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2. y. D. Inaugural Balls + more

Remarks for the
Young Democratic Clubs Luncheon

January 19, 1965

Albany - Security

President Al Gore, officers of the Young Democrats of

America, and distinguished guests--

It is a great pleasure and privilege to meet with you
again. Many of you will recall that we last met in Atlantic
City--the day following the nomination of Lyndon B. Johnson
as our Party's candidate for President of the United States.

Atlantic City

So it is most fitting that today we are together again--
the day before the Inauguration of Lyndon Johnson as our
36th President.

We had a wonderful meeting in Atlantic City! Your
enthusiasm--your commitment--your excitement provided a
wonderful send-off for a campaign that carried me throughout
the United States in behalf of our Democratic ticket.

When Lyndon Johnson asked me to join him on the
Democratic ticket, I reflected long and hard before I
answered--I weighed my decision carefully and

but not long!

Have to
think
about
these things!

Albany
1. P.

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During that long and sober period of contemplation, I had occasion to reflect upon the illustrious company whose ranks I might be joining.

Illustration company!

Who can forget those stirring names from our glorious past, those storied vice-presidents of yesteryear: William Wheeler, Garret A. Hobart, Daniel Tompkins, Thomas Hendricks, George M. Dallas, and Henry Wilson?

Don't you remember them!

Perhaps we ought to forgive those who have forgotten Henry Wilson--who, as every schoolboy knows, changed his name from Jeremiah J. Colbath.

(statute in U.P. office)

And I paused as well to reflect upon the office itself. I could hardly fail to be challenged and stimulated by the expectations which Thomas Jefferson expressed: "It will give me philosophical evenings in winter and rural days in summer."

I recalled that John Garner had described the office as "Worth as much as a pitcher of warm spit."

I remembered Alexander Throttlebottom's concern in Of Thee I Sing, "Suppose my Mother were to find out?" But I was

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comforted by recalling the convincing argument that persuaded him to accept the nomination: "Your Mother will never know about it, and within three months you'll forget about it, too."

I knew that Daniel Webster had refused the high honor, explaining, "No thank you, I do not propose to be buried until I am really dead and in my coffin."

Webster

Rejecting that disconcerting mental picture, I formulated the phrase for which I was later to acquire a certain fondness: BUT NOT HUBERT HUMPHREY.

LBS apr

No, I accepted the President's call proudly and enthusiastically. I looked forward to the unique opportunity of traveling through our land--carrying the good news of our Democratic program and our outstanding candidates.

And as I traveled across America I could not help but notice again and again the youth, enthusiasm and sheer zest of the crowds. I know your magnificent efforts in behalf of Democratic candidates on the national, State and local levels. You made a

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~~major contribution toward the overwhelming vote of confidence
we received from the American people.~~

In fact, I have decided that all Democrats are young
Democrats. There is something about the Democratic outlook
that brightens the eye and refreshes the spirit. The
Democratic Party has become the focus and the repository
of the legitimate desires of millions of Americans. And we
must never forget that we--as active Democrats--are the
trustees and stewards of these aspirations.

Brightens
the
Eye-

Refreshes
the
Spirit

Young
Memo

Four years ago this week John Kennedy said, "The party
is the means by which programs can be put into action--the
means by which people of talent can come to the service of
the country." He reminded us that the party is not "an end
in itself...but a means of making progress for the American
people." Woodrow Wilson asked a half-century ago, "What use
is a political party unless it serves the interests of the
people?" We must never stop asking that question.

Duty of
the
Party!

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The people who voted for Lyndon Johnson and the Democratic Party accepted Woodrow Wilson's view of what a party could be ~~the~~ the view shared by Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman, John Kennedy...and Lyndon Johnson.

An America United!
no north or south

And so the Democratic Party stands today as the source of progressive thought in America--the seed bed of new ideas, ingenuity and innovation in public policy.

This is why the Democratic Party is so important to the young men and young women of America--and why you are so

important to the Democratic Party "Your old men shall dream dreams," the Bible tells us, but "your young men shall see visions."

The Democratic Party needs young men and women who see visions. For it is the bright vision of a better

tomorrow which sustains the Nation, as it sustains each of you.

All about us, we see the evidence of your commitment to building a better America and a better world. We now have more than 10,000 volunteers serving in the Peace Corps. More than

Vision

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3,000 have already returned. More than 100,000 have asked to participate in this bold and inspiring experiment.

When VISTA--the Volunteers in Service to America-- was launched, the organization answered more than 3,000 inquiries in its first day of business.

This unquenchable thirst to serve reflects itself in the composition of the United States Congress. The average Senator is less than 58, the average Representative about 50. The average newcomer to the Congress is 44, the youngest Senator 32, the youngest Representative 25. (Mondale 36)

And while the voters' choices are getting younger, so are the voters. 10 million young people were able to vote for the first time in 1964. Today more than half the electorate is under 35! By 1966, half of our population will be under 25.

The Democratic Party has become both the choice of the young electorate and the source of the new leaders.

LBJ-

(7)

LBJ

This is as it should be. We are the oldest political party in the world, in the oldest Republic in the world. But we are led by a man who began his political apprenticeship at 24, who held his first presidential appointment at 27, his first political office at 29.

Lyndon Johnson has said, "No one knows more than I the fires that burn in the hearts of young men who yearn for the chance to do better what they see their elders not doing well...or not doing at all."

Good

Lyndon Johnson and I have both been teachers. We know that, as he has said, "Our society will not be great until every young mind is set free to scan the farthest reaches of thought and imagination."

And we know the value of starting young--in politics as well as in education. So I pledge to you that the Democratic Party will continue to be receptive to the thoughts and aspirations of our Nation's youth.

The Democratic Party does not discourage its young at Welcomes them.

It is not afraid of new ideas. It does not fear the future. ~~It is~~

We do not shrink from the challenges of the '60's and '70's--

we welcome them--we relish them. The events of the years

immediately ahead will dwarf all man's accomplishments in

the past--and all his problems what a privilege to live in these times.

The challenges which confront you--you, whom President Johnson has called the "volunteer generation"--are as stimulating as those faced by any generation in the history of mankind.

Future generations will envy you for the opportunity--and will measure you by the degree to which you have seized it.

President Johnson has told us the Great Society "is not a safe harbor, a resting place, a final objective, a finished work. It is a challenge constantly renewed, beckoning us toward a destiny where the meaning of our lives matches the marvelous products of our labor."

Volunteer generation

I consider it a high privilege to ask you to join President Johnson in building the Great Society!

*Fidelity
& Integrity*

Al House, Sect WIRTZ, Officers
Dick Murphy -9- of young Demos

I consider it a high privilege to ask you to join President
Johnson and the Democratic Party in building that Great Society.

I hope to have an opportunity to see you frequently
during the next four years.

Skip Humphreys Nancy

Coolidge

I am reminded of another gregarious Vice President, the
eloquent Calvin Coolidge. A Washington hostess once commiserated
with him, suggesting that he had a hard lot in having to attend
so many official banquets. Rising to new heights of
grandiloquence, old Cal replied, "Have to eat somewhere."

Pres. young
Demos, Beadle County
S.D.
1936

Horatio, too!



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