

HOOVER RECALLS BOYHOOD DAYS ON IOWA FARM

Would Not Improve Old Swimming Hole, He Tells Former Neighbors.

SEES IOWA'S PROBLEMS LIKE THOSE OF NATION

Will Ask Lowden to Assist Him in Carrying Out Effective Farm Relief Program—Shows How Waterways Will Increase Rural Prosperity.

West Branch, Ia.—Back again at his birth place, among boyhood friends and neighbors, Herbert Hoover speaking here, recalled childhood memories, paid warm tribute to his former school teacher, who took him into her home after the death of his parents, and told his hearers that the problems of Iowa's farmers are those of all American agriculture.

Speaking freely and intimately to an immense throng in which he saw the faces of many old friends, Mr. Hoover spoke feelingly of his home life with Iowa and then passed to the discussion of the problems of his home state and of the nation.

His speech follows:

This is a homecoming. It hardly seems an occasion for a lengthy political speech—rather is it an opportunity to recall old associations and renew old friendships.

I am glad, a son of Iowa, to come back to the place where I was born. Here I spent the first ten years of my boyhood. Here my parents and my grandparents toiled, worshipped God, did their part in building this community, and now lie in the cemetery over the hill.

Tribute to Teacher

During the past 44 years I have returned from time to time that I might pay respect to my memory, that I might express my appreciation of those kindly and sympathetic folk who, taking a boy to their hearts, wiped away the one grief of childhood. One of my vivid recollections was my earnest interest in the debate between neighbors and relatives when they were discussing not who was to assume me as a burden, but who was to take the boy as a member of their own flock. That is the spirit of the people of Iowa. It is the spirit of the thousands of villages and towns in all this wide land.

And I have no apology for even a more personal note. There is present here today a lady who took part in that debate, and who was for years my teacher in your public school. She embodies the spirit of that vast body of women who not only teach and inspire our children but watch over their wider destinies. You have come to do me courtesy as a son of Iowa. I take this occasion to acknowledge my debt to that lady—Mrs. Curran.

There is no imprint upon our minds so deep as those of early boyhood—mine are the joys of Iowa—the glories of snowy winter, the wonder at the growing crops, the joining of the neighbors to harvest, the gathering of apples, the pilgrimage to the river woods for the annual fuel and nuts, the going to school, the interludes from work, in the swimming hole, fishing in creeks, the hunting for prairie chickens and rabbits in the hedges and woods—it is the entry to life which I could wish for every American boy and girl.

Again today I have had refreshment of spirit in return to these scenes. The swimming hole is still in use. It has the same mudbank. It is still impossible to dress without carrying mud home in ones inner garments. As an engineer I could devise improvements for that swimming hole. But I doubt if the decrease in mothers' grief at the homecoming of muddy boys would compensate the inherent joys of getting muddy.

Aunt's Prophecy True

I have been to see the old Quaker meeting house. It has been moved across the street and replaced by a more modern structure. The old building appears at some time to have been turned into a moving picture house, which reminds me of the time I heard Aunt Hannah, moved in meeting, bitterly denounce the rise of modern ways and prophesy that if they were persisted in, that edifice dedicated to God would some day be transformed into a place of abomination. I do not place the movies in that class, but knowing Aunt Hannah's views on any form of human recreation, even to the godlessness of sliding down hill, I suspect that if she knew of this she would get great satisfaction at the consumption of her warnings.

This was always a Republican village. It was here that I received my first touch of the national life. I well recollect the hoisting of the flag at half mast over my father's blacksmith shop on the assassination of President Garfield. I also recollect well the torchlight procession in the Garfield election. I was not high enough to be permitted the conduct of a torch, but I participated by walking alongside for miles. At that time there were two or three Democrats in the town. I do not know today whether what seemed to me an enormous torchlight parade was instituted for their conversion or not, but I be-

lieve it was hopeless, because one of my boyhood friends and opponents in battle, who I expect is in this audience today, is a descendant of one of those Democrats and has been regenerated only in the last month.

I am proud to have been born in Iowa. I have oftentimes said that the good lord made it the richest stretch of agricultural land that ever blessed any one sovereign government. It was settled by the adventurous, the courageous, who fought their way across the ever extending frontier; they have builded here in so short a period as 75 years a state with the least poverty, the highest average intelligence, the most generous education, which ever blessed a single commonwealth.

Sees Typical Changes

Here in West Branch can be found all the milestones of the changes which have come to American agriculture. Only a mile from here is the farm of my Uncle Allen, where I spent some years of my boyhood. That was just at the passing stage of the great pioneer movement. Many farms were still places where we tilled the soil for the immediate needs of the family. We ground our wheat and corn on toll at the mill; we slaughtered our hogs for meat; we wove at least a part of our own clothing; we repaired our own machinery; we got our own fuel from the woods; we erected our own buildings; we made our own soap; we preserved our own fruit and grew our own vegetables. Only a small part of the family living came by purchases from the outside. Perhaps 20 per cent of the products were sold in the markets to purchase the small margin of necessities which we could not ourselves produce, and to pay interest on the mortgage.

In a half century the whole basis of agriculture has shifted. We have improved seed and livestock; we have added a long list of mechanical inventions for saving of labor; we have increased the productivity of the land. And it has become a highly specialized business. There is no longer one industry called farming, but in fact a dozen industries. Probably over 80 per cent of its products now go directly or indirectly to the markets and probably over 80 per cent of the family living must be purchased from outside. In the old days when prices fluctuated in the Chicago market, at most they affected only 20 per cent of the income of the farm. A violent drop in prices could reduce the family income by only four or five per cent. Today the same fluctuation in price, affecting as it does 80 per cent to 100 per cent of the products of the farm, can take 25 or 50 per cent away from the family net income and make the difference between comfort and freedom from anxiety, or on the other hand, debts and discouragements.

I do not suggest a return to the greater security which agriculture enjoyed in its earlier days, because with that security were lower standards of living, greater toil, less opportunity for leisure and recreation, less of the comforts of home, less of the joy of living.

I am often conscious of sentimental regret for the passing of those old time conditions. I have sometimes been as homesick for the ways of those self contained farm homes of forty years ago as I have been for the kindly folk who lived in them. But I know it is no more possible to revive those old conditions than it is to summon back the relatives and friends in the cemetery yonder. While we recognize and hold fast to what is permanent in the old time conditions, we must accept what is inevitable in the changes that have taken place. It is fortunate indeed that the principles upon which our government was founded require no alteration to meet these changes.

Reveals Relief Plans

Just as there is transformation in agriculture so there is in other industry; just as there is more specialization on the farm, so there is in other industry. We live today by the exchange of goods among ten thousand sorts of producers of specialties. A large number of occupations which were conducted on the farm in old days are now conducted in the factory. That is one reason why we have a decreasing proportion of our people on the farms. By this revolution the American farmer has become enmeshed in powerful and, yet delicate, economic forces which are working to his disadvantage.

Assures Lake-Gulf Route

We have another great opportunity of relief in the building of a shipway from the great lakes to the sea. Our engineers have recommended the St. Lawrence route as the preferable outlet. The administration has undertaken negotiations with Canada upon the subject. If these negotiations fail we must consider alternative routes. In any event the completion of this great system of barge lines on the rivers and connecting the lakes with the gulf, of opening a shipway from the lakes to the sea, will make an effective transportation system 12,000 miles in length penetrating twenty midwest states. It will connect these states with seaboard at the gulf on one hand and with the North Atlantic on the other. And this means more than the mere saving upon the actual goods shipped over these routes. If part of our crops can move to market at a seven to ten cent saving per bushel, the buyers' competitive bidding for this portion of the crop will force upward the price of the whole crop.

And this development concerns not alone agriculture, but every industry and business in the midwest. The manufacturer and merchant in this section is suffering from a curtailment

of his distribution field; his business province has shrunk. This development should tend to increase manufacturing industry in the midwest and thereby create a larger diversity of employment and a greater local market for agricultural products. Nor does this development mean the crippling of our railways. The annual increase in railway traffic will give to them a far more and complete offset to these diversions. Moreover, everything that increases the prosperity of the country also helps the railways. The policy of rapid consumption of this great project will be continued if the Republican administration be continued. We should at the present rate of progress have completed the Mississippi system within the next few years. It is a vital part of the rehabilitation of the middle west agriculture and business.

Still Needs to Pioneer

The modernizations of our waterways recall again the earlier life of Iowa. At one time its transportation was in large degree over these same rivers and many of our pioneers reached this state by the old Packet boats and their own rafts. Nor are the days of the pioneer over. We have to pioneer through economic problems, through scientific development and invention on to frontiers just as forbidding, just as romantic, and just as pregnant of added happiness as our fathers ever knew. The test of our generation will be whether we can overcome these frontiers, whether we can hold mastery over the system we have created, whether we can maintain the advantage we have inherited, whether we can hold ourselves a nation dedicated to equal opportunity for all.

There are those in this audience who saw Iowa an open prairie. I recall members of my own family who in my childhood were still breaking the soil in the western part of the state and were then still living in the first sod houses of the pioneer farmer. Our fathers and grandfathers who poured over the midwest were self-reliant, rugged, God-fearing people of indomitable courage. They combined to build the roads, bridges, and towns; they co-operated together to erect their schools, their churches, and to raise their barns and harvest their fields. They asked only for freedom of opportunity and an equal chance. In these conceptions lies the real basis of American democracy. They and their fathers give a genius to American institutions that distinguished our people from any other in the world. Their demand for an equal chance is the basis of American progress. To those who have by necessity worked in other lands comes this most vivid meaning of America and a deep gratitude for what our fathers have builded. Here there are no limits to hope; no limits upon accomplishment; our obligation today is to maintain that equal opportunity for agriculture as well as for every other calling.

Pledges Service to Homes

When we traverse the memories of those who have builded this state and this nation we recall these acts which are rooted in the soil of service. When we rehearse our own memories we find that none give us such comfort and satisfaction as the record of service we have been able to render. I do not believe our people have lost those finer qualities of rugged character, self-reliance, or initiative, nor have they lost the great quality which they imbedded in American character, the quality of neighborly co-operation and mutual service. It is in this quality that our hopes must lie in the solution of our great problems.

And I must say again that the solution of these problems has but one purpose—that is the comfort and welfare of the American family and the American home. The family is the unit of American life and the home is the sanctuary of moral inspiration and of American spirit. The true conception of America is not a nation of 110,000,000 people but a nation of 23,000,000 families living in 23,000,000 homes. I pledge my services to these homes.

"TED" NORTH PLAYS HERE FIVE NIGHTS UNDER CANVAS

Frank Maury agent for "Ted" North Players, was in O'Neill today completing arrangements for the engagement of that popular company here under canvas for five nights starting Friday, August 31st.

This season Mr. North is offering some of the latest and best dramatic and comedy successes with high class vaudeville between acts.

The company this season is headed by "Ted" North and Marie Peters who are supported by an excellent cast prominent among whom are Arthur Kelly the comedian who has always been very popular here.

All productions are under the personal directions of Barney Wolfe.

The play selected by Mr. North for the initial performance here Friday night is the new domestic comedy "What Ann Brought Home" which is one of the most popular of the new stock releases.

Another added feature this season is the Kansas City Ladies Orchestra under the direction of Miss Pearl

Roemer. The prices are the same as usual—twenty five and fifty cents and three will be no charge for reserved seats. On Friday night only one lady will be admitted free with each paid adult ticket.

PLEASANT VALLEY.

Frank Snyder and wife visited Sunday at Roy Sniders.

Finley Crumley visited Monday evening with Claude Hamilton.

Threshing is about over in Pleasant Valley; until the buckwheat is ripe.

Edward Grass, wife and son, Lawrence, visited Sunday and Monday with Percy Grass.

Mrs. Cora Hamilton returned home last Monday after staying in O'Neill for the past five weeks.

George Fink and wife spent last week in Ewing running their brother Russell's store, while they were away on a vacation.

of his distribution field; his business province has shrunk. This development should tend to increase manufacturing industry in the midwest and thereby create a larger diversity of employment and a greater local market for agricultural products. Nor does this development mean the crippling of our railways. The annual increase in railway traffic will give to them a far more and complete offset to these diversions. Moreover, everything that increases the prosperity of the country also helps the railways. The policy of rapid consumption of this great project will be continued if the Republican administration be continued. We should at the present rate of progress have completed the Mississippi system within the next few years. It is a vital part of the rehabilitation of the middle west agriculture and business.

Still Needs to Pioneer

The modernizations of our waterways recall again the earlier life of Iowa. At one time its transportation was in large degree over these same rivers and many of our pioneers reached this state by the old Packet boats and their own rafts. Nor are the days of the pioneer over. We have to pioneer through economic problems, through scientific development and invention on to frontiers just as forbidding, just as romantic, and just as pregnant of added happiness as our fathers ever knew. The test of our generation will be whether we can overcome these frontiers, whether we can hold mastery over the system we have created, whether we can maintain the advantage we have inherited, whether we can hold ourselves a nation dedicated to equal opportunity for all.

There are those in this audience who saw Iowa an open prairie. I recall members of my own family who in my childhood were still breaking the soil in the western part of the state and were then still living in the first sod houses of the pioneer farmer. Our fathers and grandfathers who poured over the midwest were self-reliant, rugged, God-fearing people of indomitable courage. They combined to build the roads, bridges, and towns; they co-operated together to erect their schools, their churches, and to raise their barns and harvest their fields. They asked only for freedom of opportunity and an equal chance. In these conceptions lies the real basis of American democracy. They and their fathers give a genius to American institutions that distinguished our people from any other in the world. Their demand for an equal chance is the basis of American progress. To those who have by necessity worked in other lands comes this most vivid meaning of America and a deep gratitude for what our fathers have builded. Here there are no limits to hope; no limits upon accomplishment; our obligation today is to maintain that equal opportunity for agriculture as well as for every other calling.

Pledges Service to Homes

When we traverse the memories of those who have builded this state and this nation we recall these acts which are rooted in the soil of service. When we rehearse our own memories we find that none give us such comfort and satisfaction as the record of service we have been able to render. I do not believe our people have lost those finer qualities of rugged character, self-reliance, or initiative, nor have they lost the great quality which they imbedded in American character, the quality of neighborly co-operation and mutual service. It is in this quality that our hopes must lie in the solution of our great problems.

And I must say again that the solution of these problems has but one purpose—that is the comfort and welfare of the American family and the American home. The family is the unit of American life and the home is the sanctuary of moral inspiration and of American spirit. The true conception of America is not a nation of 110,000,000 people but a nation of 23,000,000 families living in 23,000,000 homes. I pledge my services to these homes.

"TED" NORTH PLAYS HERE FIVE NIGHTS UNDER CANVAS

Frank Maury agent for "Ted" North Players, was in O'Neill today completing arrangements for the engagement of that popular company here under canvas for five nights starting Friday, August 31st.

This season Mr. North is offering some of the latest and best dramatic and comedy successes with high class vaudeville between acts.

The company this season is headed by "Ted" North and Marie Peters who are supported by an excellent cast prominent among whom are Arthur Kelly the comedian who has always been very popular here.

All productions are under the personal directions of Barney Wolfe.

The play selected by Mr. North for the initial performance here Friday night is the new domestic comedy "What Ann Brought Home" which is one of the most popular of the new stock releases.

Another added feature this season is the Kansas City Ladies Orchestra under the direction of Miss Pearl

Roemer. The prices are the same as usual—twenty five and fifty cents and three will be no charge for reserved seats. On Friday night only one lady will be admitted free with each paid adult ticket.

PLEASANT VALLEY.

Frank Snyder and wife visited Sunday at Roy Sniders.

Finley Crumley visited Monday evening with Claude Hamilton.

Threshing is about over in Pleasant Valley; until the buckwheat is ripe.

Edward Grass, wife and son, Lawrence, visited Sunday and Monday with Percy Grass.

Mrs. Cora Hamilton returned home last Monday after staying in O'Neill for the past five weeks.

George Fink and wife spent last week in Ewing running their brother Russell's store, while they were away on a vacation.

HERODOTUS said "Anything may happen in the course of time." The poor man who takes time to accumulate money in bank here may become a rich man.

The O'Neill National Bank

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$125,000.00

This bank carries no indebtedness of officers or stockholders.

Come To The Boone County Fair

ALBION, NEBR.

August 27-28-29-30-31

5-BIG DAYS-5

WONDERFUL EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY

RUNNING RACES MOTORCYCLE RACES
 AUTO POLO AUTO PUSH BALL
 STUNT FLYING AIRPLANE WING WALKING
 5,000-FOOT PARACHUTE DROP

LACKMAN-CARSON CARNIVAL SHOWS

Base Ball Daily	Band Concerts
Contortion Acts	Acrobatic Stunts
Foot Jugglers	Gold Dust Twins
Pavilion Dance	Big Night Show

Sunset Lodge

MODERN TOURIST CAMP
24 Hour Service

CAFE, ICE CREAM AND COLD DRINKS.
 GARAGE SERVICE, GAS, OILS AND GREASES.
 TUBES CALLED FOR, REPAIRED, DELIVERED, 50c.

FREE!

When in O'Neill bring your lunches to our screened-in pavilion. The place is at your service without cost. Come and get acquainted with us.

Harry T. Osborn