

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution be presented to the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and to each of the Senators and Representatives from the State of Minnesota in the Congress of the United States.

Approved March 7, 1939.

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RESOLUTION No. 9 (S. F. No. 6)

*A concurrent resolution memorializing Congress to stabilize prices on farm products.*

WHEREAS, wide spread dissatisfaction exists among the producers of farm commodities in Minnesota and neighboring states relative to the losses incurred in ordinary farm operations; and

WHEREAS, the American farmer is forced to sell the major portion of what he produces on a world market and purchase all of his necessities on a highly protected stabilized domestic market; and

WHEREAS, the spread between the values of the commodities the farmer sells and those he buys places him at a serious disadvantage in the market places; and

WHEREAS, this price disparity has existed for over five years and promises to continue indefinitely and create disaster among agriculturists; and

WHEREAS, the prices of agricultural commodities are not on a parity with prices of other products and especially with the prices of those commodities which the farmer must buy; and

WHEREAS, the financial returns from the farming industry have been such that the people engaged in that industry are practically bankrupt, demanding immediate drastic action; and

WHEREAS, the farmers are the largest buyers of commercial products in the nation and a return of their purchasing power is essential before we can have any general and lasting return of prosperity; and

WHEREAS, in view of the price-fixing opportunities given

by national legislation to industry, and in view of the curtailment of farm production; and

WHEREAS, to encourage, create, develop and maintain a stable, prosperous and permanent system of agriculture in the United States, it becomes necessary that agriculture should enjoy the same protection in price stabilization, which is enjoyed by industry; and

WHEREAS, our present economic system does not operate to protect the farmer when there is an exportable surplus of agricultural products, thereby resulting in the world price being paid on not only the exportable surplus of such agricultural products but on that consumed domestically as well; and

WHEREAS, the existence of an exportable surplus of a vitally important food crop is a national necessity and from the consumer's standpoint nothing could be more dangerous than to create a deficiency in our stable food commodities through curtailment of production; and

WHEREAS, to remove the disparity in prices and to guarantee equality to agriculture with industry and labor, it is wholly essential and absolutely necessary that the American farmer should receive a price for commodities which he produces which will assure him cost of production and in addition thereto an amount sufficient to pay taxes, interest, debts, and living expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the State Senate of the State of Minnesota, the House of Representatives concurring, that Congress of the United States, at its present sitting, be and the same is urgently petitioned and requested to enact such legislation as will meet our agricultural crisis; that will insure cost of production plus an amount sufficient to pay taxes, interest, debt service and living expenses; that will place agriculture on a parity with those engaged in industry; that will retain the American market for the American farmer; and that will fix an adequate minimum price on farmer's products.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a duly authenticated copy of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and to each of the Senators and Representatives from the State of Minnesota in the Congress of the United States.

Approved March 7, 1939.