The original documents are located in Box D18, folder "Domestic Issues, Fargo, ND, September 17, 1965" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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READING TEXT

Great great man Invitation - only two representation here no-one membered what

An Address by

Representative Gerald R. Ford KISS -

Fargo, N.D.

Friday, September 17, 1965

Under the hot glare of lights and facing the red eye of a television camera, Mark Andrews talked about a political theme he would follow all the way to Washington.

"It is a sad commentary," Mark said, "that only five percent of our members of Congress can be called farmers. Men who know and understand farm problems are sorely needed in our Nation's capital; men who know workable programs from political programs." That was in 1958.

We all know the road Mark took to reach the United States House of Representatives. And, we are glad he reached his goal. His District and his state should be very happy to have Mark Andrews in Washington.



Although farming is his heritage and his vocation, politics is his profession. He inherited his love of the land. He acquired his profession by hard work, imagination, dedication to his district, State and country.

Mark may recall when his dad was sheriff of Cass County during Prohibition. He may remember the time his dad took him along on a patrol. While Mark watched from a safe place in a culvert down the road, his father shot the tires of rum rummers going from Winnipeg to Kansas City.

My good friend and Republican colleague Mark Andrews now helps us months of the shoot down attempts by the Administration to spend the Nation

Thank you for allowing me to share these hours in saluting

Congressman Mark Andrews, the man who grew to manhood on a farm

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splendid citizen and finally at this point in time, one of the

most distinguished members of Congress.

-more-

Tonight, I would like to share with you my views on where we stand as a Nation on this 17th day of September, 1965.

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framers of the Great Society.

We feel they are built on foundations of sand. We have been savagely attacked for our stand. It is a simple thing for our opponents to claim that anyone who votes "no" is against progress. Actually, a "no" vote often assures progress——it helps keep the sticky fingers of federal paternalism away from functions the American people quite capably can carry on for themselves.

The Administration today believes that government should control our economy. We Republicans know that government must first tax away what it later spends. It does not bestow benefits. It re-distributes wealth is has taken from taxpayers.

We Republicans believe government has a rightful role in assisting the economy. It can often act as a balance wheel on the energy of the business world. It can never be the mainspring of our economy. Should government assume that role, we will no longer live in the America envisioned by the founders of this Republic—such as the forefathers of Mark Andrews who fought in the American Revolution in Connecticut.

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Both parties are for progress.

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Republicans can be proud of our record of true progress.

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When the government was in our stewardship, great gains were made toward securing freedom of opportunity, exercise of the voting franchise, fair working conditions, and an efficient, solvent government—stable at home, firm in foreign affairs.

In contrast, let us look at the kind of so-called progress we are called upon to support today in the name of the Great Society.

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What of the war on poverty?

We have long realized that the way to beat poverty is through providing jobs. The Democrat remedy is to compensate those who are not working and to blame society for the fact they are unemployed.

Let us carefully examine the Office of Economic Opportunity---the headquarters for the war on poverty. Ostensibly it was established to find jobs for the poor. But, first it takes care of the higher-income bureaucratic bracket.

* Forty-five bureaucrats drawing more than \$18,000 a year each are in the Washington poverty command post.

* Another echelon of state directors, deputy directors, assistant directors get \$18,000 to \$25,000 a year. (more)

* At city and county levels, directors and their assistants are paid in the \$20,000 range.

* Hundreds of "consultants" draw \$100 a day, plus fat expense accounts.

By some coincidence, many of these valiant warriors in the war against poverty just happen to be faithful party officials of the Democrat political machine.

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Republicans face other grave challenges today. Among them is inflation---the result of the Administration playing fast and loose with our
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\$1,000 government bond bought in 1949 and worth only \$730 in

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everything you and I are working to build for ourselves and the

The Bemocrat-controlled federal government itself is leading the way in causing inflation. Deficit spending---borrowing against tomorrow--- is saddling all of us and the future generations.

The real cost of government is carefully and artfully concealed.

Our job is to bring the facts to the people. We must make the Nation aware that we will all become paper rich and security poor unless

the inflationary trend is stopped in its tracks.

(more)

Let me illustrate what financial shape the federal government is in right now!

- * Our national debt is greater than that of all other nations in the world--combined.
- * Our national debt is NOT the \$325 billion that appears on the record books, but is instead \$800 billion in commitments for future spending that requires no new laws or programs.
- * Without including the cost of the Viet Nam war, the Administrationcontrolled government is embarked on a spending spree that could
 drive our budget past the \$200-billion mark.

What has all this to do with you? Well, every time a federal program is created, or enlarged, it costs each of us money. Direct and hidden taxes are growing steadily. We face rising local taxes when federal matching-fund projects stimulate local spending.

One fact of today's political life in North Dakota and the other 49 states is that all the big spenders are NOT in Washington.

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The Democrats are working to establish their personal empire builders in city halls, courthouses, statehouses and in Congress.

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Our job is to reach the electorate with the facts. We must point out that living costs are high and going higher; that high taxes and Democrats go hand-in-hand; that waste and LBJ feather the same nest; that the federal Santa Claus is picking tax dollars from our pockets.

We must get across to the electorate that there is no certainity in the Great Society---except debt and taxes.

Let us all, every day, remind our friends and neighbors that our present course is folly; that it can lead to national and personal bankruptcy; that we need a good society, not an alleged "great" one.

Let us not fall into fractional, factional Republicanism. For victories we need unity, imagination, courage and a positive outlook.

We can win. The time to start toward that goal is here---tonight.

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The programs are dressed in purity of name, under which operate hard-core political platoons, busily engaged in rifling the treasury, extending and abusing Federal power.

Republicans in Congress like Mark Andrews serve the best interest of our Nation by opposing the far-out progrems proposed by framers of the Great Society.

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But, what is progress?

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Republicans face other grave challenges today. Among them is inflation---the result of the Administration playing fast and loose with our
tax dollars.



Just what is inflation?

Inflation is an economic atom bomb. Its ominous shadow hovers

over the future of each of us, our children and grandchildren. It

is silent---deadly---and unfortunately now constantly creeping forward.

It is higher prices at the supermarket. It is higher tuition cost at college. It is a \$4.50 haircut in New York City. It is a \$1,000 government bond bought in 1949 and worth only \$730 in buying power today. It is the silent robber that can destroy everything you and I are working to build for ourselves and the future generations.

The Democrat-controlled federal government itself is leading the way in causing inflation. Deficit spending---borrowing against tomorrow-- is saddling all of us and the future generations.

The real cost of government is carefully and artfully concealed.

Our job is to bring the facts to the people. We must make the Nation aware that we will all become paper rich and security poor unless the inflationary trend is stopped in its tracks. (more)

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Let us all, every day, remind our friends and neighbors that our present course is folly; that it can lead to national and personal bankruptay; that we need a good society, not an alleged "great" one.

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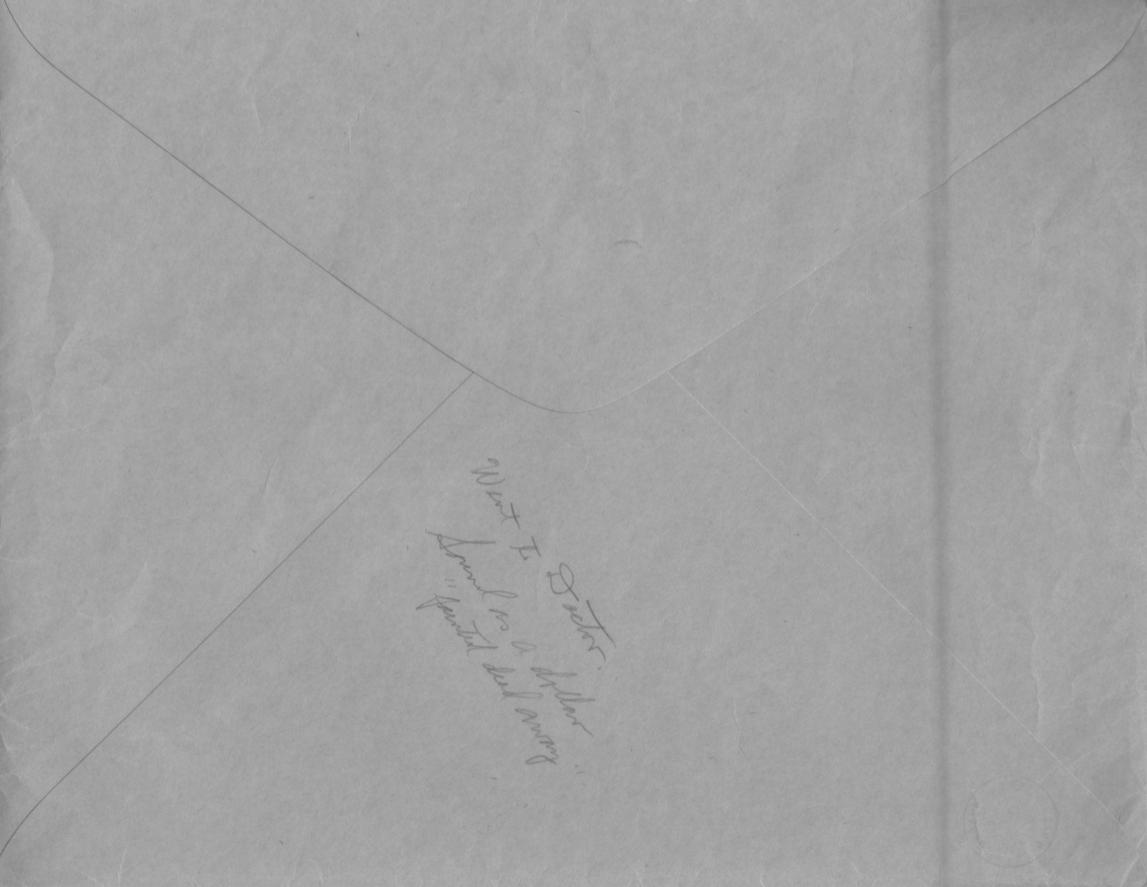
FARGO, N.D.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S. OFFICE OF THE MINORITY LEADER PUBLIC DOCUMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

SEP. 17, 1965 Herry R. Ford

Reading Text.





CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

NEWS RELEASE

Excerpts from a speech Fargo, North Dakota

For Immediate Release Sept. 17, 1965

There is a major difference between the two great political parties.

Democrats have as their goal the general welfare state. Republicans have a broader interest. We are concerned with the state of the general welfare.

* * *

What is progress——Democrat—style? Is it progress to retreat from the principles of the Constitution? Is it progress to perpetuate poverty for political exploitation and purpose; to tax away incentive from the industrious and bury it further among the idle; to take one man's taxes and pay another man's rent; to tax a businessman to provide funds to establish his competition?

Republicans can be proud of a record of true progress.

When the government was in our stewardship, great gains were made toward securing freedom of opportunity, exercise of the voting franchise, fair working conditions, and an efficient, solvent government---stable at home, firm in foreign affirs.

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In the area of voting rights, Democrats junked progress to preserve conditions which permit big city machines to exercise their motto--vote early and often and we'll count the ballot more than once. The Great Society is not really interested in everyone's right to vote. It is interested in securing the right to vote for those who vote Democratic.

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What of the war on poverty? Republicans believe that government should have a heart---without losing its head. We have long realized that the way to beat poverty is by providing jobs. The Democrat remedy is to compensate those who are not working and to blame society for the fact they are unemployed.

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Excerpts from a speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford (f)

The real cost of government is carefully and artfully concealed. The Republican job is to bring the facts to the people. We must make the Nation aware that we will all become paper rich and security poor unless the inflationary trend is stopped in its tracks.

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Every time a federal program is created, or enlarged, it costs each of us money. Direct and hidden taxes are growing steadily. We face rising local taxes when federal match-fund projects stimulate local spending.

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One fact in today's political life is that all the big spenders are not in Washington.

The Democrats are working to establish their personal empire builders in city halls, courthouses, statehouses and in Congress. The Republican job is to replace them right along the line---from the courthouse to the White House.

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Republicans must reach the electorate with the facts.

We must point out that living costs are high and going higher; that high taxes and the Democrats go hand-in-hand; that waste and Lyndon B. Johnson feather the same nest; that the federal Santa Claus is picking tax dollars from our pockets.

We must get across to the people that there is no certainity in the alleged Great Society---- except, debt and taxes.

* * *

Let us all, every day, remind our friends and neighbors that our present course is folly; that it can lead to national and personal bankruptcy; that we need a good society, not an alleged "great" one under the wing of Potomac paternalism.

The Great Society of today is a shambles of contradictions. Its creed consists of pat social phrases designed to make those who earn, or to excel, feel guilty. Success has become a curse.

The programs are dressed in purity of name, under which operate hard-core politicians busily engaged in extending and abusing federal power.

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