

Address of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey  
Charter Day Convocation  
Miami University  
Oxford, Ohio

February 16, 1962

*Happy Birthday*

*153rd year*

~~30000 grads~~  
~~with 50%~~  
~~since 1945~~

*(Comm-club  
young Dems)*

Almost three years ago, in Chicago,

I spoke to the National Conference on  
Higher Education -- and my basic theme was  
expressed in this sentence:

*✓* "Firmer, stronger, more freely-flowing  
lines of communication must be set up to  
channel the ideas and enthusiasms of  
intellectual America into the halls of  
Congress and into the mind and heart of  
each man who occupies the office of the  
Presidency."

I also urged at that time that higher  
education "should encourage the most  
searching and frank discussion and debate  
of current political, economic and social  
problems . . ." that the colleges and  
universities of our country should be doing  
more to prepare the individual for the day  
to day citizenship participation that the  
democratic process requires."

Finally, I urged that our Government  
should reach into the heart of intellectual  
America and draw from our great centers of  
higher education the men and women who could  
help to fashion a more creative, a more

imaginative, a more effective foreign  
policy -- a policy which would seek to  
foster the growth of not only higher living  
standards, but also stable democratic  
institutions in the emerging nations of  
the world. I was calling for a Peace Corps, *a Disarmament Agency,*  
for expanded technical assistance, for a  
massive assault on ignorance and illiteracy.  
And I was calling on our college-educated  
people to come forward to participate in  
this great work.

Today, in 1962, I can truthfully say --  
the intellectual, the educated, the trained  
American has ~~begin to~~ *again* come into his own, in

terms of the fashioning of American policy.

*Yes,* There are stronger ties between the *colleges*  
campus and the White House. There are  
better channels of communication between  
the colleges and the Congress. There is  
an intellectual ferment in Washington, which  
is reflecting itself in fresh approaches to  
the pressing problems of the Sixties.

*Oh yes,* I have seen newspaper stories about the  
"massive resurgence of conservatism on the  
American campus." I think that is newspaper  
talk. But I do believe that there has been  
a new impetus to political discussion of  
all shades on the campus, a new strengthening

of the student's awareness of the great  
economic and social issues of our time.

I am glad. It is an old saw that  
today's students are tomorrow's leaders.

But it's true. We cannot forget it. How  
often this sentence came home to me when  
I visited Latin America last November!

Yes, the classrooms of American colleges  
and universities are filled with a generation  
of students who have abandoned the pose of  
cynicism -- and who are eagerly, vigorously  
plunging into the mainstream of contemporary  
American thought. This is good. Let's have  
a revival of discussion and debate on the

campus. Yes, let's even have a "resurgence  
of conservatism" that my good friend, the  
junior senator from Arizona has tried to  
awaken. We need debate and dissent in a  
democracy -- in the Congress, in the cabinet  
meetings at the White House, and, yes, in  
the classrooms and after-study-hour <sup>bull-</sup> sessions on  
our campuses. While our colleges and universities  
may serve as islands <sup>of contemplation</sup> in the sea of democracy -- yes  
places of retreat for contemplation and unhurried  
thought -- they are in that democratic sea,  
and students and faculty must remember to  
sniff the salty air around them, to hear the  
clashing waves of contention and conflict, to

feel the shock and trembling of the powerful

forces that contend and dispute for

priority ~~and~~ and power. For this sea around

you is the environment in which we must live

and work. <sup>and</sup> If we are going to put to sea on

these rough waters, we need at least to get

out into the shallows along the coast and

try our sealegs!

~~Finally,~~ it has been heartening ~~in the~~

~~extreme~~ to see the way in which our educated

young people -- the finest products of our

colleges and universities -- have thronged

to participate in our national programs.

The Peace Corps was one of the first creations

of the new Administration. It was, as they say,

Peace Corp  
Disarm Agency  
N.I.H  
NASA  
NSF etc

( Yes, there is a need for a much clearer understanding on the part of college graduates of the mainsprings of national power and the motivations of national conduct.

over-subscribed from the first call of the  
President to Americans to give of their  
abilities, their energies, and their  
idealism in the service of their country  
overseas. *Just the other DAY* I saw a group of these young  
people -- some were not so young in age,  
but they were the young in heart even with  
grey hair -- these were fifty of the Peace  
Corps men and women who were on their way  
~~can~~ to Brazil. What fine individuals!

I was proud to be standing with them, to  
be talking with them, to be surrounded by  
Americans who have found a purpose in life  
through such service. I thought to myself:  
~~Here we are.~~ Here we have the product of

Columbia  
Chile

three centuries of increasing American  
preoccupation with education -- the fruit  
of the land-grant system, the results of  
generations of dedicated American teaching.

Now we are beginning to cash in. Now the  
idealists of American education are having  
their great vindication.

~~Because~~ thinking men and women are

*yes thoughtful people*

being welcomed into our Government. Not  
only in the Peace Corps, but in every department  
of Government, up to and including the

Presidency. Scholars, teachers, innovators, *Scientists*

readers, writers, yes, and artists, are not

only welcomed, but sought out. We are raiding

the campuses. We are ~~sending~~ <sup>asking for</sup> the best

minds we can persuade to leave the campuses.

Washington looks more like a great University

~~city~~ than like a major industrial city.

and, The tone is set by the President and his attractive

cultured ~~lovely~~ wife. What was it that Shakespeare

put into the mouth of his Henry V -- as he

wooed the daughter of the King of France? — *something like*

"We are the very mirror of fashion." And

the President of the United States is, indeed,

the <sup>our National</sup> ~~mirror~~ of fashion. He has done a great

~~service~~ <sup>for</sup> his country simply by demonstrating

in his daily life his respect and admiration

for men and women whose lives have been spent

*attainment and achievement*

in intellectual ~~work~~. No wonder so many college deans and professors have flocked to Washington: it's a rare man who can resist the heady wine of Presidential encouragement and invitation!

Three years ago Congress ~~had just~~ passed the National Defense Education Act of 1958 -- and it ~~is~~ already beginning to have its effect on the teaching <sup>of</sup> science, mathematics and languages. Today we all recognize how very profoundly that legislation has affected the future capabilities of our country -- how broadly it has laid the foundations of a stronger technology. *and, Congress in this Act.*

*I do not know of those who believe that all the problems of the world -- explicitly recognized the worth and importance of a broad-based educational system -- it did not plunge us into a lop-sided effort in behalf of scientific and technical training alone.*

We specifically encouraged young people to go into teaching. We singled out language training. We made a <sup>12</sup>conscious effort to preserve and strengthen the balanced and progressive character of American Education.

Now in 1962, with strong leadership

from the President, Congress is preparing

to take a second major step in the

encouragement of American education -- to

provide grants and loans for construction

programs and to provide scholarships to

gifted young people who lack the financial

means to fulfill their potential in higher

education.

Aid to Higher Education

153 yrs

Miami  
with

30000  
grads

1/2 since  
1945

or in 16 yrs

As many  
grads as  
in 137 yrs

Why

(HERE WORK FROM THE RED-MARKED PASSAGES IN THE ATTACHED FLOOR STATEMENT -- "COLLEGE AID BILL")

- (1) Next 10 years - Population of College Age increase at rate Double the 1950's
- (2) colleges must accommodate an average of 300,000 more undergraduates each yr for next 10 yrs - 10% increase
- (3) if there is no basic change in college financing, the estimate income will provide about 3/4 of that needed.
- (4) ~~1954 to 1960~~ individual and family waste of Intellect - of Brainpower

It is only a question of time before the Educational gap will be great to create an economic, military, and political power gap!

↳ We are going to pass this legislation, *both houses have acted*  
and the President is going to sign it.

↳ And I know that virtually every person in the audience ~~today~~ will applaud this newest step ~~by our democracy~~ toward genuinely full educational opportunity for all our citizens.

*Don't say  
Princ  
educ*

We are determined that ~~because~~ <sup>who is</sup> a boy ~~is~~ poor ~~is~~ shall not be denied the opportunity for a college education.

We are determined that simply because a community or a state is poor, it will not have to be content with inadequate institutions of higher education.

↳ We are determined that the wealth of

our nation as a whole shall be enlisted  
in the support of higher education.

*and,* We are on solid ground. We have made  
national decision after national decision to  
support education. Federal support of education,  
with state, local and institutional autonomy,  
runs like a powerful stream throughout the  
history of our nation.

And in this latest enlargement of opportunity  
for American students, Congress recognizes the  
strong, warm unwavering support of the American  
people. *The Nation is* ~~We are, as a nation,~~ convinced that in  
education lies our strength, in education lies  
the secret of an expanding economy, of growing

national power.

↳ Most important of all -- we recognize that in education lies the possibility of a

society of mutual tolerance, and respect *and Unity*

based on knowledge and understanding. No

people can become free without education. The

tyranny of ignorance imposes its own malevolent

cycle of rigged elections, armed revolution, Corruption

brutality, and chaos. Democratic institutions

can be planted, but they cannot survive, when

the people have no understanding.

↳ Even in America, with our heritage of free institutions, with all our wealth and

power, there is still much ignorance, ~~still~~

*yes, illiteracy*

still much room for the growth of understanding  
and tolerance. And with the power that has  
been thrust upon us through our enormous  
economic and technological strength, we have  
been handed responsibility -- the responsibility  
of leadership in a savage and chaotic world.

↳ If we are to fulfill this responsibility,  
we must rekindle in each generation that original  
American inspiration of education for everyone --  
an inspiration that has proved its value over and  
over again in the course of our history. To tap  
the creative energies of all our citizens, to  
enlist the intelligence and intellect of every  
American -- this must be our continuing dedication.

(END)

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I/urged at that time that higher education "should encourage the most searching and frank discussion and debate of current political, economic and social problems . . ." that the colleges and universities of our country should be doing more to prepare the individual for the day to day citizenship participation that the democratic process requires."

Finally, I urged that our Government should reach into the heart of intellectual America and draw from ~~this~~ our great ~~university~~ centers of higher education the men and women who could help to fashion a more creative, a more imaginative, a more effective foreign policy -- a policy which would seek to foster ~~the growth of~~ not only higher living standards, but/stable democratic institutions in the emerging nations of the world. I was calling for a Peace Corps, for expanded technical

assistance, for a massive assault on ignorance and illiteracy. And I was calling on our ~~educat~~ college-educated people to come forward to participate in this great work.

~~Today everyone is talking about the~~

Today, in 1962, I can truthfully say -- the intellectual, the educated, the trained America has begun to come into his own, in terms of the fashioning of American policy.

There are stronger ties between the campus and the White House. There are better channels of communication between the colleges and the Congress. There is an intellectual ferment in Washington, which is reflecting itself in fresh approaches to the pressing problems of the Sixties.

~~to reform~~

I have ~~heard~~ seen newspaper stories about the "massive resurgence of conservatism on the American campus." I think that is newspaper talk. But I do believe that there has been a new impetus to political discussion <sup>Ball shades</sup> on the campus, a new strengthening of <sup>the</sup> student's awareness of the great economic ~~and~~ and social issues of our time. <sup>I</sup> I am glad. It is an old saw that today's students are tomorrow's leaders. But it's true. We cannot forget it. How often this sentence came home to me when I visited Latin America last November!

Yes, the classrooms of American colleges and universities are filled with a generation of students who have abandoned the pose of ~~apathy~~ cynicism -- and who are eagerly, vigorously plunging into the mainstream of ~~american~~ contemporary American thought. This is good. Let's have a revival of discussion and debate on the ~~campus~~ campus. Yet, let's even have a ~~resurgence~~ "resurgence of conservatism" ~~that~~ my good friend, the junior senator from Arizona has tried to awaken. We need debate and dissent in a democracy -- in the Congress, in the cabinet meetings ~~of~~ at the White House, and, ~~yes~~, in the classrooms and after-study-hour sessions on our campuses. While our colleges and universities may serve as islands in the sea of democracy -- places of retreat ~~from~~ for contemplation and unhurried thought -- they are in that democratic sea, and students and faculty must remember to sniff the salty air around them, to hear the clashing waves of contention and conflict, to feel the shock and trembling of the powerful forces that ~~and~~ contend and dispute for precedence and power. For this ~~is~~ sea around you is the environment in which we must live and work. If we are going to put to sea on these rough waters, we need ~~to~~ at least to get out into the shallows along the coast and try our sealegs!

Finally, it has been heartening ~~xxxx~~ in the extreme to see the way in which our educated young people -- the finest products of our colleges and universities -- have thronged to participate in our national programs. The Peace Corps was one of the first creations of the new Administration. It was, as they say, over-subscribed from the first call of the President to Americans to give of their abilities, their energies, and their idealism in the service of their country overseas. I saw a group of these young people -- some were not so young in age, but they were the young in heart even with grey hair -- these were fifty of the Peace Corps men and women who were on their way down to Brazil. What fine individuals! I was proud to be standing with them, to be talking with them, to be surrounded by Americans who ~~are finding a purpose in life~~ have found a purpose in life through such service. I thought to myself: ~~here we are~~ here we are. Here we have the product of three centuries of increasing American preoccupation with education -- the fruit of the land-grant system, the results of generations of dedicated American teaching. Now we are beginning to cash in. Now the idealists of American education are having their great vindication.

Because thinking men and women are being welcomed into our Government. Not only in the Peace Corps, but in every department of Government, up to and including the Presidency. Scholars, teachers, innovators, readers, writers, yes, and artists,

are not only welcomed, but sought out. We are raiding the campuses. We are stealing the best minds we can persuade to leave the campuses. Washington looks more like a great University campus than like a major industrial city. ~~For~~

~~xxxxxxx~~ The tone is set by the President and his lovely wife. ~~This~~

What was it that Shakespeare put into the mouth of his Henry V -- as he wooed the daughter of the King of France? "We are the very mirror of fashion." And the President of the United States is, indeed, the mirror of fashion. He has done a great service to his country simply by demonstrating in his daily life his respect ~~for~~ and admiration for men and women whose lives have been spent in intellectual work. No wonder so many college deans and professors have flocked

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Congress

Defense

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We are determined that ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> wealth of our nation ~~as~~ as a whole shall be enlisted in the support of higher education.

We are on solid ground. We have made national decisions <sup>after</sup> national decision to support education. Federal support of education ~~is~~ , with ~~local~~ state, local and institutional autonomy, runs like a powerful stream throughout the history of our nation.

And in this latest enlargement of opportunity for American <sup>students</sup> ~~young people~~, Congress recognized the strong, warm ~~and~~ unwavering support of the American people. We are, as a people, committed to education as the best hope we have for the future. We are, as a nation, convinced that ~~education~~ in education lies our strength, ~~like~~





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