

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 1976

Office of the Vice President
(Cincinnati, Ohio)

SEP 29 2 44 PM '76
RECEIVED
GSA

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AT THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN RALLY
HARRISON ROOM, CINCINNATI CLUB
30 GARFIELD PLACE
CINCINNATI, OHIO

AT 6:33 P.M. EDT

Thank you. You know, friends, after that introduction, it is a shame I am not running for office.

(Applause)

Wouldn't you know, the first time I am not running I get that kind of introduction.

(Laughter)

Let me tell you about that lifeboat. He never got out of it the whole trip, all the way down.

(Laughter)

GOVERNOR RHODES: Every time a 50-foot wave would come, I would get in.

(Laughter)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: You would just see his head peeking out from under the cover.

But I have got to tell you, friends, I have been in this business a long time. And Jim and I, because we both have the initial "R," sat next to each other in all of the National Governors' Conferences. And I don't think any experience I have ever had has been more rewarding or more delightful than those days I spent with your great Governor, who has got to be one of the extraordinary citizens of this country. And I love him.

(Applause)

He has got that insight and that perception which is so important, but he has got it with a sense of humor. And that combination is rare, and that is what we need. We get so serious about things that we lose our perspective, get down and get discouraged. But not Jim. He sees right through the problems, right through people. And he has got some little comments -- some of them I won't repeat --

(Laughter)

-- that just go right to the heart of the problem.

And one of the things he understands and one of the things that I deeply believe in and that he has been so effective in advocating is that this country cannot have jobs for men and women to do for their families and for the

MORE

future of their children unless this country keeps growing. Now, that he understands, and that is what he has been fighting for. It is as simple as that.

(Applause)

And if you take it from there, all those who are so dedicated and who have contributed so importantly to the tremendous perception and understanding of this nation of the restoration of our environment are absolutely right. But you cannot take the steps to restore the environment unless you have got the growth and the energy to meet the needs to restore the environment. They go together. They are not in conflict. They are together.

So if one has the kind of vision for the future that he has, that I like to think I have; if one has the kind of faith and sense of excitement about the future -- and I don't think there has ever been a moment in the history of civilization that was more exciting, where the opportunities were greater than they are today. There is nothing this country can't do with the brilliance of free citizens, over 200 million men and women -- creative, imaginative in science, technology, productivity. There is nothing we can't do if we set our minds to it.

You have shown it here in Ohio. So we have got an opportunity to grasp. This has got to be the most exciting moment. Instead of feeling there is no meaning in life, there is no sense, no purpose, we have got a sense of direction that we can make for ourselves and for the world that can carry us through a period of the most exciting progress that we have ever known.

So I come to you here and stand on this platform with a group of candidates -- attractive, bright, dedicated, intelligent. I look out on this wonderful audience. I had a chance to shake hands with a lot of you. I wanted to do it with all of you.

People say the Republican Party is dead. If they had been here tonight, they would see the Republican Party was never more alive.

(Applause)

That is right. Look at it here. This is a cross-section of young people -- they talk about there are no young people in the Republican Party. I have met more attractive young people right here tonight, standing right in front of me than I have seen in a long time.

(Applause)

And the only reason Kent McGough wasn't here earlier, he was raising a little more money for these campaigns for these candidates, see, and the support for the party, enthusiasm for the party.

You know, I was in Chicago last night. They have got a wonderful young man running for Governor there. He is running two-to-one in the polls. There was a dinner,

fund-raising dinner, with 2400 people, two dining rooms filled. He is going to carry it. He is running two-to-one in the polls.

I tell you, this party is coming back. When I was first elected Governor, there were 14 Republican governors. We went to 32. We are back to 13 now. We will come back again.

The two-party system is the lifeblood of democracy. So I tell you, let's not be discouraged about anything. If we keep our focus on the country, what it needs, and if you can get the kind of people to stand for office that are standing on this platform, -- some elected, some running -- then we know the future of this country is in good hands, because they are in the hands of the best people that can be picked. And I am very proud to stand on this platform, and I am only sorry I am not running myself.

(Applause)

I would like to run with them. But, you know, it isn't just the candidates. There are those who are outstanding and articulate, like your Governor, who have been elected. But it is those who lead the party and run the party. I would like to say that Earl Barnes is the kind of County Chairman that puts the life in the party and that keeps it growing. That is the reason I am so grateful to him.

And Kent McGough here, who is your State Chairman, he is one of the great chairmen of the Republican States in this country, and he did a tremendous job for the President before the convention and at the convention. The President is very grateful to him. That is right. And grateful to you, if he knew you better.

(Laughter)

Ladies and gentlemen, before I get to the President, while we are still talking about candidates, there are three people who couldn't be here tonight because these are the closing days of Congress. But you have got some wonderful Republicans in Washington. One is Senator Bob Taft. There is a man we need in Congress.

(Applause)

I have watched him. I have presided over the Senate. This is confidential -- I am not allowed to speak. The only time I have had a chance to speak was to apologize. They give you unanimous consent for that, see. But if you have been an executive all your life, you are used to expressing yourself. But they are not used to doing that in the Senate. I got a little out of hand.

(Laughter)

Bob Taft is one of those following in the tradition of a great family, serving the State and the Nation, and we need him back there. And I know your State is going to send him back.

(Applause)

And Chalmers Wylie and Sam Devine, your two Congressmen who are down there now, we need them back, because you have got a great delegation, and we need them in that delegation.

(Applause)

The extraordinary thing about the President, who has taken over in the most difficult Constitutional crisis this country has ever faced, is that he was able to achieve what he did in restoring public trust and confidence in the Executive Branch of the government and in the White House. He has been able to cut inflation in half. He has been able to restore the vitality of the economy, four million jobs in the last 18 months -- new jobs. There are more people employed today in America than at any moment in the history of our country.

A month ago, when the statistics showed an increase in employment, the fascinating thing was there were 400,000 more jobs that month, but there were 700,000 more people applying for work, coming back into the work force. And the majority of them were women.

Why were they coming back? Because their confidence in America is being restored. This is President Ford for you. And he has done this despite the lack of support of a two-to-one Democratic-controlled Congress, ladies and gentlemen.

(Applause)

And in the international field, after a long period of war, the Republican Party has brought peace to America again. This has been the role this party has played.

(Applause)

And with the tragic termination and under circumstances that we won't go back to, the President was able to, despite what happened in Viet Nam and Cambodia, restore the position of prestige of the United States among the leaders of the world. So here we are at peace.

The economy is starting to roll again, respect for the Presidency is restored. This was done by a man who loves this country, who understands why this country is what it is in terms of individual freedom, human dignity, equality of opportunity, the American enterprise system. That is what he has been building on -- not more government, not more departments and bureaucracies and bureaucratic red tape getting into your hair and making it more and more difficult for you to be free citizens.

He believes in those fundamental principles, and that is the reason we are on the road back. But he has had to do it with very tough things. He has had to veto a lot of attractive measures, spending programs which sound wonderful and which sound very politically attractive. He

had the courage, after studying them, to veto them because he wanted to stop inflation.

Inflation hits everyone, in particular those who can least afford it -- those on pensions, fixed income. It erodes their earnings, gets the hidden tax on their pocket-book. So he did the things for the long-term best interests of America and took a short-term political risk in doing that. I think that is the kind of integrity, dedication and courage this country wants.

I have a feeling the American people, when they get into that booth on November 2nd, they are going to think who can handle the problems we are going to face in the next four years with the greatest experience, courage, and integrity. And they are going to say, "We trust President Ford. We have confidence in him. And he is going to be elected President of this country on November 2nd.

(Applause)

That is right. Now, I would like to say just a word about his standby equipment that he is going to have when he gets back there, and that is his Vice President. I am pretty familiar with that position myself.

(Laughter)

Well, you know, this business of being Vice President -- let's face it, it is a wonderful thing, and it is a terribly important position, because, God forbid, something might happen and you wake up the next morning and be President. So when you think of a Vice President, you have got to think of somebody who has the capacity to cope with the problems, should he be called upon.

But in the meantime, it is not what you call a very active position.

(Laughter)

I have always considered myself a staff assistant to the President. Whatever he wants me to do, I do. You preside over the Senate. That is a great honor.

But let me say a word about Bob Dole, because if you don't know him -- although he was in Ohio yesterday, I guess -- I would just like to say a word about this man. He is an extraordinary guy. He has been in local government. He has been in the legislature of his State. He has been in the House of Representatives. He has been a Senator. He has spent five-and-a-half years in World War II. He was wounded three times -- one of the great heroes of the Second World War.

He is a man of tremendous compassion, brilliance, absolutely marvelous speaker, with a marvelous sense of humor -- quite devastating at times, too, as a matter of fact. And I would like to say, on top of this he has been an advocate -- a strong advocate -- of civil rights. He is a man who has been a strong supporter of defense of Israel.

MORE

I got asked during the convention by Senator Mondale, who was carrying on one of those programs up in the booth above the floor -- This was just after the nomination -- "How can Jake Javits and some of these other liberal Senators in the Republican Party support Mr. Dole?" I said, "Well, you know, it's interesting. He has been one of the strong advocates of food stamps for those in need." I said, "Wasn't he a joint sponsor of some bill?" And the commentator who was there said, "Yes, it was the Mondale-Dole bill."

Mondale, who has got a good sense of humor -- you have got to say that for him -- said, "Maybe we better get off this subject, because they are liable to renominate Jesse Helms if we don't get out there on the floor."

But this is a real man, and he has got the qualifications and the capabilities, the character and the integrity and the courage to lead this country, should he be called upon to do it.

And he has got one other tremendous asset which I would like to mention, and that is, he has a brilliant and beautiful wife.

(Applause)

This is something very important. And his wife is a member of the Federal Trade Commission. So you get two for one in this election of Bob Dole.

Here we have not only a national ticket, but wonderful candidates from the top right down through all of the offices, and a President who understands the importance of local government. And I would like to say to you that the best government is the government closest to the people. That has been the Republican Party principle.

I want to thank you, and let's all go to that poll on November 2nd and vote for Ford-Dole all the way and these candidates.

Thank you very much.

Now, where is Bill Brewee?

Ladies and gentlemen, this is one of the unsung heroes of the Republican Party. We talk about grass roots government. This is real grass roots politics -- 40 years as Ward Chairman in Hamilton County.

Here are the letters from everybody, all framed for you. Bill, I want to tell you, we just sort of think that these wonderful candidates get here by themselves. They don't. They are nominated by the party, selected by the organizations. And it is the men and women, the unsung heroes of America, who work day in and day out, month after month, year after year to serve the party because they love the country. They don't get paid for this. They do it because they want to, because they care about America. This is a symbol of that strength in America.

MORE

(Applause)

Forty years of service to his party and his
country.

(Applause)

It's 48 years. I cut 8 years off. Sorry.

(Applause)

END

(AT 6:54 P.M. EDT)