

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Gov McKeithen

at

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 9, 1965

One hundred years ago today at Appomattox
Courthouse in Virginia, General Robert E. Lee donned
a spotless uniform and presented his sheathed sword to
General U.S. Grant. Earlier that day Lee told one of
his embittered generals:

"We have fought this fight as long as,
and as well as, we know how ... For us ...
there is but one course to pursue. We
must accept the situation ... and proceed
to build up our country on a new basis."

↳ Today, exactly a century later, the great task being met by this nation remains the one foreseen by this great general and brave American: "to build up our country on a new basis" -- the basis of human dignity and opportunity.

↳ The motto of the State of Louisiana is "Union, Justice, and Confidence." I believe that this state -- and this nation -- can look to the future with "confidence" ^{but,} only when ^{we} ~~they~~ attain true "union" and "justice".

↳ "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union ..." These historic words from the Preamble of the United States Constitution testify that the theme of union is a central thread in the fabric of American life.

↳ Even before ratification of the Constitution, our Founding Fathers viewed the thirteen colonies as

united in common purpose -- the establishment
and maintenance of liberty and justice on these
shores.

~~##~~

∟ Louisiana knows the need for union
among all states. It was the need for navigability --
the need for room to expand -- which led to the best
bargain in American diplomatic history. ∟ The
Louisiana Purchase, at one stroke, and without
even a threat of war, doubled ^{our} the nation's
size, pushed back our frontier another 1500 miles,
and secured the Mississippi as a highway for
western commerce.

↳ Beyond this, it provided spark to our imagination,
inspiration to our vision of America's destiny, and
sustained us for the next century.

↳ Today, as in the time of Jefferson, there is
a desperate need for Americans of every state to feel
kinship with Americans of every other state -- the
kinship dictated by history, by common sense, and by
the patent truth that a house divided against itself
cannot stand.

↳ ~~Louisiana recognizes that~~ the relationship
between the state and federal government ^{must be} ~~is~~ one of
partnership, not of rivalry ... one of common goals
... and common problems. ↳ The floods of 1927
demonstrated to Louisiana that one state alone could
not truly protect itself against the ravages of nature.

and, Just as one state alone cannot control the force
of a great river system, one state alone cannot meet
the social and economic forces merging in the 20th
century.

Social + Economic
Here in Louisiana those pressing forces can
be seen graphically.

People are moving to the city. The percentage
of Louisiana people who live under urban conditions
has increased from 41.8 per cent in 1940 to 55 per cent
in 1950 to 65 per cent in 1964. The question which
This Generation of Young Louisiana
Louisiana's citizens will have to answer by 1970

and by 1980 is: Are the institutions and habits
services and facilities designed for a rural society and
an agricultural economy adequate for a wholly different,
far more complex industrialized, urbanized future?

Our population is getting younger and older at the same time. The number of people ~~in Louisiana~~ who are under 25 and the number who are over 65 are increasing more rapidly than those between those ages.

507.7
Popul
under 25
by 1970

The question which you and your fellow citizens will have to resolve in the years ahead is: What can be done for our youth and for our aged which allows both to contribute to their society -- and allows neither to constitute a dead-weight dragging us downward.

In the fields of education ... transportation ... of health and welfare ... of the preservation, beautification and utilization of our natural resources -- in all these fields and more -- the nation has come

slowly and uncertainly but surely to the realization that we are one nation. ~~As we are indivisible under God, so~~

~~our~~ our problems are indivisible, and ~~our~~ our solutions must be reached jointly.

↙ As we must stand or fall together on the
 solutions we reach to the problems which confront us,
 so do we stand or fall upon our response to the most
pressing domestic problem of this generation.

↙ Robert E. Lee told his compatriots that the
 time had come "to cast off our animosities, and
raise our sons to be Americans."

↙ Today, we have, thank God, left behind us the
 long night of division and dissension. We have come
 to the realization that, in the President's ^{Johnson} words,

} "The time has come to bind up the nation's wounds
and heal its history."

- *President is a healer -
 He needs to unite*

Yes, The time has arrived to reaffirm to ourselves --
and to all mankind -- that we are truly a union of
states and peoples. We bear heavy burdens at
home -- and around the world.

We will prove equal to these responsibilities
 only if we eradicate forever the blight of racial
 and regional discrimination -- only if we step
 forward, today, and speak forthrightly in behalf
 of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~national~~ dignity and equality of every
 human being. This is a task which falls not upon
Southerners or Northerners -- Easterners or
 Westerners -- but upon Americans. And, as Americans,
 we will discover that union is surely the gateway
 to justice.

Racism
 is a
 curse
 through
 all areas
 guilty

Justice

In the America of 1965, justice has many
 dimensions. It is a sense of justice which has called
 this nation to its war on poverty.

Can a rich + prosperous nation have
 a conscience? -

*Poverty is not new,
what is new, is the
fact that we can do
something about it.*

We recognize our moral responsibility to
achieve equality of economic opportunity for every
American. ~~It is~~ we have the resources to
eradicate poverty; it is a matter of simple justice
that we utilize these resources to the fullest.

*America
cannot
afford
Poverty.*

It is also a sense of justice which has
brought us to the realization that a nation which does
not provide a decent education for all its youth
deprives itself of its very future.

*Education is the main spring
of our economic progress
and our national security.*

Some people say that a good education comes at
too high a price. But President Johnson views the
situation somewhat differently. He understands that
inadequate education leads to unemployment: the high
school dropout is twice as likely to be unemployed as
the high school graduate, and five times as likely to
be unemployed as the college graduate. He understands
that inadequate education leads to poverty:

two-thirds of the families in which the father had
less than eight years of schooling find themselves
locked in economic hopelessness.

← our President

understands that inadequate education
perpetuates itself into future generations: the
children of the unemployed and poor become themselves
unemployed and poor.

of Louisiana

← It was, after all, Huey Long ¹ who in 1928 first
fostered a free textbook law in this state. It was
Huey Long who thought that, as every man had a right
to a job -- and this was long before the Employment
Act of 1946 -- as every old person had the right to
live out their years in decency and dignity -- and
this was long before Medicare -- so, too, did every
boy and girl have a right to all the education their
young minds could absorb.

Thomas Jefferson once said:

"If you expect a nation to be ignorant and free, you expect what never was and never will be"

In 1787- the Continental Congress proclaimed in the the Northwest Ordinance that "Schools and the means of education shall ever be encouraged"

In 1965 we reaffirmed this commitment in President Johnson's historic Elementary + Secondary Education Act and the Higher Education bill. Today the Congress has Passed this bill.

L This University, indeed, had its origin
in federal grants of land to Louisiana in 1806,
in 1811, and in 1827. The buildings and grounds in
the northern part of ~~the~~ ^{this} city were ~~located by the~~ ^{first provided by the}
federal government to the new University, and in
1902 the title was vested in the University by an
Act of Congress. So we have marched together down
the long road toward education for all.

L LSU itself today has 18 per cent more students
enrolled than last year, and next year the enrollment
will probably increase by another 11 per cent. Even
without regard to the newly authorized branches at
Eunice and Shreveport, it is estimated that your
enrollment will grow 135 per cent between 1960 and
1970.

L Surely, this is a challenge even to the talents
and traditions of this great University.

Why do we propose and Advocate
this legislation - Why do your
fellow citizens provide for the
byproducts of this great University?

Because, Every American must be
guaranteed Opportunity to lead a
meaningful + satisfying life.

We cannot afford to squander
or waste the energies and
appetites of a single American
due to inadequate educational
opportunity.

88th Cong
85th Cong
K.B. 59
H. R. 10000
H. R. 10000

It is, of course, a challenge and problem which
is being duplicated across the nation. X

And simple justice requires that every

American participate fully in the political and
economic life of this nation. In proposing the
pending voting rights legislation to the Congress,
President Johnson manifested his intention to make
first class citizenship an opportunity available to
every American. This is, once again, simply a
question of justice.

Close the
Citizenship
GAP

But equality of opportunity will depend on more
than war against poverty ... or investment in education
... or, yes, equal voting rights.

It will depend to an extraordinary degree upon
the efforts and energy and dedication of our young
people.

"The God who gave us life",
observed Thomas Jefferson, "gave us
liberty at the same time".

It has, however, been the responsibility
of men in each generation to
Preserve, Protect, ~~support~~ and defend
the God given liberty.

and the generation has been
severely tested and ~~is~~ not
found wanting. This past decade
will be known in American history
as the "Freedom Decade" and the
youth of America has helped
make it so.

*Volunteer
generation*

President Johnson has called you a volunteer
 generation, and indeed you are. We now have more
 than 10,000 volunteers serving in the Peace Corps.
 More than 3,000 have already returned. ~~More~~ 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. - *Job Corps over 200,000 Volunteers*

*(Domestic
Peace Corps)*

*Job Corps
Set figures*

It is no accident that this urge on the part of
 our young people to participate in the great challenges
 of our day is also reflected in the nation's response
 to this upsurge of youth. ~~The average Senator today~~
~~is less than 58 years old, the average Representative~~
~~is about 50.~~ The average newcomer to the Congress is 44,
 the youngest Senator 32, the youngest Representative 25.

↳ Ten million young people were able to vote for the first time in 1964. Today more than one-half of the electorate is less than 35, and by 1970 more than one-half of the people will be less than 25. Our own President held his first presidential appointment at 27 and his first political office at 29. As he 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."

↳ The Bible tells us that, "Your old men shall dream dreams" but "your young men shall see visions." It is this visionary quality of youth, this vision of a better tomorrow for all our citizens, that we shall need in the years ahead.

↳ I believe that this generation of Americans has its eye upon the future.

Arnold Toynbee, the noted British historian described the greatness of our generation

I believe that this generation of

Americans wants what Louisiana's motto spells out:

"Union, Justice, and Confidence."

↳ In that spirit, I gratefully accept your

honor.

with these words:

"Our age will be remembered not for its horrifying crimes nor its astonishing inventions, but because it is the first generation since the dawn of history in which man dared to make the benefits of civilization available to the whole human race"

We Americans, above all others, dare to believe this is possible. and

CONVOCATION

HONORING

THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 9, 1965

Introduction of the Speaker

Dr. John A. Hunter, President
Louisiana State University

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a number of very distinguished guests in the audience this afternoon, and far too many here for me to personally identify. I would like, however, to identify the members of the LSU family on the platform. First, the First Citizen of Louisiana, our very fine and distinguished Governor, John J. McKeithen, who is also a member of the Board of Supervisors. We have three members of the LSU Board of Supervisors on the platform: Mr. Carlos Spaht, a member of the board and also executive counsel to Governor McKeithen; Mr. Theo Cangelosi, formerly the Board Chairman; and Colonel Henry Walden from Alexandria.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honor to present one of Louisiana State University's most distinguished sons, and the Vice President of the United States.

Address

Hon. Hubert H. Humphrey
Vice President of the United States

Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, President Hunter, Governor McKeithen, Chancellor Taylor, Reverend Witcher, and the Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Goodrich, members of the faculty of this great university, students, friends, and fellow R.O.T.C.'ers. I too was once one, and I want to say how pleased I am to see the men and the officers of these fine military training units here at this grand old

school of Louisiana State University.

It's good to be back home. And it's particularly good to come on a day when you have such warm climate and warm hospitality. It's particularly good for a Minnesotan. It's been a little chilly up our way, I might add. As I said to some of your fellow citizens a little earlier today, the snowbanks were standing on the level five feet deep, and where we had a little breeze coming in from Canada, fifteen foot deep. We're now melting that snow, and we'll inundate you with a substantial amount of Minnesota dew down the valley of the Mississippi. Let us hope that it isn't too much. I'm glad to be back on the campus that means so much to me. I'm happy to be back in this old hippodrome and happy to be here at LSU, looking forward to seeing Mike the Tiger. I understand they've had two or three of these beasts since I left here. I hope that your present-day Mike can growl as good as the Mike of my day, and I know that the boys on the gridiron that are inspired by that Mike the Tiger have been doing mighty well. I haven't gotten down here recently and it hasn't been my privilege to congratulate you, so I want to say that nothing made me happier in this past year than to know that LSU was in the Sugar Bowl and doing a mighty fine job, and I want to compliment you.

This is a school that has many honors. I, of course, mentioned football. I watched old Y. A. Tittle play this year before he hung up the cleats. He used to do a good job down here. When I was a student at LSU, it was Ken Cavanaugh, All-American, and then, of course, Gus Tinsley, and many others. So the name and the fame of this wonderful institution has been acclaimed throughout America, not only for its prowess in athletics, but more significantly for its high standards of academic achievement. Today, I want to visit with you as a friend and as a neighbor and as a graduate of this great institution. I came to Louisiana State University because I wanted to, because of choice, not because of order or dictation. I had the opportunity after my graduation from the University of Minnesota to attend several of our great mid-western universities, and universities to the east, but I did want the privilege of getting to know this part of America, and I wanted the opportunity to become acquainted with the new leadership that was rising in the South. And I arrived on this campus with high hopes and a low bank account. And my hopes have been sustained and my bank account did not

improve for some considerable period of time. But I'm indebted to this university. I don't know, Dr. Hunter, whether you realize it, but you gave me a fellowship of four hundred and fifty dollars. I spent every dime of it right here in Baton Rouge. And in fact, I borrowed a little elsewhere. And Mrs. Humphrey worked alongside of me, adding to the family fortune, through such important tasks as typing and making sandwiches. So we worked our way through this university, and we came away with a love of it, and a respect for it that lives to this day in our hearts. I cherish at home on our reading table, a copy of my yearbook, the Gumbo, and I look back there and see some rather important person-ages in American life. I recall my visits here on this campus not only with faculty, but with a gentleman who serves with me now in the United States Senate, who today occupies exactly the same position that I occupied a year ago. One year ago, I was privileged to be the majority whip of the United States Senate. Today Senator Russell Long of Louisiana is the majority whip of the United States Senate. So the Spirit of LSU marches on.

An occasion such as this is one not only for fellowship, and informal visit, but I hope for thoughtful consideration of the times in which we live. One hundred years ago today, at Appamatox Courthouse in Virginia, General Robert E. Lee donned a spotless uniform and presented his sheathed sword to General Ulysses S. Grant. Earlier that day, General Lee told one of his embittered generals the following: Said Lee, "We have fought this fight as long and as well as we know how. For us there is but one course to pursue. We must accept the situation, and proceed to build our country on a new basis." And today, exactly a century later, the great task being met by this nation remains the one foreseen by this great patriot, this great general and brave American, and remember his words now as then, to build up our country on a new basis, the basis of human dignity and of opportunity. The motto of your state, known to all of you and remembered by others, the motto of Louisiana is "Union, Justice, and Confidence." I believe that this state and this nation can truly look to the future with confidence, but only, only when we attain true union and justice.

We the people of these United States, in order to form a more perfect union, those first words of our Constitution, these historic words of the Preamble of the United States

Constitution, testify that the theme of union is a central thread in the fabric of American life. Even before the ratification of our Constitution, our founding fathers viewed the thirteen colonies as united in common purpose, the establishment and the maintenance of liberty and justice on these shores. Now, Louisiana knows the need for union among all states. It was the need for navigability, the need for room to expand which led to the best bargain in American diplomatic history. The Louisiana Purchase, at one stroke, and without even a threat of war, doubled our nation's size, pushed back our frontier another fifteen hundred miles, and secured the Mississippi as a highway for western commerce. And that Louisiana Purchase bound together this great union, and it brings together even a state as far away as Minnesota as a sister state to Louisiana. We, too, are part of the Louisiana Purchase. We, too, are part of the great Mississippi, the headwaters of the mighty river being in my state, that I am privileged and have been privileged to represent in the Congress. And the mouth of the Mississippi, that great river, pouring into the Gulf of Mexico here from the state of Louisiana.

But beyond this, the Purchase provided spark to our imagination. It provided an inspiration to our vision of America's destiny, and it sustained us for the next century. Today, as in the time of Thomas Jefferson, there is a desperate need for Americans of every state of this union to feel kinship with Americans of every other state. The kinship that is dictated by our history, by common cause and common sense, and by the patent truth that a house divided against itself cannot stand. The relationship between federal and state government must be one of partnership and not of rivalry...One of comity and not of animosity, one of cooperation and not of domination, and it is that creative federalism which is at the very heart and core of the governmental philosophy of the President of the United States, Lyndon Baines Johnson. (Applause)

Many of you here, that is some of you earlier graduates, may recall the floods of 1927. Terrible floods! My state is now experiencing the first flood, the worst flood conditions since 1873. Unbelievable disaster and destruction. Pray God it does not descend upon you. But the floods of 1927 demonstrated to Louisiana that one state alone could not truly protect itself against the ravages of nature...No matter how much it believed in its states' rights or its states' power. Just as one state alone cannot control the force of a great river system, one state alone cannot, in this day and age, meet the social and economic forces merging in the twentieth century. And here in Louisiana

those pressing social and economic forces are to be seen very rapidly. Right here before your very eyes, a whole new world, a world in change. People in this, what was once an agrarian state, are moving into the cities. The percentage of Louisiana people who live under urban conditions has increased from 41 per cent in 1940 to 55 per cent approximately in 1950, and to 65 per cent in 1964, and the tempo and the direction and trend is unmistakable. More industrialization, more urbanization, with all of its changes. Now, the question which this generation of Louisianans faces, will have to, and which you will have to answer by 1970 and by 1980 is this: are the institutions, the habits, the services, the facilities, designed for a rural society, and what was characteristically an agricultural economy, adequate for a wholly different and far more complex industrialized and urbanized future. That's the basic question of your social-economic life, and it will do no good to pretend that other days will return. There is no turning back. The future is all that we have. The past is prologue. We must look to that future and gear ourselves and our training and our insights to grappling with the future.

Our population is getting older, and it's getting younger at the same time. The number of people who are under 25 and the number who are over 65 are increasing more rapidly than those between those ages. The question which you and your fellow citizens will have to resolve in the years ahead is, what can be done for our youth and for our elderly which allows both of them to contribute to their maximum to their society and allows neither to constitute a dead weight, dragging us downward. Fifty per cent of the entire population of this nation in five years will be under 25 years of age, and in five years this America will have approximately 22 million people 65 years of age and older. This is why your Congress even on this very day passes a medicare program to provide hospital and medical service for the elderly and provides (Applause) and even now as I speak to you, the Senate of the United States casts its vote for the most comprehensive, for the most meaningful aid to education bill ever passed by any Congress of the United States. (Applause)

In the fields of education, transportation, of health and welfare, and of the preservation and beautification and the utilization of our natural resources, in all of these fields, and in many more, this nation of ours has come slowly and uncertainly but surely to the realization that we are one nation, one people, one nation under God, indivisible, and pray God, with liberty and justice for all. (Applause) Now, our problems, and I say our

problems, American problems, and the sooner that we face up to that fact, recognizing that each of us has his or her responsibility, but always remembering that these are American problems, and American challenges and opportunities. When we remember that, then indeed, we will find that our problems are indivisible, and our solutions must be reached jointly. As we must stand or fall together, on the solutions we reach to the problems which confront us, so do we stand or fall upon our responsibility to the most pressing domestic problem of this generation. Robert E. Lee told his compatriots, those brave men of his armies of the Confederacy, that the time had come to cast off our animosities and to raise our sons to be Americans.
(Applause)

The truth of our history has been bathed in the blood of heroes, and refined in the fire of war, and today, we have, thank God, left behind us this dreadful long night of division and dissension and we have come to realize that in the words of our president, President Johnson, and I quote his words, because they're appropriate, "The time has come to bind up the nation's wounds and to heal its history." Never in our lifetime, indeed I recall of no time since the founding of this republic, has there been a President who is more committed to the concept of national unity, more committed as almost like a position to the healing of the wounds of our history than President Lyndon Johnson, who today gives us magnificent leadership. (Applause) Yes, I would say the time has come to reaffirm to ourselves and to all mankind that we are truly a nation of states, a union of states, and a union of peoples.

We bear very heavy burdens, my fellow Americans. We bear heavy burdens at home, and around the world, and indeed the eyes of the world are upon us. If there's to be peace in this world, it will be because we can help to provide it. If freedom is to survive, it will be because we nourish it. If justice is to prevail, it will be because we practice it. There is no way, none whatsoever, that the young men in these galleries and those of you men and women in this audience can escape the responsibilities that fall upon the broad shoulders of the American Republic. We are a world leader, and with leadership comes pain, comes burden, comes responsibility.

Leadership is not only a privilege and an honor, it represents a sacrifice and a duty, and may we be worthy of the duty and the sacrifice. We will have...we will prove equal to these responsibilities only if we eradicate forever from our midst the blight of racial and regional discrimination, only (Applause) yes, only if we step forward today and speak forth-

rightly in behalf of the dignity and the equality of every human being, because my fellow Americans, that is America, it always has been, and it always will be. (Applause)

And I repeat once again, this is a task which falls, not upon Southerners, or Northerners, or Easterners, or Westerners; it is a task that falls upon Americans, and as Americans we will discover that union is the only and the sure gateway to justice (Applause). In the America of 1965, and that's the America we need to talk about, and to think about, and to look to the future...justice has many dimensions. It is a sense of justice which called upon this nation--or called this nation to its war on poverty.

I believe that Americans have been asking themselves some questions. In fact, the world has been asking a question about us. And that question is this, "Can a nation so rich as ours, so prosperous as ours---can such a nation still have a sense of conscience?" And ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans, to the everlasting credit of this Republic, and of the people of this nation, the answer comes back.."Yes!" (Applause)

We do have a conscience, and it was this sense of conscience that called upon your President and the Congress and the American people to declare war on poverty. It was this sense of conscience that called upon the American people to share of their wealth with the less fortunate in other parts of the world, as we've done so generously. It's this sense of conscience that calls upon us to help the underprivileged at home and abroad. And it's this sense of conscience, my fellow Americans, that eats at us and tells us that we must rid ourselves of the evil of racism and do it in our lifetime (Applause.)

We recognize also our moral responsibility to achieve equality of economic opportunity for every American. We know that poverty is not new. Poverty has been with mankind as long as mankind has been on this earth. What is new, however, is that for the first time in the history of this world, for the first time--this country and others has the means and the tools and the know-how to do something about poverty....how to correct it, how to remove it, how to fight it, and we are going to do it with might and main.

Yes, we have the resources to eradicate it. It is a matter of simple justice that we utilize these resources to the fullest. This nation cannot afford poverty. It can't afford the poverty of the purse, economic poverty. It's like an insidious

infection in our body, economically. We cannot afford the other aspects of poverty, the poverty of hopelessness and of frustration, the poverty of the spirit which grips so many who've never been able to rise above it. And so, on many fronts, government and individuals, government at the federal, state, and local levels, churches and industry, people in every walk of life are now on a march, and the march is to destroy the remnants of poverty, which still inhabit this continent of ours. It's also this sense of justice which has brought us to a realization that a nation, which does not provide a decent education for all of its youth, deprives itself of its very future.

Education is the mainspring of our economic progress and growth, and education in this, the second half of the twentieth century, is the shield of our defense. There is no defense without it. Modern military power is built on brainpower, not on musclepower. (Applause) And national security requires college degrees, enlightenment, technical, professional competence.

Now, some people say that a good education comes at too high a price. Oh, yes, there are many groups organized to defeat the bond issues, to prevent the taxes, but your President views the situation somewhat differently, and so do I. He understands that inadequate education leads to unemployment, and unemployment in the last ten years has cost this Republic one hundred billion dollars of lost income, one hundred billion! The high school dropout, the boy or the girl that doesn't finish his school course, is twice as likely to be unemployed as the high school graduate... and five times as likely to be unemployed as the college graduate.

Your President understands that inadequate education leads to poverty. Two-thirds of the families in which the father has less than eight years of schooling, find themselves locked in economic hopelessness. The relationship between inadequate education and poverty is unmistakable. There's no way to cure poverty until you remedy the inadequacies of the educational structure of this country. And President Johnson understands that inadequate education perpetuates itself into future generations. It's contagious. It is inherited. The children of the unemployed, and of the poor, become themselves, in the next generation, the unemployed and the poor.

It was, after all, a former governor of this state, a very dynamic leader, one much loved and one much hated by some, Huey Long of Louisiana, (Applause)...Huey Long of Louisiana in 1928 first fostered a free textbook law in this state, and like it or not, that law was like a mighty pillar to lift this state not only out of the mud, but to lift it out of the doldrums and start it on the way to economic and social progress.

And it was this man of many facets and contrasts, Huey Long, who thought that as every man had a right to a good job-- and this was long before the employment act of 1946 in Congress-- as every old person had the right to live out their lives and their years in decency and dignity--and this was long before Medicare which passed the House only yesterday--so, too, did every boy and girl in this state have a right to all the education their young minds could absorb. This was the mark of leadership and awed prophesy.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "If you expect a nation to be ignorant and free, you expect what never was and never will be." There is no freedom in ignorance and there is no opportunity in ignorance. In 1787, the Continental Congress proclaimed in the Northwest Ordinance that schools and the means of education shall be forever encouraged. And in 1965, this very week, we reaffirmed this commitment by the passage of President Johnson's historic elementary-secondary education act, and within another two months we'll reaffirm it a gain by the passage of the higher education act for great institutions of learning like LSU. (Applause)

And let me tell you a little history about your University. I'm sure all of you know it, but after all education is essentially repetition. If not, some of us receive it by osmosis. Now, this University had its origin in federal grants of land to Louisiana in 1806, in 1811, and in 1827. The buildings and the grounds in the northern part of this city where your state capitol now resides were provided by the Federal Government on a loan basis to the new University, and it was in 1902 the title for these lands was vested in the University by a special act of the Congress of the United Staes.

So we marched together down that long road towards education for all. LSU today has 18% more students enrolled than last year. I believe that's pretty close to the fact, Dr. Hunter. And next year, your estimates are that the enrollment will possibly increase another 10 to 12 %, and even without regard to the newly authorized branches at Eunice and Shreveport, adding to those already at New Orleans and Alexandria, it is estimated that your enrollment will grow 135% between 1960 and 1970. All the challenge to higher education is unprecedented, and surely this challenge is a challenge even to the talents and traditions of this great school. It's of course a challenge and a problem which is being duplicated across the nation.

Why then do we propose and advocate this legislation that I speak of? Why do your fellow citizens provide for the expansion of this great University? Because every American must be given the opportunity to lead a meaningful and satisfying life. We can

not afford to squander or to waste the energies and abilities of a single American boy or girl, due to inadequate educational opportunities. America needs every young man and woman, America needs every person in this hour of its trial and crisis--and needs them to the best of their abilities--emancipated, developing their potentialities, so that they can make rich contribution to our society. (Applause)

And, now, my fellow citizens, a few more words to you. Simple justice, and justice is the second theme of your motto, requires that every American, every good citizen participate fully in the political and economic life of this nation. This nation was born on the principle of self-government--no taxation without representation, government by the consent of the governed. You have no right to ask a man to bear arms in defense of this republic and deny him a ballot. One has no right to ask a citizen (Applause)...one has no right to ask a fellow citizen to perform the duties of citizenship and deny him the privileges in proposing. (Applause). Therefore, in proposing the pending voting rights legislation to the Congress, President Johnson manifested his intention to make first-class citizenship an opportunity available to every American.

He is determined, my fellow Americans, to close the citizenship gap in this country, and it's that gap in the constitutional promise and the living reality of political life which needs to be closed. This is once again only a matter of simple justice.

But equality in opportunity will depend on more than war against poverty, even more than an investment in education, or equal voting rights. These are steps, but not all. One does not build the cathedral of freedom easily and quickly--and may I say that freedom and democracy are like the mighty cathedral. To each generation is the reburden and the privilege of adding to that great structure. Our work is never done. Therefore, the graduates of this University, and each class year must undertake their share of the responsibility of adding to the beauty of the cathedral of freedom. It will depend to an extraordinary degree--this freedom and its preservation, upon the efforts and energy of our young.

President Johnson has called you a volunteer generation, and indeed you are. And, now, we have, for example more than 10,000 volunteers serving in our Peace Corps, more than 3,000 have already returned. And let me just say now, we need more of you, and the Peace Corps is the finest representation that this country has. It's doing more for humanity than any single program that your government has ever entered into in terms of foreign

aid. (Applause) More than 100,000 have asked to participate in this bold and inspiring experiment, and then with VISTA, the volunteers in service to America--our domestic peace corps was launched.

This organization received replies from over 3,000 applicants on its first day of business. Three thousand people who said, "I want to volunteer to help America." The job corps for young men who feel that they are at the end of the road, who feel a sense of hopelessness, who have never known what it was to finish high school, never known what it was to walk into a college, many of them have never known what it was to have a decent home, many of them never been to a dentist or a doctor, many of them been nothing but the victims of asphalt, concrete, crime and corruption.

My fellow Americans, over 250,000 young men have already volunteered for the Job Corps, because they want to do something with their lives. I'm proud of young Americans (Applause.) "The God who gave us life," observed Jefferson, "gave us liberty at the same time." It has, however, been the responsibility of man in each generation to persevere, protect, and defend that God-given liberty. And this generation has been severely tested and not found wanting, I'm happy to say. I believe that the past decade will be known as the Freedom Decade in our history books of tomorrow....and the youth of America has helped make it so.

President Johnson said recently that no one knows more than I the fires that burn in the hearts of young men who yearn for the chance to do better but they see their elders not doing so well or not doing it at all." This is the spirit of youth, and the Bible tells us that your old men shall dream dreams, but your young men shall see visions....and it is this visionary quality of our youth, this bright vision of a better tomorrow for all of our citizens that we shall need in the years ahead. A vision that has compassion, where there is indifference, that has faith where there has been cynicism. I believe that this generation of Americans has its eye on the future.

Arnold Toynbee, the noted British historian, described the greatness of this generation with these words, "Our age," says Toynbee, "will be remembered not for its horrifying crimes or its great inventions, but because it is the first generation since the dawn of history in which mankind dared to make the benefits of his civilization available to the whole human race."---and we Americans, above all others, dare to believe that this is possible..

...dare to believe that we can make the benefits of our country available to every American, and dare to believe that we can make the achievements of America a pattern for at least an inspiration, for mankind in other parts of the world.

I believe that this generation of Americans wants what Louisiana's motto spells out; I believe that these young men and these young women want to live by the principles of your motto. They believe in union, one nation indivisible and indestructible, and they believe in justice....justice for themselves and for others, and they have the confidence of people who have the faithand in that spirit, I am exceedingly joyful and happy to come once again to my campus, to the school that I love, Louisiana State University. (Applause.)

President Hunter:

Vice-President Humprey, we are delighted, of course, that you have, after a long absence come home. We sincerely hope that you will return often. To recognize significant achievements in literary, scientific, artistic, or technical fields of endeavor, the University, from time to time, awards honorary degrees. It is a pleasure, at this time, to recognize Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and ask him to come to the front of the platform.

Dr. Cecil G. Taylor, Chancellor of the University, will read the citation. Chancellor Taylor...

Chancellor Taylor:

Hubert Horatio Humphrey, distinguished alumnus of Louisiana State University, you have achieved outstanding success in the field of public service. We honor you for your deep compassion, which has led you to respond warmly to human needs in America and elsewhere in the world. We honor you for your vibrancy of spirit which has made you an elegant spokesman for the American dream of a better life for all men everywhere. We honor you for your political courage, which has repeatedly led you to champion causes regardless of popularity or convenience. We honor you for your steadfast commitment to principle which excites your admirers, even as it produces consternation in others. We honor you as a public figure who fully understands the importance of higher education in the realization of America's ideals.

In conferring upon you the degree of Doctor of Law,

your Alma Mater acknowledges your attainments with pride and reaffirms its conviction that public service is a calling honorable in itself and deserving of scholarly recognition.

President Hunter:

By the authority vested in me by the Board of Supervisors and acting for the board it gives me particular satisfaction and pleasure, Vice President Humphrey, to confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. I wish to extend to you my heartiest felicitations and congratulations. Dr. Max Goodrich, dean of the Graduate School will assist with the investiture ceremony.

Vice President Humphrey:

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

President Hunter:

The Benediction will be pronounced by the Reverend Robert Witcher.

Reverend Witcher:

Let us pray. Go forth into the world in peace, remember the poor, be kindly affectionate one to another, the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.



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