is the mother of 5 children, 18 grandchildren, and 59 great-grandchildren, and 16 great-great-grandchildren.

For 20 years, following an automobile injury, Mrs. Rigby has been confined to a wheelchair. She does all of her housework herself.

At the talent show, from her wheelchair, Mrs. Rigby gave a humorous reading which she addressed to “her poor sisters of misery.” Her subject was “Women’s Libration.”

It was, to say the least, a spirited rendition. One of the reasons for her skill, perhaps, is that she gave her first reading at the age of 6. And so she has had 85 years to practice.

Just as Mrs. Rigby drew from a rich source of experience and far-reaching memory to entertain other generations, so did other participants in the talent show.

Mrs. President, I ask unanimous consent that their names be listed here.

There being no objection, the list was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

LIST OF TALENT SHOW WINNERS

1st Place Winner: Titus White (Saxophone Solos), Twin Falls Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner: Silver Valley Trio (Intrumental), Coeur d’Alene Area Regional Contest.
1st Place Winner: Dave Mitchell (Reading), Twin Falls Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner: Norah Ross (Irish Jig), Pocatello Area Regional Contest.
1st Place Winner: Pearl Rigby (Reading), Idaho Falls Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner (Alternate): Marvin Brown (Sax Solos), Fayette Area Regional Contest.
1st Place Winner: Mt. Home Musical Misfits, Boise Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner: Zora Warner (Organ Solos), Pocatello Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner: W. A. H. Simmons (Reading), Boise Area Regional Contest.
1st Place Winner: Fred Haun (Instrumental Group), Fayette Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner: Bulah Chisham (Vocal Solo), Twin Falls Area Regional Contest.
1st Place Winner: David Thompson (Sax Band), Coeur d’Alene Area Regional Contest.
2nd Place Winner: Onita Hoff (Marimba Solos), Idaho Falls Area Regional Contest.

FEDERAL SPENDING

Mr. BROCK, Mr. President, Congress continues to overspend, oblivious to the consequences. Therefore, I would like to share with you a guest article which appeared in the New York Times by Donna A. Thompson. She paints a very vivid picture which each of our colleagues should see. I ask unanimous consent to have this article printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

A “HINTERLAND” Plea on Taxes

(By Donna A. Thompson)

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—For a long time I have been thinking about telling you, Mr. Congressmen and Congresswomen, that your constituents are thinking—things you never hear. We want to know how you are going to cut taxes when you continue to make larger and larger appropriations.

You say, “We’ll cut the Government payroll.” But we are sure that you will not. We’re sure that you’ll set up another agency or consolidate the ones we have. Instead of so many little people, we'll spend more money for the men at the top to tax us. You are not going to consolidate or supervise the majority of these bureaus. We need competent men at high salaries.

But we wonder if you need more and more of them? If the men in charge of the agencies are not competent to handle them, why not let them go and put someone in who is? Or is it that we won’t be able to support another one of these popular organizing methods—why can’t we pay off the large salaries paid to men who have helped carry elections?

Three farmers were talking about taxes, a favorite topic of conversation out way, in a slow station behind the other day.

“My taxes were higher than they have ever been,” one said.

Another asked, “When a depression comes, will they come down?”

“They never have,” the first one answered.

“But if they don’t. Uncle Sam will have a lot of farms to buy,” said the other.

You talk much about reducing taxes but never do enough for us to tell the difference back here in the hinterland. We listen to political meanderings, on the radio and television, to men who are already in office and men who want to be in office, the President and men who want to be President. And your constituents grow feeble.

It is difficult to believe when men talk out both sides of their mouths and say nothing. We have always been very much ignorant, as many candidates seem to believe.

We can recognize a lack of sincerity and honesty. We bear high-sounding phrases that don’t mean anything but all the idea is the more of centralization and more regulation. We are told this isn’t true, but we know better, because there is a comparison of some kind regulating every part of our lives. The right to live as an individual is dwindling and dwindling.

Most Americans believe in the inalienable right to live and think as individuals, the right to make mistakes. But the right to succeed or fail is no longer “the thing” because the Government is going to underwrite our right to live so that the farmer’s price stays up and the consumer’s price stays down and the businessman won’t get out of the game to fail or succeed very far. He is limited from failing too low and held back from climbing too high by the kind of protection. We want to try our wings, to climb and stumble and climb again. Don’t hamper us with restrictions and regulations that tie our hands and empty our pockets so that we aren’t free to use our brains and our brains.

The small-business man cannot compete with the power of Government control and the vast funds that are appropriated. What he is actually doing is paying taxes to feed a monster that is going to put him out of business. Not only paying the tax but paying the bill to subsidize the corporations that is his most powerful competitor and that will eventually swallow him.

Your constituents and I are thinking about our involvement all over the world. You seem to be trying to manage the world as you are trying to manage us. You talk of spending billions of dollars in order to keep the underprivileged countries in operation and to raise their standard of living. Had you thought about letting them struggle to stand on their own feet and slip and stumble and climb again as the men who made America did?

You on Capitol Hill talk blithely of bills that “will put that in our pockets.” But what about the large numbers of dollars and dimes and small, but after all we make the whole, and dollars come hard. We can’t help but think of the billions of dollars that have gone down the drain in foreign aid, and try to believe that the end result is quite endless if in doubt.

I hope that you will think about what I have said, because after all I am just an average American. There are millions of us and we are thinking mighty hard.

DISAPPOINTMENT IN VICE PRESIDENT FORD’S RECENT CONDUCT

Mr. MONDALE, Mr. President, 6 months ago the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives exercised their solemn duty under the 25th amendment and confirmed Gerald Ford to fill the vacancy created in the Office of Vice President by the resignation of Spiro Agnew. This was the first time that the 25th amendment machinery was put into operation and, surely, all must recognize that Congress exercised its responsibilities to fill the second-highest office in the land with thoroughness and appropriate care.

GERALD FORD was subjected to the most rigid scrutiny Congress could muster— in both the House and the Senate, Mr. Ford was required to meet demanding standards, not only because he was about to assume the important office of President of the United States, but also because he was to be elevated to that office at a time of trouble for this country.

This country was, and continues, in the throes of the greatest political scandal in American history. High administration officials have resigned, have been indicted, have fled guilty to serious offenses, and have been convicted of others. The incumbent Vice President resigned his office after entering a “nolo contendere” plea to charges of income tax evasion, backed up by more serious charges of violation of the public trust. Serious charges about improper conduct in the high levels of the executive branch were never fully investigated. And your constituents grew fearful.

The incumbent Vice President resigned his office after entering a “nolo contendere” plea to charges of income tax evasion, backed up by more serious charges of violation of the public trust. Serious charges about improper conduct in the high levels of the executive branch were never fully investigated. And your constituents grew fearful.

GERALD FORD was confirmed, because he met the ethical standards which Congress and the American public held as a test of the integrity of his office. As revealed by poll after poll, Congress and the American public held as a test of the integrity of his office. As revealed by poll after poll, the men in charge of the agencies will not be able to support another one of these popular organizing methods—why can’t we pay off the large salaries paid to men who have helped carry elections? Three farmers were talking about taxes, a favorite topic of conversation out way, in a slow station behind the other day.

“My taxes were higher than they have ever been,” one said.

Another asked, “When a depression comes, will they come down?”

“They never have,” the first one answered.

“But if they don’t. Uncle Sam will have a lot of farms to buy,” said the other.

You talk much about reducing taxes but never do enough for us to tell the difference back here in the hinterland. We listen to political meanderings, on the radio and television, to men who are already in office and men who want to be in office, the President and men who want to be President. And your constituents grow feeble.

It is difficult to believe when men talk out both sides of their mouths and say nothing. We have always been very much ignorant, as many candidates seem to believe.

We can recognize a lack of sincerity and honesty. We bear high-sounding phrases that don’t mean anything but all the idea is the more of centralization and more regulation. We are told this isn’t true, but we know better, because there is a comparison of some kind regulating every part of our lives. The right to live as an individual is dwindling and dwindling.

Most Americans believe in the inalienable right to live and think as individuals, the right to make mistakes. But the right to succeed or fail is no longer “the thing” because the Government is going to underwrite our right to live so that the farmer’s price stays up and the consumer’s price stays down and the businessman won’t get out of the game to fail or succeed very far. He is limited from failing too low and held back from climbing too high by the kind of protection. We want to try our wings, to climb and stumble and climb again. Don’t hamper us with restrictions and regulations that tie our hands and empty our pockets so that we aren’t free to use our brains and our brains.

The small-business man cannot compete with the power of Government control and the vast funds that are appropriated. What he is actually doing is paying taxes to feed a monster that is going to put him out of business. Not only paying the tax but paying the bill to subsidize the corporations that is his most powerful competitor and that will eventually swallow him.

Your constituents and I are thinking about our involvement all over the world. You seem to be trying to manage the world as you are trying to manage us. You talk of spending billions of dollars in order to keep the underprivileged countries in operation and to raise their standard of living. Had you thought about letting them struggle to stand on their own feet and slip and stumble and climb again as the men who made America did?

You on Capitol Hill talk blithely of bills that “will put that in our pockets.” But what about the large numbers of dollars and dimes and small, but after all we make the whole, and dollars come hard. We can’t help but think of the billions of dollars that have gone down the drain in foreign aid, and try to believe that the end result is quite endless if in doubt.

I hope that you will think about what I have said, because after all I am just an average American. There are millions of us and we are thinking mighty hard.
is at all-time low levels. It was hoped that Mr. Ford might provide a symbol of strength and normalcy, against which the public could recapture the confidence of the American people in their Government. Because Gerald Ford might have the duties of a difficult office cast upon him after divisive events, it was expected that he would enjoy great expectations.

In light of the expectations with which I, and many of my colleagues, voted to confirm Gerald Ford, I witness his recent conduct with great disappointment. Instead of attempting to reassure the nation from the White House, as President Nixon did, Mr. Ford has insisted upon making repeated public statements indicating his assessment, not only of the President's character and fitness to continue in office, but also of the nature of the evidence against the President. Despite his initial—and, I believe, correct—reaction to such statements, by which he indicated he would not comment upon, much less review, the evidence being presented to the Ford Administration by the House, Mr. Ford has continually insisted upon passing judgment on the evidence and its weight.

A recent article in the Wall Street Journal by Mr. Norman C. Miller notes:

Mr. Ford may have arrived at the point where his constant public exposure could actually harm the reputation he has established as a straight-talking leader—his most precious asset. For as he backs and fills in his comments on Mr. Nixon's impeachment tactics—one day urging the President to give the House more evidence, another day backing up the Vice President by insisting the White House isn't doing anyone much good, least of all Mr. Ford. One day he is in Hawaii poking at Boy Scouts. Then he hops up in Texas or Colorado or Utah giving college speeches. Another night finds him in Buffalo to buck up the Republican faithful at a party function. And Republicans, God knows, need bucking up, and Jerry Ford probably can do it better than anyone else.

But enough. Vice President Ford has more important things to do—like preparing himself to take over as President if it becomes necessary. A quarter-century as a member of the House did not adequately prepare Mr. Ford to lead the country, as he would probably be the first to admit. Now, as a Vice President who clearly may be called on to succeed to the presidency under traumatic circumstances, Mr. Ford has a responsibility to educate himself in the far more complex international and domestic problems. And he is blowing it, frittering away his time on trivia.

Mr. Ford has many complicated roles to play right now. He is an important member of his party; he is a popular figure; he is a historical figure, having served so long and has many friends in both political parties. He is a figurehead of the House, where he keeps a close eye on the whole country; he is a politician who has all the attributes of an Eagle Scout. Of course the Vice President is not the President, but he must not only preserve the impression that he could take over if need be, but he must give the impression that, if he became President, he could make up for his own lack of foreign-policy knowledge simply by relying on the Secretary of State. As wise as such a decision might be, it would hardly be a panacea. Suppose something happened to Mr. Kissinger? What would an inexperienced President Ford do then?

Anyway the strength of Mr. Kissinger or any other Cabinet officer depends to a great degree on the strength of the President he serves. Notwithstanding Mr. Kissinger's likely continuation in office, it is prudent to assume that the Congress would test Mr. Ford's mettle in some way, particularly if he succeeded to the presidency after a divisive impeachment of Mr. Nixon. It is therefore a serious consideration for such a possible test by studying the personal and political influences influencing Mr. Kissinger's decisions. The Vice President surely could tap the thinking of other economists, and from extended consultations Mr. Ford just might develop better ideas. If he does not do so, the strong likelihood is that as President he would inherit a discredited policy and be in no position to absorb and seriously reflect upon all this at the beginning of a honeymoon period. The whole country would be rooting for Mr. Ford's success after the protracted anguish of the Nixon Watergate crisis.

Mr. Ford's long experience as the House Republican whip makes it easier for him to seize this opportunity. For example, his chances of success would be high if he pushed for a thorough impeachment plan or resurrected the Nixon administration's long-languishing plan to overhaul the welfare system. A political consensus already is within reach on these issues, and as a legislator, Mr. Ford learned enough about them to move with confidence.

But there are knottier issues that will yield only to creative leadership. For instance, the urban policy is a shambling, and yet the major problems of the cities cannot and cannot be ignored forever. Long-range energy policy, despite the sloganeering and the much vaunted energy independence, has yet to be formulated, and it involves extremely complex economic and environmental decisions vitally affecting everyone's future. To provide leadership on such problems, Mr. Ford would need to know a good deal more than the superficialities he was exposed to as a legislative leader.

He cannot pretend that Vice President Ford's nomadic speech-making means that he isn't spending any time briefing himself on issues. But enough, Vice President Ford has more important things to do—like preparing himself to take over as President if it becomes necessary.

A warning sign appeared the other day when Sen. Walter Mondale, a Democratic presidential hopeful, charged that the Vice President was "making a fool of himself" with "confusing and contradictory comments." The Vice President has a responsibility to educate himself in the far more complex international and domestic problems. And he is blowing it, frittering away his time on trivia.

For as he backs and fills in his comments on Mr. Nixon's impeachment tactics—one day urging the President to give the House more evidence, another day backing up the Chief's refusal—the Vice President risks impairing his credibility.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SENATORS FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. HARRY E. FORD JR., Mr. President, I wish to compliment my two distinguished colleagues from the great State of North Carolina. In a recent poll, Senator Ervin and Senator Helms were chosen by a wide margin as the two...