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Brannan Farm Plan

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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Page 40

THE BRANNAN FARM PLAN

Lately, I have been doing some thinking about the farm plan put forward by the Honorable Charles Brannan, Secretary of Agriculture and have been relating its various provisions to the operation on our own farm. It is my conclusion and firm conviction that the Brannan plan would work better than any farm program we have ever had in this country -- and for the great benefit of the whole nation, consumers as well as farmers.

I have done some comparing between the Brannan plan and the Aiken farm law passed by the last Congress. The Aiken law, passed about a year ago in the last-minute rush before Congress adjourned, will go into effect next January unless the new Congress passes something better in the meantime. I think we should pass something better and that is the Brannan Plan.

Under the Aiken law, prices for farm products may or may not be supported, and the support level could be anywhere from 90 per cent of parity down to nothing. Under the Brannan plan, however, just about all farm commodities would be supported if market prices fell below an income standard equal to about 100 per cent of present parity.

What does the Brannan plan mean to the consumer? Actually, it will save him money -- both in food prices at the store, and in taxes. The reason is that perishable commodities would be supported through direct production payments to farmers, instead of by government purchases on the open market which tend to keep retail prices high. Also, there would be big savings for all tax payers because the government would not have burdensome surplusses to dispose of -- which can cost up to billions of dollars, as already has been demonstrated in the case of potatoes.

Let me repeat that I am firmly convinced the Brannan farm plan would work better than anything we have ever had in this country -- and that I will work hard and long in your behalf to have it adopted by this Congress.

I believe that every man is entitled to a job, but conversely if jobs are obtainable + a man won't work society should do nothing for him.

I believe prosperity is only possible if production is high + the national income is equal to the cost of purchasing its maximum production.

I believe that every human being is entitled to a decent roof over his head.

I believe there is no argument for poverty

I believe in the U.N., a firm bi-partisan foreign policy, an intl police force, the abolishing of the veto, + the creation of a real world court to hear intl disputes.

I believe that the contest between labor + employer is wasteful + that within the framework of a free-enterprise system labor must be accorded not minimum wages necessary merely to survive, but wages high enough to enable labor to buy the goods produced by capital.

I believe that Capital should be guaranteed profits but I do not believe in profiteering.

Like the great Irish patriot, Daniel O'Connell proclaimed - "I take my religion from Rome, but my politics from home."

There is no such thing as
a Catholic Communist

No man can make truck
with Communism + still be
true to the tradition, the
ideals, the spiritual heritage
of America.

I care not for the arrogance
of the extreme left or the stubbornness
of the extreme right. nor do I
care for arbitrary or dogmatic
attitudes. I do not know all
the answers; neither does anyone
else.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Give the farmer a sensible farm program. What a gem
He is in favor of the Hoover Commission recommendation. So he
completely in favor of them. ~~He~~ I am, with one exception
& that is I am not in favor of transferring veterans
hospitals & medical facilities out of the V.A.

He says he's "against socialism at home & the
appeasement of Communism abroad"

What specific legislation passed by the Congress
do you consider socialistic? What legislation now
on the books would you repeal? Why do you
talk in generalities — they mean nothing. Why
not be against communism at home as well as
abroad & why not tell the people that you lie
when you say we appeased communism abroad?

72 Weden (Butte) ^{Anna}
~~66 Reardon (Butte)~~ 69 McAnulpha (Butte) ~~Mehrens (Butte)~~ 66 Woods (Mela) 78 Cook (T.B.)
 66 McAntyre (W'hall) 63 Bradley (") 67 Reston (Butte) ^{Butte} 64 Mehrens (Butte) 61 Bryan (Mama)
 59 Wornig' (Butte) 56 Johnson (Kabifil) 67 Shanahan (W.F.) ~~55 Conner (Victor)~~ 56 Myers (Butte)
 44 ~~Ann (W'hall)~~ 41 Day (D.Z.) 48 Kelly (Butte) 61 Lavis (D.Z.) 49 Ann (W'hall)
 39 Cruz (W'hall) 55 Conner (Victor)

78 Cook P Juni Bridges
 72 Weden P Butte
 69 Reardon P Butte
 69 McAnul P Butte
 67 Shanahan P W'fual
 66 Gust 1 Anna
 66 McAnt 1 W'hall
 66 Woods 1 Mela
 63 Bradley 1 Butte
 61 Bryan 2 Butte
 61 Lavis 2 Kabifil
 59 Wornig 2 Butte
 56 Johnson 2 Victor
 56 Myers 3 W'hall
 55 Conner 3 Butte
 49 Ann 3 D.Z.
 48 Kelly 3 W'hall
 41 Day 3
 39 Cruz 3

72 Weden
 66 Gustafson
 66 McAnt
 48 Kelly
 69 McAnul
 63 Brad
 56 John
 41 Day
 69 Reardon
 67 Shanahan
 59 Wornig
 39 Cruz
 66 Woods
 64 Mehrens
 61 Bryan
 55 Conner
 78 Cook
 56 Myers
 61 Lavis
 49 Ann