

STATEMENT BY MAYOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY TO BE PRESENTED AT THE TESTI-  
MONIAL DINNER HONORING MR. THEODORE WIRTH - CALHOUN BEACH CLUB  
OCTOBER 24, 1946 - 6:30 p.m.

I know that I express the sentiments of every resident of the City of Minneapolis when I extend best wishes and the most grateful thanks to Mr. Theodore Wirth for his many years of unselfish service and constructive effort in the development of the beauty of our city.

I deeply regret that a speaking engagement of long standing in Detroit, Michigan, prevents me from attending the dinner in Mr. Wirth's honor and I have requested Mr. Charles Doell to read this statement in my behalf.

Mr. Wirth's reputation, as one of the world's leaders in the field of planned recreation and organized playground activity, is known to every person who is familiar with the history of our city. It was his vision, his intelligent planning, his perservance and persuasion which have given to our city its beautiful park and playground system. Our park system has become a model to the other communities throughout the world.

From all over America, experts in the field of parks and playgrounds have come to Minneapolis to seek advice from Mr. Wirth, knowing of his tremendous knowledge and insight into these problems. Mr. Wirth's influence has been nationwide. It has instilled a philosophy of utilizing our resources for better living in the hearts and minds of thousands of persons who are carrying on in the field of recreation.

Many men can point to achievements of a material nature, but the achievements of Mr. Wirth are deeper and more lasting. His achievements have opened the hearts of our people by opening the parks and playgrounds to the people. He has challenged the higher impulses of our citizens by asking them to focus their minds and energies upon the development of a beautiful city. He has made our community a happier place in which to live. He has enriched our lives and we shall be forever grateful to him for the contribution he has made to our city. May he enjoy many years of happiness in his new home with the knowledge that his thousands of friends in Minneapolis wish him the very best.



Dean Boulevard at Lake Calhoun  
Minneapolis 5, Minnesota

October 15. 46

Mayor H.H.Humphrey.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mayor;

The Board of Govenors of the Calhoun Beach Club will be hosts to Mr.Theo.Wirth, our grand old man of the Park Board, at a testimonial dinner, the evening of October 24th.at 6:30 P.M.

This dinner will be attended by some four hundred civic letters and Club Members and it will be a pleasure to have you present to present the principal oration. Should you be unable to attend, please delegate someone to represent you. Drop me a line at the Club at once.

We think it a well deserved honor for Mr.Wirth and he will be presented with a suitable gift as a token of our esteem for him.

Yours Truly.

H.J.(Heming) Berg Jr.

The Calhoun Beach Club.

H.J.Berg Jr. Chairman.

Dinner program.

CO 86227  
Du 11:45

~~We check to see if can leave on 9 o'clock or 9:30 flight to Detroit~~  
~~If not + message~~

10-22-46

MEMO TO AN:

I am not dictating a whole letter for Theodore Wirth. I want you to do that. You should get data as to how long he served as Superintendent of the Park Board and a little bit about his background. I contribute the following for whatever you wish to use.

"You, Mr. Wirth, have gained the well-earned reputation of being one of the world's leaders in the field of planned recreation and leisure-time activity. In your early days, you had a vision of a beautiful park and playground system. That vision was fortified by indomitable will and perservance plus convincing persuasion. The result of these admirable qualities is the present park and playground system of the City of Minneapolis.

"Men from all over America have come to you for advice and consultation. Your influence has been nationwide, and your good works ~~xxxx~~ and good deeds are living monuments to your character and accomplishments. You have brought to those persons engaged in the field of recreation a vital philosophy of utilizing our resources for better living.

"Many men can point to achievements of a material nature. This honor is yours tonight. But even more, you have given to America and to our city in particular an understanding of recreation philosophy. You have made this great field of endeavor a democratic experience. You opened the hearts of our people by opening the parks to the people. You challenged the higher impulses of our citizens by asking them to focus their minds and energies upon the

development of a city beautiful. You have made our community a happy place in which to live. Your years of service to the Minneapolis Park Board have enriched the lives of thousands of your fellow citizens. What greater gift can any man have than the realization that he has helped his fellow man!"

HH



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