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ADDRESS BY SENATOR AIKEN AT
MONTANA DINNER TO COMMEMORATE
SENATOR MANSFIELD'S
25 YEARS IN CONGRESS

Mr. METCALF. Mr. President, when I was at home in Montana several weeks ago I was privileged to participate in the Mansfield Endowment Dinner at Helena, October 14. The dinner was the second of two such events, the first held here in Washington August 24, commemorating Majority Leader MIKE MANSFIELD'S 25 years in Congress and the beginning of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield lectures in international relations at the University of Montana.

The evening was splendid in every respect. The featured speaker was our distinguished and able colleague, the senior Republican in the U.S. Senate, GEORGE D. AIKEN. Montanans, Democrats and Republicans, farmers and ranchers, businessmen, miners, educators, and students came from all parts of Montana, and Senator and Mrs. Aiken came from Vermont to pay tribute to Montana's senior Senator, who is Senator AIKEN'S long-time friend and trusted colleague.

Senator AIKEN is recognized as a hard-working, considerate leader in his own party. It was most appropriate that he speak at this event. The dinner recognized the inauguration of a lecture series in international relations, an area close to Senator AIKEN because of his many years of service as a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations. Senator AIKEN is also a great champion of rural America, a man who has helped solve many problems that plague the agricultural segment of our economy. Vermont and Montana have in common topography, friendly people, and the homes of two great legislators.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator AIKEN'S speech be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the speech was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SPEECH BY SENATOR GEORGE D. AIKEN, MONTANA DINNER COMMEMORATING HON. MIKE MANSFIELD'S 25 YEARS IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "MANSFIELD LECTURES ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS," HELENA, MONT., OCTOBER 14, 1967

Mr. Chairman and Friends of Mike Mansfield: When I received the invitation to be here tonight to help the people of Montana and the University of Montana pay tribute to your Senior Senator for his twenty-five years of service in the United States Congress, I was quite elated.

When I was told that I was expected to make a speech my elation took a nose dive.

What can I say about Mike Mansfield that the people of Montana do not already know?

You know his background—you know his civilian and military record.

You know of the years when he worked in the mines and the years he spent at your State University as student and teacher.

You know his record in public life and you know his character.

I have known your senior Senator well only since that morning in January, 1953, when we first had breakfast together.

I could recite to you innumerable incidents and anecdotes which have occurred

since that morning and which demonstrate the caliber of the man.

However, I don't propose to spend the next few minutes in simply eulogizing Mike Mansfield.

I might like to do it—you might like to hear it—but he would take me to task for it later.

Not that Mike does not appreciate the respect in which he is universally held or being credited with the things he does so right.

Senator Mansfield is the Leader of the Democratic Majority in the United States Senate.

I have served a long time in the same Body as a Republican.

I can tell you tonight that Mike Mansfield is equally respected on both sides of the Aisle in the Senate Chamber.

There are those who may wonder why the Majority Leader of the United States Senate is so well liked by the Minority Members of that Body.

The reason was well expressed by one of my Republican colleagues the other day when he said, "When Mike gives his word, he keeps it. When he says there will be no vote today—there is no vote. He never pulls a fast one or takes advantage of a Member's absence from the Floor."

This is the reason why Republican Members of the Senate like your Senior Senator.

There comes a time, however in the lives of many men when, regardless of the praise that may be bestowed upon them, they find that their greatest reward lies in the satisfaction of knowing that their works have contributed to the betterment of mankind.

Mike Mansfield is one of these men so in deference to him tonight I want to speak of those things which are close to his heart and to which he gives his working life.

Whether people are happy or not depends largely upon government and those who, by election or otherwise, assume responsibility for government at each level.

I have always maintained that one who ignores, evades or misuses his responsibility to the local community will never be too successful at the State, National or International level.

One's service to others is a yardstick by which the worth of a person is measured but that service need not always be rendered by the holding of office.

In the case of Mike Mansfield, his Community was first the mines of Montana and later the University of Montana.

In 1943, his service to the State began with election to the U.S. House of Representatives—increasing with his election to the Senate in 1952.

Since 1953, however, Mike Mansfield has become more and more a student and benefactor of the world—respected and trusted by the community of nations.

Perhaps it is because I represent a rural state that I have worked so closely with the Senior Senator from Montana.

Vermont is a small state and, until recently, we had more cows than people.

Montana is the fourth largest state in area and even more sparsely populated than Vermont—yet in many ways our problems are similar.

We have to constantly guard against efforts to concentrate the power of government in the National Capital and the economic power of the Nation in the populous financial and industrial centers.

The urge for empire building is strong, and it is so easy for the more wealthy and populous areas to forget that the wealth of which they boast was not created within their urban borders but for the most part was generated and produced on the farms

and in the mines and forests of the more sparsely populated states.

The financial situation of our large cities is such that Congress is urgently pressed to remedy their plight at public expense.

It is an undisputed fact that most large cities are in an unenviable position and need help badly.

However, the solution to the problems of cities that have grown too big is not to make them bigger.

The solution lies in making the rural areas of the Nation—including Montana and Vermont—adaptable for the spreading out of industry and population.

This means that not only must electricity and telephones be made available to the country but that transportation—schools—hospitals—water and sewage disposal systems must also come within the means of the rural community.

It means that industry must decentralize—with public assistance—if necessary.

It means that a strong and prosperous agriculture must be sustained.

To this end, you Senator, Mike Mansfield, has been working assiduously and successfully.

This year I have again joined with him in an effort to further expand the program of the Farmers Home Administration to encourage recreation and other sidelines for farmers and rural residents, as well as to enlarge the Rural Water Program.

It is not alone in the economic world that our rural states must be on guard.

It is in the field of government as well.

Dreams of empire are frequently to be found in agencies of the Federal government.

The dreamers or planners, as they are sometimes called, cannot always be condemned as being either avaricious or despotic.

Usually, they actually believe that they could do better work and do more good for more people if power and facilities were more concentrated—under their supervision of course.

This, in their opinion, means the removal of certain important facilities and branch offices from the thinly populated states to a few large urban centers.

A striking example of this occurred a few years ago when a determined effort was made to close many Veterans Hospital Facilities and provide treatment for local veterans at hospitals which in some cases were several hundred miles from their homes.

Mike Mansfield reacted violently to this effort.

He not only saved facilities for the veterans of Montana, but also was instrumental in keeping VA facilities for thousands of other veterans throughout the United States.

The job that Mike Mansfield did for the veterans of Montana is only one example of his service to his people.

The years he has spent in the Senate are replete with evidences of his feeling for his home State.

I sat with him in conference with leaders of the Canadian Parliament when he persuaded them that construction of the Libby Dam would be to the advantage of both countries.

I have firsthand knowledge of his solicitude for the welfare of the Indians of Montana—how he has fought for fair treatment for the farmers, the miners and the business and professional people of this State.

And each victory he has won for the State of Montana has been to the benefit of Vermont and the other forty-eight States of our Union.

The evolution of government is a continuing process.

The days when a community was an entity unto itself passed into history long ago.

The days when a criminal could escape punishment by crossing a state line have also, for the most part, gone for good.

The advance of technology has now so far eroded time and distance that the mysterious distant lands of only a couple generations ago are now as close to us and to each other as the States of our Union were then.

And with these new conditions have come new dangers and new hopes.

The means for doing good or evil have multiplied—but the traits of mankind remain about as they were.

With regional wars breaking out here and there and with the dark clouds of a greater conflict looming ominously on the horizon, we must not make mistakes.

The United States is considered the most powerful Nation in the world today.

It was predicted by our ablest military experts that we could handily bring North Viet Nam to terms in a short time.

And now when we consider how difficult it is to make progress in that small area, it makes one wonder how successful we would be in conflict with a country that could field well armed fighting men by the million.

Surely there are ways of settling international differences other than through the waging of war.

These ways we must find.

Your Senator, Mike Mansfield, is one of the world's great leaders in searching for the formula for Peace.

He has become a leader not only in the United States but around the world because he is universally respected and trusted.

Perhaps we have yet to learn that regardless of race—creed—color or habitat people are people and possess the same traits as ourselves.

Nor, would it do us Americans any harm to learn and practice the art of being humble.

Surely there are other people as smart and worthy as we are.

Humility—integrity—courage and vision are as important in nations as they are in the individual—or the community, the source of the progress of mankind.

During the past twenty-five years Mike Mansfield has taken those steps upward from the Community to the State—to the Nation and to the World.

Wherever one goes, however and whatever one does, his heart and mind instinctively turn back to the place of the beginning.

It is from these sources that the great men of history have derived much of their strength and courage.

And so Mike Mansfield tonight returns again to the University of Montana to the source of many early inspirations.

He returns not only to pay homage to this University but to receive the honors which he has so fairly earned.

And to share that honor with him is Maureen Mansfield, who grew up to be a true daughter of this State and who has contributed so much to Mike's success.

Without Maureen his life and work would have been far more difficult.

In establishing "The Mansfield Lectures on International Relations" this University pays honor to a great alumnus in a manner designed to serve the four areas of political progress to which he has dedicated his own life.

I know that your efforts will be crowned with success and bring to the University of Montana a rich reward.