

Use. Prior

PLATFORM OF YAKIMA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC VONVENTION adopted at Granger,  
May 17, 1950

1. Preamble

We, the representatives of the Democratic party of Yakima county, are duly assembled in convention at a time which may prove critical to the history of civilization. We are distinctly aware of the fact that social and economic justice for all is a necessary condition to the peace of nations and to the happiness of mankind. The Democratic party must main tain a progressive leadership in foreign policy. It must participate in so shaping the affa irs of the nation ~~that the nation~~ that the world shall not be divided between two warring camps of Communsism and reaction, but shall beable to choose the only hopeful alternativeof social and economic democracy.

RESOLUTIONS

We believe that President Harry S. Truman is honest and sincere in fulfilling the duties of his high office; we believe in his fundamental liberalism in domestic affairs; we believe in the fact that his leadership will lead the Democratic party to victory in 1950

We commend the efficient service of Lt. Gov. Vic Meyers; Sec. of State, Earl Coe; Treasurer, Tom <sup>Arthur</sup> Meyers; Auditor Cliff Yell; Attorney General Smith Troy; Insurance Commissioner, William Sullivan; and La nd Commissioner Jack Taylor.

We commend the efficient service of our Democratic congressional delegation, Senator Wa rren G. Magnuson, Rep. Henry M. Jackson, and Rep. H ugh B. Mitchell.

I. FARM

~~The~~  
The Democratic Party since the time of Thomas Jefferson, has recognized the importance of a prosperous, locally determined agricultural progra m for family sized farms.



X We recommend that the US Dept. of Agriculture do all in its power under the law to aid and assist in the establishment of locally controlled Marketing Agreements for all soft fruits, apples and other commodities.

We favor National and State legislation designed to further consumer and producers cooperatives as a means of achieving a greater measure of economic equality and democracy within a free enterprise system.

We strongly favor maintaining the Federal Soil Conservation Service as an "action" agency, with policy details determined at the county level by elected farmer supervisors. ~~We endorse.~~ We endorse the effective work the agency has done in giving farmers technical and engineering assistance in carrying out conservation practices.

The tax status of farm cooperatives must be preserved against Republican attempts to impose double taxation on cooperative income both before and after it is distributed to cooperative members.

We believe the Congress and State legislature should continue to promote farm co-operatives and farm-owned co-op banks as a means of retaining economic freedom on family sized farms.

X We strongly favor the establishment of a state office for the Farmers Home Administration, so that this agency can be locally administered by local people who are cognizant of the problems of the State of Washington.

We strongly favor liberal appropriations to the Farmers Home Administration in order that this agency can secure credit for the Farmers of Yakima county who have suffered two disastrous crop years.

We favor adequate appropriations for the maintenance of the Market News Service so that the farmers and consumers may know at all times what a fair market value is for farm products grown in this state.

We favor the calling together of all farm organizations so that they



may formulate their own program on a National Scale.

#### EDUCATION

We recognize that good education of our young people, ~~is~~ a cornerstone of our democracy, is dependent upon adequate salaries for our teachers and an adequate school housing program. We wholeheartedly support necessary amendments to our state laws to achieve these aims.

We recognize that the transportation of children to and from school is a matter of vital concern to all. We recommend that the necessary amendment and revision of our laws be made which will permit children, attending other than the public schools, to use the school transportation facilities to that public school which the child is entitled to attend.

~~At~~ At present time our freedom is threatened from two sources:

First, by the spread of the Communist system from abroad; and

Second, from a reactionary element in America, which under the guise of fighting Communism, is smearing all liberal and forward looking people as Communist and are trying to reestablish the tactics used in the Inquisition of 400 years ago, by using irresponsible charges defaming the characters of innocent people who may hold progressive views.

We especially deplore the systematic attacks on educational institutions and instructors, as the first step that might lead to thought control in our educational system. The irresponsible tactics of the Canelles, the McCarthys and the Hickenloopers, under the sponsorship of the Republican party, are the first step in the suppression of Academic Freedom.

#### III LABOR

The Democratic party has sponsored the cause of labor so that the workers of the nation have achieved the nearest to a proper standard of living yet attained in any country the world. We will continue to use every effort to promote the ability of the American workers to live



democratically without enslavement to any employer or group of employers.

Under the guise of setting up fair labor practices, the Taft Hartley act was craftily devised to attempt to destroy labor unions and require workers to bargain individually in a competitive labor market against the overpowering wealth and combination of industry.

We urge Congress to repeal the Taft-Hartley act and to re-enact the Wagner act, thus restoring to labor the equality of bargaining achieved under Franklin D. Roosevelt.

#### V. POWER

Low cost electric power is the key to the development of industry, agriculture, agricultural markets, and the full employment of labor in Yakima county. We favor the establishment of a <sup>SELF LIQUIDATING</sup> Columbia Valley Administration and the completion of the Grand Coulee-Bonneville generating and transmission system, with the construction of Priest Rapids, McNary, Chief Joseph and other additional dams on the Columbia River and its tributaries. We oppose any increase in wholesale power rates such as repeatedly proposed in Congress by Republican leaders.

We strongly object to any attempt to whittle away the national policy of first preference to public power agencies as to Grand Coulee-Bonneville Power.

#### VI. VETERANS AID

We believe that both our federal and our state governments should continue and expand every form of veterans aid directed toward helping him help himself, and directed toward offsetting the loss which every man who served his country in war suffered as a result of such service.

We believe that the program of aid to disabled veterans should be strengthened and expanded with special attention to the individual problems of each disabled veteran.



## PUBLIC SERVICE UTILITIES

We deplore the recent action of the Washington Public Service Commission for granting an unwarranted rate increase in telephone service between Selah and Yakima.

We censure the recent action of the Public Service Commission in ordering the abandonment of the Naches Railroad <sup>+ Tielton</sup> depots, ~~a~~ depots which in the past have handled approximately 1 and one-half million dollars in annual freight revenues. This action will cost the shippers and consumers of Naches <sup>+ Tielton</sup> untold thousands of dollars for the benefit of a favored few.

## FREIGHT RATES

Fair and reasonable freight rates are essential to the welfare of Yakima county, which buys more miles of transportation per capita than any other county in America. The failure of federal regulatory bodies to extend to this area the reduction in class rates given in the Midwest and South, and the pyramiding of long haul rates by repeated percentage increases is tending to drive the industries of this state from the national markets and increase the price which our citizens pay for the necessities of life. We urge the State and Federal Government through their regulatory agencies, to take effective action to bring the class rate structure of the Pacific Northwest into conformity with other sections and to limit further increases of long haul rates.

## HIGHWAYS

We advocate that ~~the~~ ~~the~~ funds be appropriated to finish the White Pass Highway as a first class highway.

## STATE PARKS

We propose to develop all of our State Parks already acquired and to develop as state parks other beaches, scenic and historical sites, and points of interest, and other recreational areas and facilities, and to provide a adequate access highways to make them readily accessible.



We propose that Fort Simcoe be made a state park and that immediate and adequate steps be taken to preserve and maintain this pioneer monument.

#### DOMESTIC

We commend President Truman for his courageous veto of <sup>the</sup> vicious Kerr Natural Gas Bill, a piece of special interest legislation which would have mulcted the consumer for the benefit of a favored few.

#### DOMESTIC

#### CIVIL RIGHTS

The civil rights guaranteed to all Americans by our Constitution have been, and continue to be, abridged in many ways and in many parts of the nation.

Concern over disturbed world conditions should never divert the people of the US from ever watchful attention to their national economy and well being, and above all, to the preservation of their democratic ideals.

The Republican Party has conspicuously failed, at the local, state and national levels to pay more than lip service to the requirements of protection of our racial and religious minorities laid down in our Constitution.

Such failure renders the nation ineffective and invites merited condemnation by those countries which rationalize their own discrimination and mistreatment of minority groups.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE

As long as there is world unrest, we favor a program of entirely adequate National Defense and recommend that our army, navy and air force be maintained at the strength to implement our foreign policy.

We commend President Truman for his courageous decision to further the development of the Hydrogen Bomb.



FOREIGN POLICY

We commend President Truman for rising above partisan politics in the formulation of a non partisan foreign policy, despite the determined efforts of an obstructionist Republican Isolationist Group, who would sacrifice the welfare of our nation for their own political gain.

We favor continued and vigorous efforts to support truly democratic and liberal elements in all countries by the continuation and expansion of the president's European Recovery Program.

We favor the vigorous implementation of President Truman's Point Four, the export of American Know-how and enterprise, as the surest means to combat the chaos that conceives Communism.

We deplore and censure the irresponsible tactics of McCarthyism which have brought discredit upon our diplomatic representatives and hampered their efforts to further the interests of America.

We commend President Truman for having kept us out of war in these troubled times of unrest. We firmly believe that the only alternative to President Truman's policy is WAR.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE ACTION:

Approved: Paul Blair Edmondson Chairman  
Action of the 1950 Yakima County Democratic Convention

Approved: CLAY BELL Chairman  
This 17th day of May, 1950, at Granger, Washington



# County Demo Platform

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Action of the 1950 Young County Democratic Convention  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

MANAGEN  
HAMMER