

St. Paul Area

Chamber of Commerce Luncheon - January 31, 1970

Sample Introduction

No man has ever served his country with more dedication, imagination, and skill. In particular, I have always been impressed by his outstanding performance when representing the President of the United States in England, France, Germany, Holland, and other European countries. At all times he radiated exceptional warmth, understanding, and cooperation. At no time, however, did he permit himself to be "pushed around" and never did he allow his country to be placed at a disadvantage. At home he was a highly effective and loyal lieutenant under a difficult master.

The business community of St. Paul considers it a rare privilege to honor a truly great American-----
Ladies and Gentlemen - The Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey and his lovely wife, Muriel.

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John H. Myers

to be adapted

SAMPLE SPEECH THAT CAN BE USED AT MEETINGS

THIS IS IMPORTANT BUSINESS, OUR BUSINESS HERE, FOR WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE KIND OF PERSON WHO CAN BE ELECTED, UNIFY THE COUNTRY, AND THEN LEAD THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONS AND THE ENTIRE WORLD TO SECURE A LASTING PEACE FOR OURSELVES AND OUR CHILDREN.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY HAS SAID, REFERRING TO THE BIBLE, "BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, NOT THE PEACE DREAMERS, NOT THE PEACE THINKERS, NOR THE PEACE TALKERS." NOT ONE OF HIS OPPONENTS CAN APPROACH HIS RECORD OF WORKING ---NOT JUST TALKING ---ABOUT PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. HUMPHREY HAS BEEN A LEADER OF THE PEACE MOVEMENT FOR YEARS.

-It was Humphrey in 1955 who introduced resolutions in the Senate, that were adopted, to establish the first disarmament subcommittee.

-It was Humphrey in 1960 who introduced legislation to set up a National Peace Agency. A year later it was adopted, after Humphrey introduced and pushed through Congress the bill to establish the U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

-It was Humphrey who worked for years to achieve a nuclear test ban agreement, and in 1963 led the fight in the Senate for ratification of the Test Ban Treaty. When John Kennedy had signed it he said, "This is your Treaty, Hubert."

-It was Humphrey who proposed the ideas for "Food for Peace," for the Peace Corps, and who fought in the Senate for adequate appropriations for these programs, and for cultural exchanges, and for "the Alliance for Progress" --- so that there would be international understanding, and the causes of war eliminated.

-It was Humphrey who suggested a "cease fire" in Viet Nam.

-It was Humphrey who said that we must "build bridges" to China, and have an "open door" to trade with Eastern Europe.

It was Humphrey who supported and helped work out the terms of the "Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," and will follow up negotiations for US-USSAR disarmament.

SO WHEN ANYONE TALKS ABOUT PEACE --- WHETHER IT VIET NAM OR SOME OTHER CORNER OF THE WORLD --- HE OUGHT TO LOOK AT THE RECORD, AND VOTE FOR THE MAN WHO HAS MADE A RECORD FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM OVER THE YEARS.

THE PRESIDENT WHO HOPES TO LEAD THE NATION MUST UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF THE POLITICAL PROCESS, AND HAVE FAITH THAT IT CAN BRING RESULTS. IN THE CAMPAIGN THUS FAR, HUMPHREY SUPPORTERS HAVE SAID A LOT ABOUT "MATURITY, " "EXPERIENCE, " AND "UNITY". WE USED IT AS A KIND OF SHORT-HAND BUT IT WAS NOT ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD.

We mean "maturity in the sense that he has been around", but more importantly, that Humphrey has an historic perspective within which to evaluate the problems and proposed solutions.

- We mean "experience" in the sense that he knows how to manipulate the levers of power, but more importantly, that Humphrey has demonstrated an ability to successfully implement the ideas he has enunciated.

- We mean "unity" in the sense that we love our country for what it is and what it can become. But more importantly, Humphrey knows that significant changes in the American system are possible ONLY when an "extraordinary majority" (substantially more than fifty percent) are committed to the objective and willing to go along with the program. The greatest danger, and the greatest betrayal of all, would be if wild talk were allowed to destroy the covenant entered into by all segments of American society in September, 1964 -- "that Poverty shall be eliminated in our Nation -- IN OUR GENERATION. "

THE NEW PROBLEMS ARE THE HARDEST TO SOLVE. WITH EMPLOYMENT, GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT, AND EDUCATIONAL LEVELS HIGHER THAN EVER BEFORE, WE HAVE ACHIEVED GOALS ONCE UNIMAGINABLE. YET, DESPITE THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, WE ARE INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATED BY THE PROBLEMS OF THOSE FOR WHOM THE "AMERICAN DREAM" IS MORE OF A NIGHTMARE. THESE ARE THE "MULTI-PROBLEM" FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS, SWAMPED WITH MORE THAN ONE PROBLEM OF SUCH PROFOUND PROPORTIONS THAT THEY ARE CUT OFF EVEN FROM HOPE.

HUBERT HUMPHREY UNDERSTANDS THE PARALYSIS OF DESPAIR, FOR HE SAW IT CLOSE UP IN THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA DURING THE DEPRESSION. THROUGHOUT MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS OF PUBLIC LIFE, HE HAS INSISTED THAT THE NATION FACE UP TO ITS PROBLEMS. HE IS THE VISIONARY WHOSE "RADICAL" IDEAS FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS, FOR DISARMAMENT AND PEACE-SEEKING, FOR BROADENED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES--- HAVE BEEN ENACTED INTO LAW AND ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

BUT NO ONE CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS, OR EVEN BEGIN TO FORMULATE THE PROGRAMS TO SOLVE THEM, UNTIL HE IS AWARE OF WHAT THEY ARE. AND THE BEST PRESIDENTS ARE THOSE WHO ARE AWARE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE COUNTRY BEFORE IT IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED, OR THE SUBJECT OF ARTICLES IN LITERARY MAGAZINES, OR A TOPIC OF CONVERSATION AT INTIMATE SUPPER CLUBS, OR PART OF A "NEW IDEALISM" ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES.

-Humphrey was committed to the cause of civil rights, before a young minister organized a bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955. And you know it.

-Humphrey understood that more of our young men and women needed better college scholarship programs, before "Sputnik" convinced others of that in 1957. And you know it.

-Humphrey knew about the abysmal living conditions of migrant farm laborers, before Edward R. Murrow produced Harvests of Shame on CBS reports in 1959. And you know it.

-Humphrey recognized that our educational system was inadequate, before Dr. James Conant's book, The American High School Today, appeared in 1959. And you know it.

-Humphrey knew there was a poverty problem, before Michael Harrington's book, The Other America, was published in 1962. And you know it.

-Humphrey knew that the urban ghettos were social dynamite, before "watts" exploded in the summer of 1965. And you know it.

EVEN A QUICK EXAMINATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, THE CONGRESSIONAL INDEX, OR CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY, WILL CONVINCЕ THE READER THAT HUMPHREY WAS SPEAKING OUT ON THESE SUBJECTS, AND HOLDING HEARINGS ABOUT THEM, ALMOST FROM THE BEGINNING OF HIS SERVICE IN THE SENATE IN 1949. AND MANY LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS, AND SCORES OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS, ARE TESTIMONY TO HIS CONCERN, HIS COMMITMENT, HIS HARD WORK.

(depending on time available, fill in with specific information from "public career - private life" or from "Hubert Horatio Humphrey" specific data is on record.)

End as follows:

HOW SHALL WE VIEW OUR COUNTRY? UNFORTUNATELY, THE RHETORIC OF ALIENATION DAILY FILLS THE MASS COMMUNICATION MEDIA WITH DESCRIPTIONS

OF A UNITED STATES THAT DOES NOT EXIST!

-THIS IS NOT THE WORST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, BUT THE BEST!

-THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLE HAS IMPROVED IN THE LAST GENERATION.

-THE PERCENTAGE OF AMERICANS LIVING IN POVERTY IS DECREASING, DESPITE

THE INCREASE IN OUR POPULATION. MORE THAN 5.7 MILLION AMERICANS HAVE RISEN ABOVE THE POVERTY LINE SINCE 1964 -- MORE THAN TWICE THE RATE COMPARED TO THE PRECEDING FOUR-YEAR PERIOD.

-THIS IS NOT A "SICK SOCIETY" BUT A "TROUBLED AND CHANGING SOCIETY" HUMPHREY SAYS, "THIS NATION HAS NOT LOST ITS WAY, BUT WE ARE A RESTLESS PEOPLE, STRIVING TO FIND A BETTER WAY."

THE PROBLEMS WE FACE MUST BE OVERCOME BY NATIONWIDE PROGRAMS -- AND THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT CATASTROPHIC DESTRUCTION OF EXISTING INSTITUTIONS IN AMERICAN LIFE. HUMPHREY DEFINED THE "EXTREMIST" PROBLEM PERFECTLY IN 1963:

"EXTREMISTS OF BOTH RIGHT AND LEFT HAVE MUCH IN COMMON. THEY SEE THE WORLD IN BLACK AND WHITE. THEY SEEK IMMEDIATE AND FINAL ANSWERS. THEY SUBSTITUTE DOGMAS FOR CREATIVE THOUGHT. THEY ARE ANGRY, FEARFUL, DEEPLY AND FUNDAMENTALLY DISTURBED BY THE WORLD AROUND THEM. BUT WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LET THESE STRIDENT VOICES BECOME THE DOMINANT THEME OF THE AMERICAN ORCHESTRATION. RATHER, WE MUST PROCEED WITH THE WORK OF THE NATION, UNDAUNTED, TO KEEP THE PEACE AND TO BUILD OUR STILL-IMPERFECT SOCIETY INTO SOMETHING BETTER.

OUR GOVERNMENTAL FRAMEWORK IS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO BE RESHAPED TO MEET OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE PROBLEMS. BUT THERE MUST BE TANGIBLE EVIDENCE, EACH DAY, THAT PEOPLE'S HOPES FOR A BETTER LIFE TOMORROW CAN BE FULFILLED. THAT IS WHY WE CANNOT BE LED BY CASSANDRAS WHO FAN DESPAIR MORE THAN THEY KINDLE HOPE, WHO PROTEST CONDITIONS MORE THAN THEY PROPOSE PROGRAMS. OR, ON THE OTHER HAND, BY THOSE WHO STAND PAT AND WANT TO RETURN TO THE "NORMALCY" OF UNIMAGINATIVE, UNCONCERNED, UNWHOLESOME ERAS.

HUMPHREY KNOWS, HUMPHREY CARES, HUMPHREY CAN DO THE JOB. AND I SAY "HUMPHREY, HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT!

HUMPHREY SUPPORT SPEECH AND ADMINISTRATION RECORD

1968 is a year for facing the facts in America.

In 1968, we know we confront basic decisions about the future of our country and the world...decisions we cannot postpone...decisions that have to be solidly based on the realities of the time in which we live.

The first reality is this:

John Kennedy said it:

"Peace and freedom do not come cheap and we are destined -- all of us here today -- to live out most, if not all our lives in uncertainty and challenge and peril."

That is exactly the way it is. And to think otherwise is a dangerous illusion.

* * *

Reality number two: The answers to these uncertainties...challenges and perils -- and you know them well -- are neither easy...nor cheap...nor instant.

They are not to be found in criticism for its own sake...or in the pitting of people against each other...or in dividing a society that desperately needs unity...or in resorting to non-democratic means.

They are to be found in the concrete deeds, over the course of years, of people dedicated to the causes of building and of reconciliation.

We should, by now, have reached the end of our Age of Innocence.

* * *

Which brings me to reality three: America is a grown-up nation. We must act our age.

Young in spirit, yes. Young in hopes and ideals, yes.

But it is by the maturity of our judgment and our statesmanship that we shall be judged as we wrestle with the complex problems in the world around us.

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HUMPHREY SUPPORT SPEECH AND ADMINISTRATION RECORD

Reality number four: Despite our problems, we have more chance in America to day to overcome them than any other nation, at any other time in history.

We have the power, the skills, the resources to do what needs to be done. We must put them to work.

Let no one sell America short. We can build America strong -- if we use what we have.

* * *

We have come a long way in the last four years. The Democratic Administration has kept its promises.

Just ask the people of America. They know.

Ask the retired couple who gets modern medical care -- with dignity -- under Medicare.

Ask the man who only a few years ago had no job, and now has one.

Ask the millions of workers who have gotten training and new skills.

Ask the man covered by a minimum wage for the first time -- and getting not less than a dollar sixty an hour.

Ask the mothers of 9 million American children who now have their first chance for a decent education because of an Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Four Administrations have struggled to get federal help to these youngsters. One Administration did it: This one.

Ask the thousands of Americans who today serve on local community action councils and boards in every major city in America. There is a new dimension to our democracy -- participation...by everyone...which makes government of the people, by the people, and for the people a reality.

This is people power -- the real power of a free society. People power means new motivation, new participation, and new purpose. There is not much new about the problems of our slums or our impoverished rural area...about blighted opportunity in America.

What is new is that remedies have come faster in the last four years than ever before in the history of this Republic.

Since 1964, the present Administration has spoken a language of progress and millions of Americans have understood it.

- Twice as much has been invested in education in the last 4 years as in the previous century;
- 3 times as much has been invested in health this year as in 1964;
- 26 million hospital bills paid -- 5 million patients already receiving doctor's services under Medicare;
- 5 million needy persons making their voices heard in community action programs -- over 1 million children in Head Start programs;
- more consumer protection legislation passed than in any previous Administration -- fair packaging...wholesome meat... traffic and auto safety...truth in lending...flammable fabrics;
- major crime control legislation passed...firearms control... safe streets and crime control...juvenile delinquency prevention.

Those who deny that record distort the truth.

They discredit the very ideals you and I have fought for.

They cheat Americans out of pride in their progress. and shake their confidence in our nation's ability to face the future.

Deception, doubt and despair -- that is the litany of the men who sell America short.

Are we content with our achievements? Of course not.

But dissatisfaction -- which we all share -- is no excuse for violence or irresponsible demagoguery.

It is time in America for a permanent moratorium on the inflammatory demagoguery which pits men against each other -- for a moratorium on the vocabulary of violence.

It is time in America for a permanent moratorium on violence itself -- violence in the streets...violence in the lives of our people.

It is time for reconciliation. It is time for healing and unity.

It is time for law and order in American life.

HUMPHREY SUPPORT SPEECH AND THE ADMINISTRATION RECORD (Cont'd)

Order in the streets -- yes.

Order that protects the lives, the property and the rights of every citizen, black and white -- yes.

Order that protects the lives, the property and the rights of every citizen, black and white -- yes.

Order that is enforced by every means at our command -- yes.

For the rule of law cannot, and must not, give way to the rule of the jungle -- or the very basis for democratic self-government is perverted and denied.

But there is another dimension of what we must do.

For there is a higher law and a deeper order that dictates to the conscience of each of us.

It is the higher law and deeper order expressed in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a Nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King was voicing more than his personal dream.

That is the American dream.

I believe that is the dream of mothers and fathers of all races, religious, and regions.

I believe that dream need not drown in a whirlpool of violence.

I believe Americans have the faith and courage to make it real.

* * *

Nor can a mature country...a responsible people tolerate, condone, or embrace extremism, or violence in the broader human neighborhood any more than it can in its own streets and cities.

HUMPHREY SUPPORT SPEECH AND ADMINISTRATION RECORD

We cannot tolerate, condone or embrace the dangerous courses either of violence or of withdrawal -- not at home, not in the world.

Because we know what they cost.

The path of human progress -- worldwide -- lies in diplomacy... negotiation...economic progress...education and health...and peace.

Just within the last year,

- we have seen the first loans of the new Asian Development Bank;
- we have joined with other nations to lower the barriers to international trade and economic growth;
- we have concluded an agreement barring nuclear weapons from outer space;
- we have agreed on a consular treaty with the Soviet Union.

These are the building blocks of peace.

They are not the result of some magic formula discovered on the political stump in an election year.

They are the hard, realistic achievements of peace builders.

* * *

So here is America in 1968: No longer an adolescent nation...but a country thrust into the center of world power and responsibility.

Here is America: No longer able to afford the luxury of escapism, in its own cities or in the wider human community.

Here is America: Rich and comfortable...but knowing that wealth alone does not make justice, and comfort does not mean peace.

Here is America: With more opportunities than problems...with more strength than weakness...with more chance of achieving the full meaning of freedom than any other country in history.

We can have an America that pledges cities that are safe and clean... where neighborhoods are once more filled with neighbors -- and keeps that pledge;

HUMPHREY SUPPORT SPEECH AND ADMINISTRATION RECORD

We can have an America that pledges development of the precious human worth in every child -- and keeps that pledge;

We can have an America that pledges itself to peace and progress around the world -- and keeps that pledge.

Hubert Humphrey represents this record of accomplishment, he embodies this future of hope and progress.

Hubert Humphrey knows what it means to search for peace.

He was the sponsor, in the United States Senate, of Food for Peace -- of the Peace Corps -- of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

He led the fight for the Nuclear Test Ban treaty.

He stood through many long, hard days, as Majority Whip of the United States Senate -- alongside President John Kennedy as we sought the Test Ban Treaty...as we looked ultimate danger in the face in the Cuban Missile Crisis.

He has participated in decisions made by the President involving the international security of this nation.

Hubert Humphrey will do everything he can for the cause of peace in the world.

He will do everything he can to keep social progress moving forward in America.

He will do everything to sustain and carry forward the work we have begun in this country.

All Americans must stand together now in unity in our national quest for peace -- at home and in the world -- and elect Hubert Humphrey the next President of the United States.

SAMPLE HUMPHREY SUPPORT SPEECH

In America we recognize and reward greatness in men and in politics.

In just a few months, the American people are going to have a chance to show that we have the eye and the heart and the judgment to send to the White House one of the best that our nation has ever produced -- Hubert H. Humphrey.

I believe that the United States needs and wants a man like Hubert Humphrey as its leader. The problems of our society in the coming years will require mature judgment, deep feeling for the problems of all Americans and experience in government at every level. Above all, we need a man of wisdom who can not only unify a divided country, but knows how to secure an honorable and lasting peace in the world.

Hubert Humphrey understands what is going on in this nation. He knows our problems. He knows what makes a city tick, because he was the distinguished mayor of a large city. He knows farm problems because he was the acknowledged expert on farm policies in the Senate, and he supported every piece of progressive farm legislation in the past twenty years.

Hubert Humphrey understands the frustrations of people who want to break the chains of discrimination and poverty. He began the fight for equal opportunity and human dignity over 20 years ago, when this was an "unpopular" cause. He has never once failed to work for improvement in the lives of all Americans.

Hubert Humphrey is the candidate of both labor and business. He has been in the forefront of the fight for working men's rights, as well as the champion of prosperity for the businessman, for almost twenty-five years.

His record is one of working -- not just talking -- for peace. He himself has said -- referring to the Bible -- "Blessed are the peacemakers, not the peace walkers and peace-talkers."

*It was Hubert Humphrey in 1955 who helped establish the very first Disarmament Subcommittee of the United States Senate.

*It was Hubert Humphrey in 1961 who proposed the first U. S. Arms Control Agency.

*It was Hubert Humphrey who stepped out in front and sponsored the historic Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1963, which 100 nations have already signed.

*And it was Hubert Humphrey who proposed the idea of the Peace Corps, Food for Peace, and many other programs which eliminate the conditions which cause revolution, chaos and war.

These then are a few of the peace words and peace deeds associated with the name Humphrey: Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Outer Space Treaty, and the Latin American Free Zone Treaty.

Hubert Humphrey deeply understands the needs of the average American family -- their aspirations for an education and a decent home and a safe, secure life. He, above all others, knows why the Negro, the Puerto Rican, the Mexican-American, the American Indian and other minorities will no longer tolerate the discrimination of centuries, why they demand what all citizens have the right to demand.

Hubert Humphrey does not need to make "campaign promises," his public record speaks for itself.

I support Hubert Humphrey for the Presidency because he has been a fighter for human justice -- since the first day he entered public life. Almost single-handedly he fought for civil rights at the Democratic Convention of 1948, against tremendous opposition -- and won.

As a Senator and Floor Manager, he led the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964 through a four-month filibuster -- and won passage.

Hubert Humphrey has always been a man of "firsts," never afraid to innovate in spite of criticism.

Since he announced his candidacy for the Presidency, he has proposed a Marshall Plan for our cities and an Urban Development Bank.

He has proposed a new education policy which would guarantee every American an education from age 4 through college, and would make possible year-round use of school facilities.

He has asked for world-wide reduction of arms and the redirection of armaments monies and talent to the solution of social problems.

He, above all, has called for a national rededication to the achievements of social order and social justice for all citizens.

For 20 years, Hubert Humphrey has been in the forefront of the drive for betterment of life in America and the world.

Today, Hubert Humphrey's time has arrived -- the time when America acknowledges his leadership, his strength, his promise of the future.

Let's all of us join in making that promise of the future come true, by electing Hubert H. Humphrey the next President of the United States.



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