

The original documents are located in Box D20, folder “Wisconsin Republican Finance Committee Diner, Milwaukee, WI, June 18, 1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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SPEECH BY HOUSE MINORITY LEADER GERALD R. FORD, R-MICHIGAN

DEMOCRATIC FOLLIES AND FALLACIES

Ladies and gentlemen,

I come before you tonight with a program that is calculated to win every vote in the country, a program which is made up of thoroughly unattainable objectives.

If the goals in this program are enacted into law by the Congress, every man in America will live in a split level house on a country estate, there will be two cars in every garage, T-bone steaks--prime, naturally--sizzling on the patio every night, rock and roll music for every teenager in the country from dawn to midnight, and free ear plugs for every adult. In short, we will have all the goodies Mao Tse-tung promised the peasants during the Great Leap Forward.

This is a program based on the Democrats' victory formula that says there is no political substitute for something for nothing, even though the people never get it.

I have put this new program together from the Democrats' 1964 platform, which they naturally rejected right after they were elected.

Many of these Democratic platform planks need no commentary, but where it better serves the interests of the Republican Party to do a bit of embellishing, you can be certain I'll do just that.

The first plank is, of course, dedicated to that great man of peace, Lyndon B. Johnson. It reads, and I quote from the 1964 Democratic platform:

"The search for peace requires the utmost intelligence, the clearest vision, and a strong sense of reality." --And I might add that you just can't be a Nervous Nellie and have peace, either.

But to continue with the plank as written...

"Because for four years our Nation has patiently demonstrated these qualities and persistently used them, the world is closer to peace today than it was in 1960."

I might mention at this point, too, that this platform with its plank on peace is offered not only to you but to Senators Fulbright and Morse, too, as a "covenant of unity."

And to all the young men in the Nation, we want to say this, just as the Democrats said it in 1964:

"We must and we will...pursue our examination of the selective service program to make certain that it is continued only as long as it is necessary and that we mete out military manpower needs without social and economic injustice."

We Republicans will build the peace, as the Democrats promised to do in 1964. What nobler statement can be made than that of the Democrats two years ago when they said: "We are slowly but surely approaching the point where effective international

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agreements providing for inspection and control can begin to lift the crushing burden of armaments off the backs of the people of the world."

It's true that the Red Chinese now have the A-bomb and probably will have intermediate range missiles in two or three years and intercontinental ballistic missiles inside of 10 years. But why worry about that? We're going to get rid of the armaments load even if we have to fight a war to do it.

We continue to oppose the admission of Red China to the United Nations. We Republicans have said that before and we say it now. The Democrats said it in 1964, but they had no idea that Arthur Goldberg was going to have to make a speech before the National Press Club in 1966 and might want to talk about letting Red China into the U.N.

Peace in a political platform is not enough, of course. We must also have prosperity. We Republicans pledge to promote a prosperity built not on the sands of inflation but on a sound dollar, a prosperity based not on taking from one man to give to another but on making every man a proud and productive citizen able to make his own way.

The Democrats pledged prosperity in 1964 and in doing so stressed "the importance of low interest rates." That was before Lyndon Johnson hit on the idea of pooling government loans and selling \$5,000 shares in them to big-wheel investors who will get juicy returns from the government for the use of their money. That was before it occurred to Mr. Johnson that if you sell a piece of the action to the big boys, you can use their cash to hold down the federal deficit. That was before Mr. Johnson decided it was smarter to drive up interest rates for the little guy than to cut back government spending. That was before Mr. Johnson figured it was better to charge the taxpayers more money to pick up this outside capital than it was to post a \$6 billion deficit.

In 1964 the Democrats were interested in economy and in using wisely every dollar of the taxpayer's money--or so they said.

We Republicans herewith renew our continuing pledge to treat every dollar of tax money as though it were our own. If we were presently in power, we could borrow the words of the Democrats who promised in 1964 to "continue a frugal government, getting a dollar's value for a dollar spent."

Of course, the war on poverty as conceived by LBJ, Sargent Shriver, and Adam Clayton Powell had not been launched at that time, and the Democratic Platform writers of two years ago had no idea that \$1.75 billion would be spent so economically in the war on poverty that there would be very little to show for it.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield had no inkling two years ago that in 1966 he would be saying about the Job Corps: "It was not my intention to support the establishment of three reformatories in my state."
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We promise, if elected, to launch an Opportunity Crusade that will cost the federal government hundreds of millions of dollars less but accomplish far more. We promise, if elected, to enter into an anti-poverty alliance with the states and private enterprise that will muster more than an additional half billion dollars annually for the assault on poverty while costing the taxpayers far less.

Notwithstanding the fact that Poverty Czar Sargent Shriver has the power to override governors of the states, we Republicans still feel constrained to borrow these words from the 1964 Democratic Platform:

"The Federal Government exists not to subordinate the states, but to support them."

Why shouldn't the Democrats say this about the states? They're used to supporting everyone else.

Prices...we have to say something in the Republican program about keeping prices in line. Let's see now...how did the Democrats phrase their platform promise in 1964? Here it is: "Our enviable record of price stability must be maintained. Stability is essential to protect our citizens--particularly the retired and handicapped--from the ravages of inflation."

What a shame that the 1957-59 dollar now is worth only 86 cents! The Democrats sure are going to have a hard time convincing the old folks that they're being protected from the ravages of inflation. I guess they'll just have to promise them another Social Security increase. Oh yes, Lyndon's already done that, hasn't he?

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And all the Republicans have to offer is a sound dollar!

What about the farmer? We Republicans are dedicated to "the goals of higher incomes to the farm and ranch, particularly the family-sized farm, lower prices for the consumer, and lower costs to the Government."

The Democrats used those words in 1964, but that's all right. Of course, it so happens that, on the farm, farm prices are six per cent lower ~~now~~ than they were in 1951. At the same time the irate housewife pays 16 per cent more at the supermarket. So to appease housewives angered by high food prices, the Democrats beat down prices received by the farmer. And to lower costs to the Government, the Democrats substituted margarine for butter in all the food welfare programs and the menus of the Army, Marines and Air Force.

After dumping Commodity Credit Corporation grain on the market to force down grain prices, the Government now is buttering up the wheat farmer by announcing a 15 per cent increase in wheat acreage allotments. But if the farmer is confused, all he has to do is go back and read the 1964 Democratic Platform and that will straighten him out.

Now, let's be fair about this. There are some Democrats who are worried about where their leader is taking them, whether the Great Society is a good society, and who is going to pay the bills.

It was a Democrat--the Senate majority leader, no less--who said last fall upon adjournment of Congress that in '66 Congress should "spend less time on new legislation and more time correcting oversights in legislation we have just passed."

And "Honest Mike" Mansfield continued: "We have passed a lot of major bills at this session, some of them very hastily, and they stand in extreme need of a going-over for loopholes, rough corners, and particularly for an assessment of current and ultimate cost in the framework of our capacity to meet it."

Have the Democrats in the 89th Congress done what Mike Mansfield promised? Since there are ladies present, I'll answer that question with just one word instead of two--NO!

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His principal conclusion was that by 1975, if all of the goals were pursued simultaneously, their cost that year would be \$150 billion more than the estimated gross national product of approximately one trillion dollars. That's what I said-- a trillion dollars.

If a Democrat had talked that kind of spending in the days when people really got excited about politics in this country, the folks would have run him out of town on a rail.

I'm not asking you to run 'em out of town. I'm just asking you to do something that will get the spenders and Great Society manipulators out of our hair without the tar and feathers treatment. Run the Democrats out of office in November. That's all I ask. Let's all give 'em hell.

----Thank you----

#

Knowles

"DEMOCRATIC FOLLIES AND FALLACIES"

*Byrnes
Fulbright
O'Konishi*

*Davis
Thompson*

SPEECH FOR WISCONSIN REPUBLICAN FINANCE COMMITTEE DINNER

SATURDAY 7 P.M., JUNE 18, 1966

*Jack Kennedy
Democratizes Split
Republican Country*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I COME BEFORE YOU TONIGHT WITH A PROGRAM THAT IS CALCULATED TO WIN EVERY VOTE IN THE COUNTRY, A PROGRAM WHICH IS MADE UP OF THOROUGHLY UNATTAINABLE OBJECTIVES.

IF THE GOALS IN THIS PROGRAM ARE ENACTED INTO LAW BY THE CONGRESS, EVERY MAN IN AMERICA WILL LIVE IN A SPLIT LEVEL HOUSE ON A COUNTRY ESTATE, THERE WILL BE TWO CARS IN EVERY GARAGE, T-BONE STEAKS--PRIME, NATURALLY--SIZZLING ON THE PATIO EVERY NIGHT, ROCK-AND-ROLL MUSIC FOR EVERY TEENAGER IN THE COUNTRY FROM DAWN TO MIDNIGHT, AND FREE EAR PLUGS FOR EVERY ADULT. IN SHORT, WE WILL HAVE ALL THE GOODIES MAO TSE-TUNG PROMISED THE PEASANTS DURING THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD.

Chinese Communists



THIS IS A PROGRAM BASED ON THE DEMOCRATS' VICTORY FORMULA THAT SAYS THERE IS NO POLITICAL SUBSTITUTE FOR SOMETHING FOR NOTHING, EVEN THOUGH THE PEOPLE NEVER GET IT.

Tonight
I HAVE PUT THIS NEW PROGRAM TOGETHER FROM THE DEMOCRATS' 1964 PLATFORM, WHICH THEY NATURALLY REJECTED RIGHT AFTER THEY WERE ELECTED.

MANY OF THESE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM PLANKS NEED NO COMMENTARY, *certainty nothing complementary* BUT WHERE IT BETTER SERVES THE INTERESTS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY TO DO A BIT OF *Republican commentary or* EMBELLISHING, YOU CAN BE CERTAIN I'LL DO JUST THAT.

(GO INTO MAIN TEXT OF SPEECH)



AND ALL THE REPUBLICANS HAVE TO OFFER IS A SOUND DOLLAR!
and for eight years under Eisenhower + Nixon we did have level prices, no inflation
WHAT ABOUT THE FARMER? WE REPUBLICANS ARE DEDICATED
TO "THE GOALS OF HIGHER INCOMES TO THE FARM AND RANCH,
PARTICULARLY THE FAMILY-SIZED FARM, LOWER PRICES FOR THE
CONSUMER, AND LOWER COSTS TO THE GOVERNMENT."

THE DEMOCRATS USED THOSE WORDS IN 1964, BUT THAT'S
ALL RIGHT. OF COURSE, IT SO HAPPENS THAT, ON THE FARM,
FARM PRICES ARE SIX PER CENT LOWER NOW THAN THEY WERE IN
1951. AT THE SAME TIME THE IRATE HOUSEWIFE PAYS 16 PER CENT
MORE AT THE SUPERMARKET. SO TO APPEASE HOUSEWIVES ANGERED
BY HIGH FOOD PRICES, THE DEMOCRATS BEAT DOWN PRICES RECEIVED
BY THE FARMER. AND TO LOWER COSTS TO THE GOVERNMENT, THE
DEMOCRATS SUBSTITUTED MARGARINE FOR BUTTER IN ALL THE FOOD



WELFARE PROGRAMS AND THE MENUS OF THE ARMY, MARINES AND AIR FORCE.

AFTER DUMPING COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION GRAIN ON THE MARKET TO FORCE DOWN GRAIN PRICES, THE GOVERNMENT NOW IS BUTTERING UP THE WHEAT FARMER BY ANNOUNCING A 15 PER CENT INCREASE IN WHEAT ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS. BUT IF THE FARMER IS CONFUSED, ALL HE HAS TO DO IS GO BACK AND READ THE 1964 DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM AND THAT WILL STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT.

NOW, LET'S BE FAIR ABOUT THIS. THERE ARE SOME DEMOCRATS WHO ARE WORRIED ABOUT WHERE THEIR LEADER IS TAKING THEM, WHETHER THE GREAT SOCIETY IS A GOOD SOCIETY, AND WHO IS GOING TO PAY THE BILLS.



IT WAS A DEMOCRAT--THE SENATE MAJORITY LEADER, NO LESS-- WHO SAID LAST FALL UPON ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS THAT IN '66 CONGRESS SHOULD "SPEND LESS TIME ON NEW LEGISLATION AND MORE TIME CORRECTING OVERSIGHTS IN LEGISLATION WE HAVE JUST PASSED."

AND "HONEST MIKE" MANSFIELD CONTINUED: "WE HAVE PASSED A LOT OF MAJOR BILLS AT THIS SESSION, SOME OF THEM VERY HASTILY, AND THEY STAND IN EXTREME NEED OF A GOING-OVER FOR LOOPHOLES, ROUGH CORNERS, AND PARTICULARLY FOR AN ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT AND ULTIMATE COST IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR CAPACITY TO MEET IT."

HAVE THE DEMOCRATS IN THE 89TH CONGRESS DONE WHAT MIKE MANSFIELD PROMISED? SINCE THERE ARE LADIES PRESENT, I'LL ANSWER THAT QUESTION WITH JUST ONE WORD INSTEAD OF TWO---NO!



MY COLLEAGUES IN THE HOUSE HAVE HAMMERED AWAY AT THE DEMOCRATS TO GET THEM TO IMPROVE ON SOME OF LYNDON'S LULUS, LIKE THE POVERTY PROGRAM I JUST GOT THROUGH TALKING ABOUT, BUT WE JUST DON'T HAVE THE TROOPS RIGHT NOW TO MAKE IT STICK. HOW ABOUT GIVING US SOME HELP IN NOVEMBER? *Re-lect*

John Reynolds, Mel Fairclough, Glen Davis, Al O'Rourke, Vern Thompson - and Bill Steyer/Henry Shedd

HONEST MIKE MANSFIELD WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE PRICE TAG ON GREAT SOCIETY LEGISLATION. ONE OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL PLANNING ASSOCIATION HAS COME UP WITH THE ANSWER AFTER A TWO-YEAR STUDY OF 16 PROPOSED GREAT SOCIETY GOALS AND THEIR COST IN 1962 DOLLARS.

HIS PRINCIPAL CONCLUSION WAS THAT BY 1975, IF ALL OF THE GOALS WERE PURSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY, THEIR COST THAT YEAR WOULD BE \$150 BILLION MORE THAN THE ESTIMATED GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT OF APPROXIMATELY ONE TRILLION DOLLARS.



THAT'S WHAT I SAID--A TRILLION DOLLARS.

IF A DEMOCRAT HAD TALKED THAT KIND OF SPENDING IN THE DAYS WHEN PEOPLE REALLY GOT EXCITED ABOUT POLITICS IN THIS COUNTRY, THE FOLKS WOULD HAVE RUN HIM OUT OF TOWN ON A RAIL.

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO RUN 'EM OUT OF TOWN. I'M JUST ASKING YOU TO DO SOMETHING THAT WILL GET THE SPENDERS AND GREAT SOCIETY MANIPULATORS OUT OF OUR HAIR WITHOUT THE TAR AND FEATHERS TREATMENT. RUN THE DEMOCRATS OUT OF OFFICE IN NOVERBER. THAT'S ALL I ASK. LET'S ALL GIVE 'EM HELL.

-----THANK YOU-----

*Give your time
treasurer
talent*

--END OF SPEECH--



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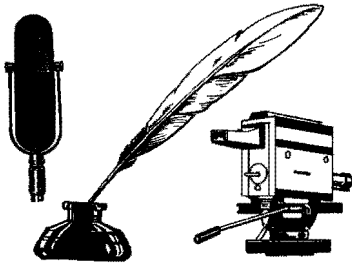
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----Thank you----

#



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE AT 8 P.M. (EDT)
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1966

SPEECH EXCERPTS--WISCONSIN GOP FINANCE COMMITTEE DINNER, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

What has happened to the promises made by the Democrats in their 1964 Platform? They got in on them but they have run out on them.

One plank was dedicated to that great man of peace, Lyndon B. Johnson. It reads: "The search for peace requires the utmost intelligence, the clearest vision, and a strong sense of reality." I personally might add that you can't be a Nervous Nellie and have peace, either.

The peace plank in the 1964 Democratic platform continues: "Because for four years our Nation has patiently demonstrated these qualities and has persistently used them, the world is closer to peace today than it was in 1960."

We Republicans, if elected, will build the peace the Democrats promised in 1964.

Republicans also pledge to promote a prosperity built not on the sands of inflation but on a sound dollar, a prosperity based not on taking from one man to give to another but on making every man a proud and productive citizen able to make his own way.

The Democrats pledged prosperity in 1964 and in doing so stressed the importance of "low interest rates."

That was before Lyndon Johnson hit on the idea of pooling government loans and selling \$5,000 shares in them to big-wheel operators who will get juicy returns from the government for the use of their money.

That was before it occurred to Mr. Johnson that if you sell a piece of the action to the big boys you can use their cash to hold down the federal deficit.

That was before Mr. Johnson decided that it was smarter to drive up interest rates for the little guy than to cut back on non-defense spending.

That was before Mr. Johnson figured it was better to charge the taxpayers more interest money to pick up this outside capital than it was to post a \$6 billion deficit.

In 1964 the Democrats said they were interested in economy and in using wisely every dollar of the taxpayer's money--so they said.

* * *

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SPEECH EXCERPTS

We Republicans herewith renew our continuing pledge to treat every dollar of tax money as though it were our own. If we were presently in power, we could use the words the Democrats have forgotten when they promised in 1964 to "continue a frugal government, getting a dollar's value for a dollar spent."

Of course, the war on poverty as developed by Lyndon Johnson, Sargent Shriver and Adam Clayton Powell had not been conceived at that time, and the Democratic Platform writers of nearly two years ago had no idea that \$1.75 billion would be spent so economically on the War on Poverty that there would be very little to show for it.

We Republicans would like to take over the job of fighting poverty, since the Democratic warriors obviously are bobbling it and falling far short of their pledge to use the taxpayers' dollars wisely.

We promise, if elected, to launch an Opportunity Crusade that will cost the federal government hundreds of millions of dollars less but accomplish far more.

We promise, if elected, to enter into an anti-poverty war alliance with the states and private enterprise that will muster more than an additional half billion dollars annually for the assault on poverty while costing the taxpayers far less.

* * *

What about prices? How did the Democrats phrase their price stability pledge in 1964? They said: "Our enviable record of price stability must be maintained. Stability is essential to protect our citizens--particularly the retired and handicapped--from the ravages of inflation."

What a shame that the 1957-59 dollar now is worth only about 86 cents! The Democrats are going to have a hard time convincing the old folks that they're being protected from the ravages of inflation.

* * *

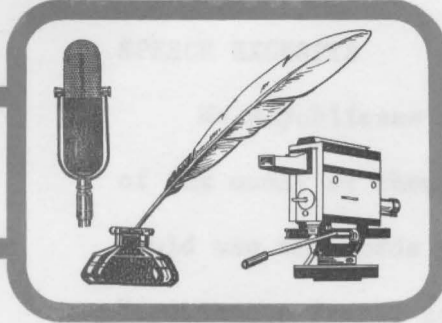
The Democrats in 1964 said they were dedicated to "the goals of higher incomes to the farm and ranch, particularly the family-sized farm, lower prices for the consumer, and lower costs to the government." That sounds a little ridiculous now, doesn't it?

It so happens that prices on the farm are six per cent lower than they were in 1951. And the prices paid by the irate housewife are 16 per cent higher at the supermarket.

What have the Democrats done to achieve their 1964 Platform goals?

To appease the housewife angered by high retail food prices, the Democrats beat down farm prices. And to lower costs to the government, the Democrats substituted margarine for butter in all the food welfare programs and the menus of the Army, Marines and Air Force.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE AT 8 P.M. (EDT)
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1966

SPEECH EXCERPTS--WISCONSIN GOP FINANCE COMMITTEE DINNER, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

What has happened to the promises made by the Democrats in their 1964 Platform? They got in on them but they have run out on them.

One plank was dedicated to that great man of peace, Lyndon B. Johnson. It reads: "The search for peace requires the utmost intelligence, the clearest vision, and a strong sense of reality." I personally might add that you can't be a Nervous Nellie and have peace, either.

The peace plank in the 1964 Democratic platform continues: "Because for four years our Nation has patiently demonstrated these qualities and has persistently used them, the world is closer to peace today than it was in 1960."

We Republicans, if elected, will build the peace the Democrats promised in 1964.

Republicans also pledge to promote a prosperity built not on the sands of inflation but on a sound dollar, a prosperity based not on taking from one man to give to another but on making every man a proud and productive citizen able to make his own way.

The Democrats pledged prosperity in 1964 and in doing so stressed the importance of "low interest rates."

That was before Lyndon Johnson hit on the idea of pooling government loans and selling \$5,000 shares in them to big-wheel operators who will get juicy returns from the government for the use of their money.

That was before it occurred to Mr. Johnson that if you sell a piece of the action to the big boys you can use their cash to hold down the federal deficit.

That was before Mr. Johnson decided that it was smarter to drive up interest rates for the little guy than to cut back on non-defense spending.

That was before Mr. Johnson figured it was better to charge the taxpayers more interest money to pick up this outside capital than it was to post a \$6 billion deficit.

In 1964 the Democrats said they were interested in economy and in using wisely every dollar of the taxpayer's money--so they said.

(MORE)



SPEECH EXCERPTS

We Republicans herewith renew our continuing pledge to treat every dollar of tax money as though it were our own. If we were presently in power, we could use the words the Democrats have forgotten when they promised in 1964 to "continue a frugal government, getting a dollar's value for a dollar spent."

Of course, the war on poverty as developed by Lyndon Johnson, Sargent Shriver and Adam Clayton Powell had not been conceived at that time, and the Democratic Platform writers of nearly two years ago had no idea that \$1.75 billion would be spent so economically on the War on Poverty that there would be very little to show for it.

We Republicans would like to take over the job of fighting poverty, since the Democratic warriors obviously are bobbling it and falling far short of their pledge to use the taxpayers' dollars wisely.

We promise, if elected, to launch an Opportunity Crusade that will cost the federal government hundreds of millions of dollars less but accomplish far more.

We promise, if elected, to enter into an anti-poverty war alliance with the states and private enterprise that will muster more than an additional half billion dollars annually for the assault on poverty while costing the taxpayers far less.

* * *

What about prices? How did the Democrats phrase their price stability pledge in 1964? They said: "Our enviable record of price stability must be maintained. Stability is essential to protect our citizens--particularly the retired and handicapped--from the ravages of inflation."

What a shame that the 1957-59 dollar now is worth only about 86 cents! The Democrats are going to have a hard time convincing the old folks that they're being protected from the ravages of inflation.

* * *

The Democrats in 1964 said they were dedicated to "the goals of higher incomes to the farm and ranch, particularly the family-sized farm, lower prices for the consumer, and lower costs to the government." That sounds a little ridiculous now, doesn't it?

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