the know-how.

21 When peace comes in Vietnam, and it will come -- and my
22 dear friends, it is no secret to you (applause) -- it is no
23 secret to you that my life is one that has been dedicated to the
24 works of peace -- the Peace Corps, the Nuclear ~~EMM~~ Test Ban
25 Treaty, Food for Peace, the Disarmament Agency, the Nuclear
Non-Proliferation Treaty -- these are the hallmarks of a career.

Ladies and gentlemen, I put as the top item on my agenda
when I become your President on January 20, 1969, I put at
the top of the list to find a way to end this war and to make
this country what it has been promised to be before.

(Applause)

19 Vice President Humphrey. Thank you very much, my friends,
20 you have given me your answer. I have given you my commitment.
21 I know that the days ahead are difficult. I am fully aware of
22 the problems that we face. I am very aware of the difficulties
23 of this campaign. But I say to you tonight that whatever we
24 will to do, we can do. There has never been anything that we
25 could not do if we set our minds to the task.

23 Some people have said that doing the impossible is impos-
24 sible. I say to you that doing what some people think is
25 impossible is what makes you great. I think there is a basic
goodness in this country and I think there is a basic greatness.
That goodness will come to the forefront when a leader calls
it. And that greatness will come to the forefront when a leader
asks for it.

1

Ladies and gentlemen, tonight I ask you to join me
2 in a revival of the goodness of this nation and I ask you
to join me in the rebirth of the greatness of this nation,
3 and together, we will get the job done.

4

(Applause)

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25

Speech Joke ?

Comment on South Dakota newspaper poll-Sept. 17
(Nixon 58% Humphrey 17% Wallace 9%)

More Relativist

We are not too worried about the polls with

Senator Muskie on the ticket.

~~Arthur Mac Donald~~
~~Alex Radin~~

Chm. Ed Smith
V.P. ~~no Hanlon - East River~~
~~elect.~~
- Bob Chamberlain Gov
- Frank Denholm . cong

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

WESTERN STATES WATER & POWER CONSUMERS CONFERENCE

SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

← Sen Mc Growm

← Ben Stong

← Sen. Burdick

Sen Moore

My Maiden Speech
in South. Dak., 1949
was on Water Power Development
in ~~South Dak.~~

SEPTEMBER 19, 1968

Boston
File SP
File Assembly
File Vote

As one who knew South Dakota in the Depression and
dust storm days of the 1930's, it is a special honor to speak

before the Western States Conference. Your championship
of water and power development has moved this region -- and
indeed all of America -- forward toward a kind of life which
we once saw only dimly in our dreams.

This
region
moves
forward!

Eight years ago a young Senator from Massachusetts
addressed you at another time of great decision.

The 1950's

Looking back over the 1950's -- when "no new starts" was
public policy on resource development... when Mr. Khrushchev
said he would bury us economically... John Kennedy said: "I

J.K.

1950's NO new Starts
Remember?

hope that in the United States in the sixties... no slogan is ever put forward which says no new starts, no movement forward, let us stand still."

↳ John Kennedy got America moving again. ^{and} We have kept on moving. - Here the record ↑

-- 478 new starts in watershed projects;

-- 36 new starts by the Bureau of Reclamation;

-- new starts on 494 dams and other structures by

the Corps of Engineers.

↳ And we have moved forward on farm income, too -- not nearly as far as we must go... but far enough to repair some of the Nixon-Benson damage of the 1950's.

farm income

↳ Net farm income reached a peak with Harry Truman, and then fell three billion dollars in the next eight years. It is back up three billion since 1960.

HST

↳ 1968 finds rural America on the road to revitalization.

But Where do we go from here?

~~2m Nixon~~

Once again we are in a year of great decision, and we find Mr. Nixon in Iowa, claiming to plow a straight furrow with a corn picker... and promising to change the farm program. But he doesn't say how he'll change it.

Would he change the wheat program? Or would he eliminate the certificates? Or would he repeal it altogether?

Would he change the feed grains program? Would he repeal it?

would he change that

What about Farmers Home Administration credit? I think we ought to find out before November.

And what about REA? He was against it all the way in Congress. and RTA

Would we have more of the special interest decisions of the 1950's -- the kind that required a private Western States Water and Power Consumers Conference to defend the public interest?

Let him speak out. ! — are we to

have some more of that
Nixon - Benson ~~and Humphrey~~
or Humphrey - Markie McHooem Real Medicine

Let this

I've spent a life time of public service fighting for rural electrification... fighting for programs that will protect farm and rural people... fighting for the kind of rural America I would like my children and grand children to grow up in.

and Success is in sight. And I am not-- as Adlai Stevenson used to say -- going to let another Republican Administration "snatch defeat from the jaws of victory." !!

Today, I want to put before you a ten-point program of next steps and new starts in the revitalization of rural America a program addressed to the farmers, the businessmen, the resource developers and the families who live in rural America.

10 Pts

1

First, we must move forward quickly with some ongoing efforts

not

This is no time to cut back on the "Great Plains Conservation Program." It is an investment in soil resources that will be repaid manyfold. Funds for it should be restored.

Restore the Funds + we'll do it!

And let's speed up -- not slow down -- the Garrison ~~San~~ ^{Diversion} project and the Oahe Reservoir. ~~I don't want to see you get it done and I do it!~~

Today we have an enormous recreational and economic opportunity in the development of the upper Missouri. Let's put that great resource to work quickly for the people of the Dakotas, Montana and all Americans.

In 1965 we passed a Public Works and Economic Development Act over the opposition of 92 percent of the Republicans in the

House. That act provides for creation of a Regional Development Commission in the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska.

The Authority is there. Governors Guy and Morrison were for it, but some of their Republican colleagues were not. I say it's

time to set it up and get on with the work of regional development in this area.

And while I am talking about on-going efforts, let me pass on to you some good news from Norman Clapp, the Administrator

Regional Develop

V

of REA, I have received a most encouraging report on the progress of the loan application from Basin Electric Power Cooperative for funds to finance additional generating and transmission facilities.

↳ Negotiations with the Bureau of Reclamation have been completed, the major technical questions have been resolved, and the processing of the loan is moving ahead promptly.

↳ The Administration of REA assures me that the additional facilities are needed, that the Basin proposal is essentially sound, and that he will take action on the application at the earliest possible moment.

He has worked on this

And let me add this personal pledge: As President, I will see to it that the Basin Electric Power loan is approved as one of the first acts of a Humphrey-Muskie Administration.

OK

#2

↳ Second, further modernization of rural America in the 1970's is going to depend even more on cheap and plentiful

cheap + plenty electricity!

electricity than it has from the 1930's until now. Jobs...

industrial growth... our ability to stem migration into the

cities will depend on it. (Urban Crisis - Bomb in Rural America)

✓ That means area coverage without exception.

It means more and better facilities for power pooling -- and
the full exploitation of atomic energy, in addition to more federal
multi-purpose development.

↳ It is now time to consider construction of more federal
transmission lines to link various regions and federal power
projects together. Customers of the private electrical systems,
the municipals, the public power districts and the cooperatives
will all benefit.

↳ Territorial integrity, of course, should be a hard and
fast rule.

↳ As for nuclear power developed with public funds, its
benefits must be available to all sectors of the power industry. ○

↳ In atomic energy, as in all other public power generation,

Nuclear
Power

we must preserve the preference clause for municipalities and cooperatives.

It is in the best interests of all consumers that every electric utility -- large and small ... public and private -- participate directly on a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory basis in the ownership, output and operation of nuclear power plants.

#3

Third. It is time to bring agriculture into the mainstream of our American economy -- not a generation from now... not a decade from now... but in the next four years.

Agriculture is America's largest single industry.

It supports more families than any other.

It is basic to the viability of the small towns ~~and cities~~ *cities* that dot most of America.

Our farmers are the keystone of America's economic strength, and food will be a source of enormous export earnings in the 1970's and 1980's.

Food

↳ But today agriculture is still the weakest point in our free enterprise system.

↳ What ails agriculture? We know the problems include low farm prices and inadequate income... high interest rates and a farm credit shortage... ever-increasing production costs that take the profit out of farming.

↳ But we must recognize that we do not now have all the answers -- and that no Washington bureaucracy has all the answers either.

#9

So point four in my program for further revitalization of rural America is this: People with a specific background in agriculture must be permanently located at critical points

throughout the government. *Points where decisions affect the agricultural economy*

① ↳ in the Tariff Commission, which deals with quotas and imports and other farm trade problems;

② ↳ in the Council of Economic Advisers, which *advises* the President on taxes, balance of payments, and other economic policy questions;

(3) -- in the Budget Bureau, where spending guidelines are established;

(4) -- on the Federal Reserve Board;

(5) -- in the Department of Transportation;

(6) -- and in the National Domestic Policy Council, which I would establish in the White House to provide the same coordination and staffing for domestic programs which the National Security Council provides on foreign policy and national defense issues.

< If I am elected, farm people will be there, making sure that agriculture gets the attention it deserves - regularly!

#5
Five. I recommend a sizable increase in Farmers Home Administration lending to ease the farm credit situation. I shall also continue to urge passage of legislation to enable young farmers to finance land purchases over periods of up to 40 years.

#6
Six. We must reform the federal tax structure to remove artificial incentives for the movement of non-farmers into agriculture.

These investors now enjoy an unfair tax write-off break which

gives them an advantage over independent farmers. Family farmers are efficient enough to compete with anybody, providing the rules are fair. We have an obligation to see that they are.

#7 Seven. For the foreseeable future American agriculture will need strong public programs to deal with the difficult problems of maintaining reasonable prices and a balance of supply and demand. I want our basic farm programs improved and made permanent. And I want them adequately funded.

↳ Mr. Nixon says he is for a one-year extension. Before November, you ought to find out what he has in mind after that.

↳ No other important sector of our economy has to come back to Congress time after time to get basic legislation renewed. It is time to end this requirement for farmers, too.

#8 Eight. We need strategic reserves of major farm commodities. I favor a program that keeps these reserves at common-sense, clearly-defined levels... one which specifies how and when they

can be released so they do not interfere with the market... and one which relies on private inventories for normal business operations.

9

Nine. We also need stronger farm cooperatives. Farmers continue to face serious price problems, both in buying production items and in marketing commodities. We should expand credit for all farm cooperatives, including the rural electrics, and insist on a more extensive public effort to build and strengthen them.

#10
Barga

Ten. Our farmers will not have true parity of income -- or full control over their own economic destinies until they have the right to bargain. They want bargaining power. They should have the opportunity to use it.

↳ Farm programs provide a floor of support. But they are not a total answer and never will be. I believe, however, that organized farm bargaining does hold the answer to full parity of income for farmers, and I shall do everything in my power to see that they have the right to bargain effectively.

I ask you to

~~My friends~~ consider the options carefully this year.

↳ The quality of life the vast majority of you and your children
will enjoy -- the comfort of your homes... the calibre of your
schools and hospitals... the strength of your communities --
will be determined by the choices we make this year.

↳ And the choices we make for rural America will affect all
America. They will decide whether our cities become more
impacted

...whether our slums grow worse or start to disappear

...whether we put enough resources in the hands of

our local police to enable them to do the job we want them to do

...or whether we ask them to fight crime with empty slogans

in an atmosphere of increasing hatred and tension.

↳ America today has the resources to guarantee our citizens --
rural and urban -- full economic and social opportunity. We have
the know-how.

When peace comes in Vietnam -- and it will come... *and*

I will help bring this place -

└ When we find a way to slow down and then reverse the arms race -- and if I am elected, we shall... our opportunities here at home will be even greater.

Will we be in a position to take advantage of those opportunities?

└ Or will we be led by men who turn their backs on the future and neglect these critical areas of rural development -- and human development generally -- for which they have little understanding and less compassion?

└ It is going to be a hard race... but with your help I mean to win.

#

Ready to go if — Draft / Bennett 9/17
The office of the Secretary
(Woods)

SIOUX FALLS —
Western States Water & Power ^{Consumers} Conference
Sept 17, 1968

As one who knew South Dakota in the Depression and ~~dry~~ dust storm days of the 1930's, it is a special honor to speak before the Western States Conference. Your championship of water and power development has moved this region -- and indeed all of America -- forward toward a kind of life which we once saw only dimly in our dreams.

Eight years ago a young Senator from Massachusetts addressed you at another time of great decision.

Looking back over the 1950's -- when "no new starts" was public policy on resource development... when Mr. Khrushchev said he would bury us economically... John Kennedy said: "I hope that in the United States in the sixties...no slogan is ever put forward which says no new starts, no movement forward, let us stand still."

John Kennedy got America moving again. We have kept on moving.

- 478 new starts in watershed projects;
- 36 new starts by the Bureau of Reclamation.
- new starts on 494 dams and other structures by the Corps of Engineers,

And we have moved forward on farm income, too -- ¹ *not nearly* as far as we must go...but far enough to repair some of the Nixon-Benson damage of the 1950's.

Net farm income ¹ *reached a peak with Harry Truman, and then* fell three billion dollars in *next eight years.* the ~~1950's~~. It is back up three billion since 1960.

~~The farmers and taxpayers of America were were ~~for~~ paying the bill for 8 billion dollars worth of farm ~~surpluses~~ ~~surplusses~~ by the end of the 1950's. Today those surplusses are gone.~~

1968 finds rural America on the road to ~~a~~ revitalization.

Where do we go from here?

Once again we are in a year of great decision, and we find Mr. Nixon in Iowa, claiming to "plow a straight furrow" with a corn ~~picker~~ ¹ *picker*... ¹ *and* promising to change the farm program. But he doesn't say how he'll change it.

Would he change ¹ *OR would he eliminate the wheat certificates?* the wheat program? Or would he repeal it ¹ *altogether?*

Would he change the feed grains program?

Would he repeal it?

¹ *What about Farmers Home Administration credit. I think we ought to fail out before November*
And what about REA? He was against it all the way in Congress.

Would we have more of the special interest decisions of the 1950's -- the kind that required a private Western States Water and Power Consumers Conference ~~(title?)~~ to defend the public interest?

Let him speak out.

as a long time supporter of REA, to find it on my desk for signature next January 20.

Second, ~~the~~ further modernization of rural America in the 1970's ~~and 1980's~~ is going to depend even more on cheap and plentiful electricity than it has from the 1930's until now. *JOBs... industrial growth... our ability to stem migration to the cities will depend on it*

That means area coverage without exception.
It means more and better facilities
for power pooling -- and the full exploitation of atomic energy, in addition to more federal multi-purpose development.

It is now time to consider construction of **more** federal transmission lines to link various regions and federal power projects together. Customers of the private electrical systems, the municipals, the public power districts and the cooperatives will all benefit. Territorial integrity, of course, should be a hard and fast rule.

As for the ~~development of~~ nuclear power developed with public funds, its benefits must be available to all sectors of the power industry. It is in the best interests of all consumers that every electric utility -- large and small -- public and private -- participate directly on a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory basis in the ownership, output and operation of nuclear power plants.

Now, for some more good news. Your good friend - ~~anyone~~ and my good friend - Albert C. Hauffee (HAUFEE) of ~~the~~ Teala, S.D. has agreed to serve as national chairman for Rural Electric Americans for Hampshire, Muskies.

All Hauffee and his fellow - workers are going to carry the Hampshire - Muskies message to REA to every corner of this nation.

In atomic energy, as in all other public power generation, we must preserve the preference clause for municipals and cooperatives.

Third. It is time to bring agriculture into the mainstream of our American economy -- not a generation from now...not a decade from now...but in the next four years.

Agriculture is America's largest single industry.

It supports more families than any other.

It is basic to the viability of the small towns and cities that dot most of America.

But today ^{agriculture is} ~~our farms are~~ still the weakest point in our free enterprise system.

Our farmers are the keystone of America's economic strength, and food will be a source of enormous export earnings in the 1970's and 1980's.

What ails agriculture? We know the problems include low farm prices and inadequate income,... high interest rates and ^a farm credit shortage...ever-increasing production costs that take the profit out of farming.

But we must recognize that we do not now have all the answers -- and that no Washington bureaucracy has all the answers either.

So point four in my program for ^{further} ~~continuing the~~ revitalization of ^{rural} ~~the~~ America is this: People with a specific BACKGROUND IN AGRICULTURE MUST BE PERMANENTLY LOCATED AT ^{critical} points throughout the government.



no caps! →

-- in the Tariff Commission, which deals with quotas and imports and other farm trade problems;

-- in the Council of Economic Advisers, which counsels the President on taxes, balance of payments, and other economic policy questions;

-- in the Budget Bureau, where spending guidelines are established;

-- on the Federal Reserve Board;

-- in the Department of Transportation;

-- and in the National Domestic Policy Council, ^{which}

I would establish in the White House to provide the same coordination and staffing for domestic programs which the National Security Council provides on foreign policy and national defense issues.

If I am elected, farm people will be there, making sure that agriculture gets the attention it deserves -- regularly.

Five. I recommend a sizable increase in Farmers Home Administration lending authority to ease the farm credit situation. I shall also continue to urge passage of legislation to enable young farmers to finance land purchases over periods of up to 40 years.

~~If we are not to turn rural life over to computers and machines,~~
Six. we must reform the federal tax structure to remove artificial incentives for the movement of non-farmers into agriculture. These investors now enjoy an unfair tax writeoff break which gives them an advantage over independent farmers. Family farmers are efficient

step

enough to compete with anybody, providing the rules are fair. We have an obligation to see that they are.

Seven. For the foreseeable future American agriculture will need strong public programs to deal with the difficult problems of maintaining reasonable prices and a balance of supply and demand. I want our basic farm programs improved and made permanent, And I want them adequately funded.

Mr. Nixon says he for a one glass of tension. Before November you ought to find out what he has in mind after this.

No other important sector of our economy has to come back to Congress time after time to get basic legislation renewed. It is time to end this requirement for farmers too.

Eight. We need strategic reserves of major farm commodities. I favor a program that keeps these reserves at common-sense, clearly-defined levels...one which specifies how and when they can be released so they do not interfere with the market...and one which relies on private inventories for normal business operations.

Nine. We also need stronger farm cooperatives.

Farmers continue to face serious price problems, both ~~I favor a program that keeps these reserves at common-~~ in buying production items and in marketing commodities. We should ~~sense, clearly defined levels...one which specifies how~~ expand credit for all farm cooperatives, including the rural electrics, ~~and when they can be released so they do not interfere~~ and insist on a more extensive public effort to build and strengthen ~~with the market...and one which relies on private inven-~~ them. ~~torics for normal business operations~~

no underline

(A)

It will de

So will the future course of urban growth and migration in America.

So will our ability to enforce our laws and effectively provide

↓

And the choices we make for rural America will affect all America. ~~They will decide where~~ ^{the} our cities become more impacted... ~~whether our slums grow worse or whether we can start eliminating them...~~ ^{or start to disappear}

whether we put enough resources in the hands of our ~~police~~ local police to enable them to do the job we want them to do...or whether we ask them to fight crime with ^{empty} slogans in an atmosphere of increasing hatred and tension.

They want of bargaining power
they should use the
~~the right~~ opportunity
to use it.

Ten. Our farmers will not have true parity of income ~~or~~ ^{or} full control over their own economic destiny ^{ies} until they have the right to bargain. ~~for it~~ Farm programs provide a floor of support, ~~and enable us to maintain the kind of balance that makes meaningful bargaining possible.~~

But they are not a total answer and never will be. I believe, however, that organized farm bargaining ^{to full parity of income for farmers,} does hold the answer and I shall do everything in my power to see that ^{they} ~~farmers~~ have the right to bargain effectively.

X X X

My friends, consider the options carefully this year.

The quality of life the vast majority of you and your children will enjoy -- the comfort of your homes... ^S the calibre of your schools and hospitals... the strength of your communities [^] will be determined by the choices we make this year.

Insert
attended

~~rural and urban~~ --
America today has the resources to guarantee our ~~rural~~ ^{economic and social} citizens full opportunity. We have the know-how.

When peace comes in Vietnam -- and it will come...

When we find ^S the way to slow down and then reverse the arms race -- and if I am elected, ^{Washell...} our opportunities here at home will be even greater.

-- and the human development generally --

Will we be in a position to take advantage of those opportunities?

Handwritten scribble

Or will we be led by men who ~~have proven their capacity to~~ turn their backs on the future and neglect ~~these~~ *these* critical areas ~~of our economy and society~~ *of human development and social development* for which they have ~~no~~ *little* understanding and ~~no~~ *less* ~~love?~~ *compassion?*

It is going to be a hard race ⁱⁿ but with your help I mean to win.

#

*Program, other things, health and social services
part of lower order - not*

*But what is the...
...and...
...and...*



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