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### Too Sensible for Acceptance

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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Mansfield, Mike 1903-2001, "Too Sensible for Acceptance" (1959). *Mike Mansfield Speeches, Statements and Interviews*. 354.

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Editorial from THE LEWISTOWN DAILY NEWS, Lewistown, Montana;  
June 2, 1959

TOO SENSIBLE FOR ACCEPTANCE

Senator Mike Mansfield as guest editor-for-a-day has written a very thoughtful and constructive editorial in the Great Falls Tribune suggesting a way out of the increasingly acute problem of our growing wheat surplus.

The Senator points out that there is no end in sight. He indicates that we have "given these products away. We have bartered them. We have sold them on the easiest of terms. Yet the stockpiles continue to grow... The problem is getting worse."

Senator Mansfield believes that the wheat surplus problem will continue to grow worse as long as we regard agricultural surpluses as a temporary phenomenon and try to meet it with makeshift remedies.

The good Senator does not pose this problem without offering a way out of the woods. He has three specific and arresting proposals:

1. "We must close the disgraceful loopholes in the present federal agricultural program so as to curb the few who have twisted its decent purpose into a get-rich-quick device which milks the American people of millions of dollars and adds enormously to the accumulation of surpluses.

2. "We must channel surplus foods, in heavier measure, into a long-range domestic program for the benefit of schools, institutions, and hospitals for the benefit of the unemployed and old-age pensioners, indeed, for the benefit of all Americans who do not get enough to eat solely because they cannot afford it.

3. "We must, together with other food surplus nations, work out a world-wide program for the benefit of less fortunate peoples in other lands, using our own surpluses in great measure in place of foreign aid dollar grants."

This program, which promises to save the overburdened taxpayer money all around, makes too much sense for us to hope that the spenders and bureaucrats in the Eisenhower Administration will accept it.