

HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE  
Suite 740 Roosevelt Hotel  
Washington 9, D.C.  
ADams 2-3411

FOR RELEASE:  
Tuesday AM's, November 24, 1959

Excerpts from remarks of  
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Dinner of the American Committee for a School of Pharmacy  
at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem

Philadelphia, Pa.  
Monday, November 23, 1959

This occasion has special poignancy for me since, as some of you may know, I grew up in a pharmacy -- my father's. For many years I worked as a pharmacist.

And so, to speak at a dinner devoted to the cause of raising funds to establish a school of pharmacy in Israel not only gives me enormous pleasure; it also evokes so many memories of earlier years -- the sights and sounds and smells of a pharmacy, so familiar to many of you here.

And so I feel quite at home among you -- but not only because the object of this dinner is the starting of a school of pharmacy. I feel at home because to me an occasion of this sort represents America at her best. For there are few things more characteristic of America at her best than a congregation of private citizens who wish to open their hearts -- and their pocketbooks -- to help meet the needs of their fellow men.

I have always thought it paradoxical, as well as tragic, that America has been so generous with its governmental aid to other nations since the war, but that Americans have been driven in some curious way to insist that it is self-interest rather than compassion or generosity that prompts us to grant billions of dollars to our friends abroad.

The basis of our foreign policy must include the positive philosophy of helping people. We have been aiming our policies at thwarting communism. This we must do, but we must also expand our thinking. Today we even go so far as to justify much of our economic aid under the title of "defense support." Should we be ashamed to admit we want to help another country build its economy simply so they can enjoy a better life?

It is sad but true that only in private efforts such as that which engages us tonight that we seem able to admit to the best of human impulses and to take the proper pride in them.

And so I want to pay tribute to all of you here, who come here and give here out of the generosity of your hearts, not out of any self-interest. Would that America could always express her generosity with the same openness you display here tonight.

It is particularly expressive of both America and of Israel that we should be here striving to create an educational institution -- an instrument of learning and of science dedicated in this case to the fight against disease. It is in the highest tradition of both our nations to train and educate people, to endow them with skills to be used in the interest of the community. We both recognize that our basic resources, our most valuable  
(more)

ones, are our human resources -- our people, their skills, their knowledge, and their ideals.

To me, one of the many evidences of the stature and the wisdom of the leaders of Israel has been their determination to devote a substantial part of their limited resources to the expansion of opportunities for education, and for technical, scientific and professional training. Confronted with the almost desperate need to provide food and shelter, for the tremendous flood of immigrants and refugees; with the need to build factories and start farms, they are finding answers.

In the face of these tremendous demands on her all-too-limited resources, Israel still devoted great creative energies and financial resources to the development of the Hebrew University, the Technion, the Weizmann Institute, secondary schools throughout the country and elementary schools in every locality.

It is a remarkable achievement that in the ten years since 1949 the number of students in primary schools has increased from less than 100,000 to more than 300,000. The number of young people in secondary schools has increased to approximately 35,000. The Hebrew University, barred from the use of its fine facilities on Mount Scopus, did not sit by bewailing its fate but went on operating in makeshift quarters scattered throughout the city until it could create a new campus and a splendid new set of buildings and facilities. The Technion, bursting its seams at its original site, has also created new buildings and new facilities on a magnificent site above Haifa Bay.

Even this is not enough. No one is more acutely aware, I found, than the Israel Government itself that only a beginning has been made and that there are still today serious deficiencies in education in Israel. Israel has been very fortunate in that so many of her people brought with them their professional and scientific training, their work skills and their education. They acquired them elsewhere. But in this generation Israel, itself, must provide the training if the existing level of education and skill is to be maintained and enhanced -- as it must be.

We have all heard with admiration that Israel has more doctors per person than even the United States. Yet a large number of them are old and near retirement. A similar situation exists in other professions and sciences.

In many of these, I understand from my friends in Israel, the number of graduates of Israel institutions is at present too small to replace these older people -- simply because the educational facilities do not yet exist.

It is partly, too, the need for scholarship aid for the many young people who simply cannot afford to attend schools, a need which the government of Israel can only partially meet.

Thus, in Israel today, much talent is being lost or wasted. For a country such as

(more)

Israel, not as richly endowed as others in physical and natural resources, the waste of human resources is an especially severe hardship. Israel, like Switzerland, which also lacks natural resources, must depend to a large extent on the fullest development of the skills, knowledge and abilities of its people.

And Israel must sustain its progress -- in science, in education, in development of all its resources -- to build strong in the Mideast. By dynamic progress it encourages the necessary competition from all around it to grow in a healthy and strength-giving atmosphere.

The generosity of individuals and organizations in America has already done much to help Israel. All of us fortunate enough to have visited Israel have been electrified by what we have seen.

Thus we here tonight can be assured that if we respond generously to this appeal for aid to start a School of Pharmacy at the Hebrew University, the school will quickly come into being, and it will be a good one.

Our government has also aided Israel, and the administrators of our government aid program have testified that nowhere has more effective use been made of our aid than in Israel.

Now in many countries, our government devotes substantial sums to help develop the natural resources. But we have never been disposed to step in and help in the development of human resources -- by helping a country develop its educational system.

Why shouldn't we do this -- especially in countries such as Israel, where human resources are so important?

I believe that we should, and I want to suggest to you a specific way by which we can.

We are making available to many nations abroad surplus farm commodities. When these commodities are sold, supplies of local currencies are built up.

In many countries today, those local currencies are not being used. Why not put them to use in building schools and furnishing scholarships?

Such a program is provided in the "Food for Peace" Act which I and a number of my colleagues introduced in Congress last year. Under that bill, the President would be authorized to set up bi-national foundations to promote education and research in the countries that receive our surplus food aid.

To my mind, this is the best possible use to which we could put our agricultural abundance. Not only will it free the bodies of men from the bonds of hunger; it also will free the minds of men from the bonds of ignorance that spring from a simple inability to build schools and provide education.

Thus, food can contribute not only to peace, but to progress. It can unharness that precious God-given gift of man -- the power to think, to reason, to shape his destiny.

So I re-affirm that we must continue to build institutions of social and economic progress throughout Israel and encourage growth throughout the Middle East. This means a forward-moving Israel, a forward-moving Middle East, and a forward-moving world.

#####

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT HUMPHREY  
DINNER OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR A SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AT THE  
HEBREW UNIVERSITY IN JERUSALEM -- PHILADELPHIA, PA. NOV. 23

000043

This occasion has special <sup>meaning</sup> ~~poignancy~~ for me, since, as some  
of you may know, I grew up in a pharmacy -- my father's. For many  
years I worked as a pharmacist.

*Lib. Ivor Griffith  
Pres. Phil College of Pharmacy  
& Science*

And so, to speak at a dinner devoted to the cause of raising  
funds to establish a school of pharmacy in Israel not only gives me  
enormous pleasure; it also evokes so many memories of earlier years --  
the sights and sounds and smells of a pharmacy, so familiar to many  
of you here.

And so I feel quite at home among you -- but not only because  
the object of the dinner is the starting of a school of pharmacy. I  
feel at home because to me an occasion of this sort represents America  
at her best. For there are few things more characteristic of America  
at her best than a congregation of private citizens who wish to open  
their hearts -- and their pocketbooks -- to help meet the needs of their  
fellow men.

I have always thought it paradoxical, as well as tragic, that

more...

*Am at  
her best*

000044

America has been so generous with its governmental aid to other nations since the war, but that Americans have been driven in some curious way to insist that it is <sup>only</sup> self-interest rather than compassion or generosity that prompts us to grant billions of dollars to our friends abroad.

The basis of our foreign policy must include the positive philosophy of helping people. We have been aiming our policies at thwarting communism. This we must do, but we must also expand our thinking. Today we even go so far as to justify much of our economic aid under the title of "defense support". Should we be ashamed to admit we want to help another country build its economy simply so they can enjoy a better life?

It is "sad" but true that only in private efforts such as that which engages us tonight that we seem able to admit to the best of human impulses and to take the proper pride in them.

And so I want to pay tribute to all of you here, who come here and give here out of the generosity of your hearts, not out of any self-interest. Would that America could always express her generosity with the same openness you display here tonight.

more ...

000045

It is particularly expressive of both America and of Israel that we should be here striving to create an educational institution -- an instrument of learning and of science dedicated in this case to the fight against disease. It is in the highest tradition of both our nations to train and educate people, to endow them with skills to be used in the interest of the community. We both recognize that our basic resources, our most valuable ones, are our human resources -- our people, their skills, their knowledge, and their ideals.

To me, one of the many evidences of the stature and the wisdom of the leaders of Israel has been their determination to devote a substantial part of their limited resources to the expansion of opportunities for education, and for technical, scientific and professional training. Confronted with the almost desperate need to provide food and shelter, for the tremendous flood of immigrants and refugees; with the need to build factories and start farms, they are finding answers.

In the face of these tremendous demands on her all-too-limited resources, Israel still devoted great creative energies and financial resources to the development of the Hebrew University, the Technion,

more ...

000046

the Weizmann Institute, secondary schools throughout the country and elementary schools in every locality. *Educ*

It is a remarkable achievement that in the ten years since 1949 the number of students in primary schools has increased from less than 100,000 to more than 300,000. The number of young people in secondary schools has increased to approximately 35,000. The Hebrew University, barred from the use of its fine facilities on Mount Scopus, did not sit by bewailing its fate but went on operating in makeshift quarters scattered throughout the city until it could create a new campus and a splendid new set of buildings and facilities. The Technion, bursting its seams at its original site, has also created new buildings and new facilities on a magnificent site above Haifa Bay.

Even this is not enough. No one is more acutely aware, I found, <sup>than</sup> ~~than the Israel Government~~ itself that only a beginning has been made and that there are still today serious deficiencies in education in Israel. Israel has been very fortunate in that so many of her people brought with them their professional and scientific training, their work skills and their education. They acquired them elsewhere. But in this

000047

generation Israel, itself, must provide the training if the existing level of education and skill is to be maintained and enhanced -- as it must be. ||

We have all heard with admiration that Israel has more doctors per person than even the United States. Yet a large number of them are old and near retirement. A similar situation exists in other professions and sciences.

In many of these, I understand from my friends in Israel, the number of graduates of Israel institutions is at present too small to replace these older people -- simply because <sup>all of the necessary</sup> ~~the~~ educational facilities do not yet exist.

It is partly, too, the need for scholarship aid for the many young people who simply cannot afford to attend schools, a need which the government of Israel can only partially meet.

Thus, in Israel today, much talent is being lost or wasted.

For a country such as Israel, not as richly endowed as others in physical and natural resources, the wast of human ~~and~~ resources is an especially

more...

000048

*Denmark*

severe hardship. Israel, like Switzerland, ~~which also~~ lacks natural  
resources, must depend to a large extent on the fullest development of  
the skills, knowledge and abilities of its people. (Branfower)  
*Dr. Loehman*

And Israel must sustain its progress -- in science, in education,  
*the* in development of all its resources -- to build strong in the Mideast.  
By dynamic progress it encourages the necessary competition from all  
around it to grow in a healthy and strength-giving atmosphere. | *Example*

The generosity of individuals and organizations in America has  
 already done much to help Israel. All of us fortunate enough to have  
 visited Israel have been electrified by what we have seen.

*Law* Thus we here tonight can be assured that if we respond generously  
 to this appeal for aid to start a School of Pharmacy at the Hebrew  
 University, the school will quickly come into being, and it will be a  
 good one. [ *Dr. Griffith - Theodore Goldblum* ]

Our government has also aided Israel, and the administrators  
 of our government aid program have testified that nowhere has more  
 effective use been made ~~of~~ of our aid than in Israel.

000049

Now in many countries, our government devotes substantial sums to help develop the natural resources, <sup>industry - Agriculture etc</sup> But we have never been disposed to step in and help in the development of human resources -- by helping a country develop its educational system.

Why shouldn't we do this -- especially in countries such as Israel, where human resources are so important?

I believe that we should, and I want to suggest to you a specific way by which we can.

We are making available to many nations abroad surplus farm commodities. When these commodities are sold, supplies of local currencies are built up. (Israeli Pounds)

In many countries today, those local currencies are not being used. Why not put them to use in building schools and furnishing scholarships?

Such a program is provided in the "Food for Peace" Act which I and a number of my colleagues introduced in Congress last year. Under

more ...

000050

that bill, the President would be authorized to set up bi-national foundations to promote education and research in the countries that receive our surplus food aid.

(But need Dollars for facilities)

To my mind, this is the best possible use to which we could put our agricultural abundance. Not only will it free the bodies of men from the bonds of hunger; it will also free the minds of men from the bonds of ignorance that spring from a simple inability to build schools and provide education.

Thus, food can contribute not only to peace, but to progress. It can unharness that precious God-given gift of man;-- the power to think, to reason, and to shape his own destiny.

And so, in conclusion, may I re-affirm that we must continue to build institutions of social and economic progress throughout Israel and encourage growth throughout the Middle East. This means a ~~few~~ forward-moving Israel, a forward-moving Middle East, and a forward-moving world.

Perform a "Mitzvah"  
to write



# Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



[www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)