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WHCF Official File , Box 424 " OF 106 Agriculture-Farming, 1952-53 (1)

EXCERPTS FROM ADDRESSES AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA AND KASSON, MINNESOTA

Our cooperative system of agricultural research and education had its start under a Republican administration. So did the Homestead Act. So did the United States Department of Agriculture, the land-grant colleges and our wonderful system of experiment stations.

A Republican administration developed the basic legislation that made farmer cooperatives possible. It was largely responsible for our farmer-run credit system.

These programs always carried the pattern of true cooperation, were always designed to strengthen the family farm -- never with the idea of federal control, never with the ulterior motive of using farm programs as a political tool. It remained for the Democrats to do that.

...The Republican party believes in farmer cooperatives ... Farmer cooperatives are an essential device for maintaining the independent family farm. We will not let them be endangered. We shall aid farmers to strengthen their own institutions.

The Republican party favors a sound program of rural electrification and rural telephone service. The Republican Eightieth Congress made available for R.E.A. (Rural Electrification Administration) loans of \$800,000,000 -- the largest amount ever made available by any Congress. We regard R.E.A. as an investment in agriculture's future.

But the cooperatives in this field should not be satellites of the Federal Government and we should make certain that as loans are repaid by each local cooperative, the sticky hands of Federal bureaucrats are removed.

(Omaha, Nebraska, 9/18/52)

We must be always concerned with strengthening farmer cooperatives, which has done so much to build this progressive farming area; with up-to-date farm-to-market roads; with developing rural electrification and telephone service. We also must be concerned with our human resources. We must see to it that every farm child has the best educational opportunities

(Kasson, Minn., 9/6/52)