

Bill
✓ Cong mouthhead - 14th Dist
Gov Lawrence
Mayor Barro

Miss Merenstein

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

MAY 13, 1965

Chancellor
Litchfield

(Michigan)
Chancellor Litchfield
H. Humphrey

Krush - Nixon - out
Litchfield - Humphrey - in

5 common
Voting

My fellow students, my theme today is this:

Ask not - ask what you can do for your country
What can we Americans ask of each other in 1965?

Where are we bound in life?

What is our place in the world?

Voting Privilege

It was only thirty years ago that millions
of Americans asked of each other:

"Brother, can you spare a dime?"

We worried in those days about shelter ...
clothing ... and holding onto work and life.

Thank God those times are past.

But to my generation they will always be
fresh and real. And a reminder that our precious
democratic society once tottered on the edge.

This nation thirty years ago was divided, deeply divided: have and have-not, business and labor, North and South, black and white, farm and city, left and right. But in face of disaster and revolution we united -- united, I might add, under brilliant leadership -- to face our common foes. First, economic crisis at home. Then, totalitarianism and barbarism abroad.

We did not have to be asked what we could do for each other and for our country. We had to fight for survival.

Most of you here today were born after those crises had passed. You have lived in time of prosperity.

L But your young generation has not turned inward on itself or satisfied itself with material pleasures.

You have responded to the needs of these times
and you have done it in magnificent fashion.

L You are the volunteer generation.

There are now 10,000 volunteers serving
in the Peace Corps ... with more than 3,000 already
returned and another 100,000 waiting for their
chance to participate.

LJ Corp 250,000 Applicants

When VISTA -- the Volunteers in Service to
America -- was launched, there were 3,000 inquiries
on its first day of business.

And I know that in most of the minds here
today there is the question: What can I do to serve
my country and my fellow man?

~~President Lyndon Johnson 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
the 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."

It is written

start

Old men dream dreams, but young men see
visions.

Today in our country there is a vision of
a Great Society. Quality - not just economics

The nature of this vision has much to do
with my question here today: What can we Americans
ask of each other in 1965?

In this time of prosperity, is the Great
Society to be a welfare state? Some may think so.

~~But that is not the vision of President Johnson.~~

~~Neither is it my vision.~~ But I think not.

no,
We see the Great Society as a state of
opportunity.

No government owes every man a living.

But a just government of, by and for the people does
owe every man an opportunity to enjoy the blessings
of life.

The Great Society is based on the proposition
that every man shall have that opportunity.

If you examine the legislative program in
this Congress ... if you listen to the words of our
President ... ~~if you look into your own heart you~~ *you*
cannot escape the conclusion that we are succeeding,
we are breaking through in our efforts to provide all
American men and women with that precious opportunity.

to be sure Some, once receiving it, may squander it.

But all Americans must have the chance --

a chance now denied to many -- to make something

better of their lives, ~~and the lives of their~~

~~children.~~

Last yr - CIVIL RIGHTS - Equality of opportunity.

Last month this Congress passed a great bill

which is a basic investment toward achieving that

equality of opportunity: the Elementary and Secondary

Education Act. Thomas Jefferson was right. We

cannot be both ignorant and free.

↳ This Act in itself is accomplishment enough
to satisfy an ordinary Congress. But it will be
followed soon by passage of the Higher Education bill.

↳ ~~These bills together will help build class-
rooms. They will provide funds for libraries and
textbooks and teaching materials. They will provide
funds for research in teaching techniques and
development of community education centers.~~

They will above all, I hope give new
inspiration to teacher and student alike in the
exhilarating experience of gaining and using
knowledge. (And may I digress for a moment to
say that true education depends more than anything
else on the quality of teaching. I may be venturing
here into dangerous ground, but I must say that there
must thus be an appropriate balance between research
and teaching).

The education bills passed by this Congress
will contribute to the long-term, lasting health of
this nation. So will a dozen other bills which will
come from this Congress, acting out the will of the
American people.

Appalachian Poverty
Medicare

For the American people, in unprecedented
peacetime consensus and unity, have made known
their purposes.

- 8 -

The overwhelming majority
of Americans believe and want:

↳ That all Americans shall have truly equal
education.

↳ That all Americans shall have truly equal
voting rights.

↳ That we shall provide adequate ^{Hospital} medical care
to our elder generation.

↳ That we shall make our cities better places
in which to live and work in safety and health.

↳ That we shall preserve this nation's beauty,
history, and natural resources.

↳ That we shall open our doors again to
immigrants who can enrich and lend new vitality to
our national life.

↳ That we shall help our urban and rural
Americans alike adjust to technological revolution

and social change.

That we shall not drop the torch of
international leadership.

Let us not be mistaken. The forces of
totalitarianism do not plan to blow the world to
pieces. They plan to pick it up piece-by-piece as
we progressively tire and withdraw.

But, as President Johnson declared in his
historic speech at Johns Hopkins University:

"We will not be defeated.

"We will not grow tired.

"We will not withdraw."

*we combine
unlimited patience
unlimited resources
unwavering purpose*

Aggression need not come in the form of all-out
atomic war. It can come through propaganda, through
terrorism, through subversion, through diplomatic
blackmail, through economic pressure. *↳* We recognize
aggression in its subtler and more refined forms.

Forward, Subversion

And we resist it as we would direct, large-scale military attack.

But at the same time, with equal determination, we will pursue each possibility of lasting and just peace. The pursuit of peace resembles the building of a great cathedral. It is the work of generations.

In concept it requires a master architect; in execution, the labors of many. It requires great patience.

~~Yes, we Americans as people, and we Americans~~
~~as a force in the world must pursue peace.~~ But what
sort of peace shall it be?

Is it to be the peace of domination?

This peace is easy indeed to achieve, for it is based on control of the weak by the strong. It need not be based on any principle higher than that of "might makes right."

Is it to be the peace of ~~missiveness?~~ ^{Agreement?}

This peace too can be bought most cheaply.
For it leaves the outside world to its own devices.
It justifies sacrifice of the small and weak. It
justifies aggrandizement of the powerful and greedy.
It justifies international irresponsibility -- all
on the premise that affairs not within our own
borders are not our affairs.

Is it to be the peace of balance-of-power?

This peace has existed before. It depends on
perpetuation of a delicate power relationship. It
depends on the "status quo." It has often also meant
in the past "dividing up the world" at pleasure of those
at each end of the balance.

All of these peaces can and have been achieved,
at least temporarily, throughout history. But they
have never lasted.

L For they have not been based on justice
or humanity. They have not responded to the needs
of men and women seeking fulfillment for themselves
and their children. They have not taken into account
the spark that burns in all men and says: "Be free." !!

~~Thus~~ I call on you as the generation coming
to leadership to be strong and persevering: strong
in defense of justice and in opposition to tyranny...
persevering in seeking a goal of peace, ~~for all men.~~

L I am essentially a religious person. ~~I am~~
~~not ashamed of~~ it. I believe that God created man in
His own image. I believe that there is a spark of the
divine in every person. And I believe in the meaning
of human dignity. *There are certain inalienable* }

L My fellow students, the big struggle in the
world -- and at home -- today is not over the forms
of production. The struggle is about man's relationship

to man ... and man's relationship to a higher and
nobler force.

I say that what we can ask of each other
is this:

↳ To fight poverty because poverty destroys
the human spirit and human dignity.

↳ To fight discrimination because it violates
the precepts of our democratic society and Judeo/
Christian ethic.

↳ To pursue justice because it is basic to our
religious and ethical heritage.

↳ To pursue an honorable peace because it is
the greatest gift we can give our children.

↳ We can achieve the Great Society. It is
within our grasp -- perhaps for the first time in
history.

Yes, the first step toward ~~these things~~

the achievement of these goals

is the longest journey. And we have made that

step. ~~And the second step. And now we take a~~

~~third.~~

✓ We are privileged each year, each decade,
each generation in our time to take a new step.

How fortunate we are to live in this
dramatic and creative period of change, of challenge,
of opportunity. How great is our responsibility to
achieve excellence of mind and spirit to do the
tasks that must be done.

I appeal, therefore, to you the generation
of 1965:

Make no little plans.

Have no little dreams.

~~Do not set your standards and goals by these~~

~~of this time.~~

Challenge the impossible. Do what
cannot be done.

Thirty years ago it was "Brother, can you
spare a dime?"

Today we reach the stars.

Ask of you. Believe in the perfectability
of man ... make a better life for our people ... save
the peace ... build a Great Society to last for
generations beyond us.

- - - - -

INFORMATION

FROM THE
PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
-ON-
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Washington 25, D. C.

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PITTSBURGH
PENNSYLVANIA, MAY 13, 1965

My fellow students, my theme today is this: What can we Americans ask of each other in 1965?

Where are we bound in life?

What is our place in the world?

It was only thirty years ago that millions of Americans asked of each other:

"Brother, can you spare a dime?"

We worried in those days about shelter ... clothing ... and holding onto work and life.

Thank God those times are past.

But to my generation they will always be fresh and real. And a reminder that our precious democratic society once tottered on the edge.

This nation thirty years ago was divided, deeply divided: have and have-not, business and labor, North and South, black and white, farm and city, left and right. But in face of disaster and revolution we united --- united I might add, under brilliant leadership -- to face our common foes. First, economic crisis at home. Then, totalitarianism and barbarism abroad.

We did not have to be asked what we could do for each other and for our country. We had to fight for survival.

Most of you here today were born after those crises had passed. You have lived in time of prosperity.

But your young generation has not turned inward on itself or satisfied itself with material pleasures.

You have responded to the needs of these times and you have done it in magnificent fashion.

You are the volunteer generation.

There are now 10,000 volunteers serving in the Peace Corps ... with more than 3,000 already returned and another 100,000 waiting for their chance to participate.

When VISTA -- the Volunteers in Service to America -- was launched, there were 3,000 inquiries on its first day of business.

And I know that in most of the minds here today there is the question: What can I do to serve my country and my fellow man?

President Lyndon Johnson 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."

Old men dream dreams, but young men see visions.

Today in our country there is a vision of a Great Society.

The nature of this vision has much to do with my question here today: What can we Americans ask of each other in 1965?

In this time of prosperity, is the Great Society to be a welfare state? Some may think so. But that is not the vision of President Johnson. Neither is it my vision.

We see the Great Society as a state of opportunity.

No government owes every man a living. But a just government of, by and for the people does owe every man an opportunity to enjoy the blessings of life.

The Great Society is based on the proposition that every man shall have that opportunity.

If you examine the legislative program in this Congress ... if you listen to the words of our President ... if you look into your own heart you cannot escape the conclusion that we are succeeding, we are breaking through in our efforts to provide all American men and women with that precious opportunity.

Some, once receiving it, may squander it. But all Americans must have the chance -- a chance now denied to many -- to make something better of their lives and the lives of their children.

Last month this Congress passed a great bill which is a basic investment toward achieving that equality of opportunity: the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Thomas Jefferson was right. We cannot be both ignorant and free.

This Act in itself is accomplishment enough to satisfy an ordinary Congress. But it will be followed soon by passage of the Higher Education bill.

These bills together will help build classrooms. They will provide funds for libraries and textbooks and teaching materials. They will provide funds for research in teaching techniques and development of community education centers.

They will above all, I hope give new inspiration to teachers and students alike in the exhilarating experience of gaining and using knowledge. (And may I digress for a moment to say that true education depends more than anything else on the quality of teaching. I may be venturing here into dangerous ground but I must say that there must thus be an appropriate balance between research and teaching).

The education bills passed by this Congress will contribute to the long-term, lasting health of this nation. So will a dozen other bills which will come from this Congress, acting out the will of the American people.

For the American people, in unprecedented peacetime consensus and unity, have made known their purposes.

We today stand united as Americans in agreement:

That all Americans shall have truly equal education.

That all Americans shall have truly equal voting rights.

That we shall provide adequate medical care to our elder generation.

That we shall make our cities better places in which to live and work in safety and health.

That we shall preserve this nation's beauty, history, and natural resources.

That we shall open our doors again to immigrants who can enrich and lend new vitality to our national life.

That we shall help our urban and rural Americans alike adjust to technological revolution and social change.

That we shall not drop the torch of international leadership.

Let us not be mistaken. The forces of totalitarianism do not plan to blow the world to pieces. They plan to pick it up piece-by-piece as we progressively tire and withdraw.

But, as President Johnson declared in his historic speech at Johns Hopkins University:

" We will not be defeated.

" We will not grow tired.

" We will not withdraw."

Aggression need not come in the form of all-out atomic war. It can come through propaganda, through terrorism, through subversion, through diplomatic blackmail, through economic pressure. We recognize aggression in its subtler and more refined forms. And we resist it as we would direct, large-scale military attack.

But at the same time, with equal determination, we will pursue each possibility of lasting and just peace. The pursuit of peace resembles the building of a great cathedral. It is the work of generations. In concept it requires a master architect; in execution, the labor of many. It requires great patience.

Yes, we Americans as people, and we Americans as a force in the world must pursue peace. But what sort of peace shall it be?

Is it to be the peace of domination?

This peace is easy indeed to achieve, for it is based on control of the weak by the strong. It need not be based on any principle higher than that of "might makes right."

Is it to be the peace of permissiveness?

This peace too can be bought most cheaply. For it leaves the outside world to its own devices. It justifies aggrandizement of the powerful and greedy. It justifies international irresponsibility -- all on the premise that affairs not within our own borders are not our affairs.

Is it to be the peace of balance-of-power?

This peace has existed before. It depends on perpetuation of a delicate power relationship. It depends on the "status quo." It has often also meant in the past "dividing up the world" at the pleasure of those at each end of the balance.

All of these peaces can and have been achieved, at least temporarily, throughout history. But they have never lasted.

For they have not been based on justice or humanity. They have not responded to the needs of men and women seeking fulfillment for themselves and their children. They have not taken into account the spark that burns in all men and says: "Be free."

Thus I call on you as the generation coming to leadership to be strong and persevering: strong in defense of justice and in opposition to tyranny ... persevering in seeking a goal of peace for all men.

I am essentially a religious person. I am not ashamed of it. I believe that God created man in His own image. I believe that there is a spark of the divine in every person. And I believe in the meaning of human dignity.

My fellow students, the big struggle in the world --- and at home --- today is not over the forms of production. The struggle is about man's relationship to man ... and man's relationship to a higher and nobler force.

I say that what we can ask of each other is this:

To fight poverty because poverty destroys the human spirit and human dignity.

To fight discrimination because it violates the precepts of our democratic society and Judeo/Christian ethic.

To pursue justice because it is basic to our religious and ethical heritage.

To pursue an honorable peace because it is the greatest gift we can give our children.

We can achieve the Great Society. It is within our grasp --- perhaps for the first time in history.

Yes, the first step toward these things is the longest journey. And we have made that step. And the second step. And now we take a third.

We are privileged each year, each decade, each generation in our time to take a new step.

How fortunate we are to live in this dramatic and creative period of change, of challenge, of opportunity. How great is our responsibility to achieve excellence of mind

and spirit to do the tasks that must be done.

I appeal, therefore, to you the generation of 1965:

Make no little plans.

Have no little dreams.

Do not set your standards and goals by those of this time.

Challenge the impossible. Do what cannot be done.

Thirty years ago it was "Brother, can you spare a dime?"

Today we reach the stars.

I ask of you: Believe in the perfectability of man ... make a better life
for our people ... save the peace ... build a Great Society to last for generations
beyond us.



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