

Bishop McNary
Headmaster Ayres

REMARKS

Faculty
class of 1966

Trustees

Parents' Fr

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

SHATTUCK SCHOOL

⊗ Award Winner

FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA

JUNE 4, 1966

"all wet"

⊗ Next week
West Point
Crack Squad

so Let me put your minds at ease.

I am not going to tell you about the good old days.

~~Let me set the record straight:~~ ← The old days weren't

really so good. They seem a little better, the further you get away from them.

← I am going to talk to you, instead, about the good new days: today and tomorrow.

~~I take my text from the Gospel:
"Greater things than I have done, ye shall do also."~~

~~As at a few times in history~~ Today

As at a few times in history, young people today can look ahead with confidence in the expectation that they will indeed do greater things, live better lives, enjoy the fruits of greater abundance, than their parents.

↳ You have every reason for confidence. You live in a nation of unprecedented prosperity. ↳ You are better fed than your parents. ↳ You are being better educated than your parents. ↳ You have a longer life expectancy than your parents. ↳ You have at your disposal machines, modern communication, thousands of technological breakthroughs that your parents never dreamed of.

↳ And, above all, you enter a world undergoing nothing less than a revolution in human expectation -- a world of open doors, of opportunity far beyond the reach of any previous generation in history.

Our world is stirring with a revolution in human expectation which is as much a fact of life in Karachi as in Chicago, in Morocco as in Minneapolis.

∠ Today is more than a time for technology. ∠ It is a time for people.

Yes, even in these remote and primitive places people know that life can be better and they are determined to have more of that good life, for themselves and their children.

∠ People in places many of us never heard of, whose names we can't pronounce or even spell, are speaking up for themselves.

∠ They speak in languages we once classified as "exotic," but whose mastery is now essential for our diplomats and our businessmen.

↳ But, what they say is very much the same the world over. ↳ They want a decent standard of living. ↳ They want human dignity and a voice in their own futures. ↳ They want their children to grow up strong and healthy and free.

↳ And this isn't just something that's going on far away from us. *Its happening here in America*
in Watts its movement

↳ It happened last summer in the Watts section of Los Angeles.

↳ People were puzzled at this outbreak of violence against a background which, on television, bore no resemblance to the urban slums of the East.

It happened in large part because its people saw the better life everywhere about them -- but found themselves barred from it by the screen, no longer transparent, of poverty, prejudice, and discrimination.

It may be difficult at first, in this ^{fine} school, in this fertile and prosperous state, in this rich nation -- accounting, with 6 per cent of the world's people, ~~for 30 per cent of its annual income~~ and almost 50% of the world's GNP - to feel the full urgency which stirs the underprivileged majority of mankind. - *the 2/3's all-fed, ill clothed, all-housed, illiterate and sick.*

But it is critically important that you understand this feeling, this yearning for a better life, which today springs from the hearts and the lips of millions of people, in all nations, of all colors, and all races.

It is important that you understand it because it explains much of the turmoil and the ferment which lie within the villages of the new nations -- and, yes, in the squalid ghettos ^{slums} of too many American cities.

It is important that you understand it because if you do not, you will not bring maturity and compassion to the task of leading this land you love in the challenging years ahead.

and It is important that you understand it today when you are preparing to step from one world into another.

↳ The world in which you have lived since birth is one where your responsibilities were few, your privileges many, and your decisions largely made for you by parents, by teachers, or by the conventions of society.

↳ Today, you take the first step into a new world -- one where you will be expected to assume far greater responsibilities, make your own decisions, recognize greater obligations to your society and the world in which you will live.

↳ Most of you will now enter colleges and universities where you will prepare for professions and careers in the exciting days ahead.

and these are exciting days - space, war, new nations, inventions, miracle cures, the Transits & the Computers -

and
May I make it clear: No single profession or career
has a monopoly on excitement.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes said :

"As life is action and passion, it is required of a
man that he should share the passion and action of his
time, at peril of being judged not to have lived."

To many of your generation, it seems clear that
the action and passion of life is increasingly to be found
in public service.

In public service a young person can play a direct
role in changing things for the better.

As one who has given most of his life to public
service, I commend it to you as a place where you are tested
and challenged every day . . . where the stakes are high
. . . and where the satisfaction can be great. -

~~I urge you to take an active~~
~~part in politics and~~
~~public service~~

Many of your older brothers, sisters and friends are already in the public service -- in the Peace Corps, in VISTA, in the armed forces, in volunteer work at home and overseas. Many of them, I know, will enter politics or government service in the years ahead.

*Surge
yachts
to
Polynes*

But the excitement of life is not to be found in public service alone.

The teacher who awakens young minds to the challenge of learning knows a kind of excitement and satisfaction found in few occupations.

The doctor or lawyer who serves the public faithfully -- healing the sick or applying the laws of our society -- experiences the excitement/ meeting vital human needs in times of crisis.

Business

And the ¹ man who applies his skill and courage in meeting the needs of American consumers -- and those of the entire world -- knows the satisfaction of making life more secure and happy for millions of people and the excitement of meeting free and honest competition.

↳ One or more of you may one day set foot on the Moon or another planet.

↳ One or more of you may have the privilege, as a scientist or researcher, to find the secret to correcting hereditary defects or saving human life.

↳ One or more of you may help make vast expanses of sand into vast expanses of green and fertile land. ^{by the conversion of salt water into} fields . . . may help control the weather and help man avert natural disaster. ^{sweet water}

↳ One or more of you may write the story, may paint the picture, may direct the symphony which brings adventure and happiness into the lives of thousands of people.

sea water

∠ No, the excitement of your bright new age will not be the exclusive possession of anyone.

∠ It will belong to every young person who has discovered that, in stretching his talents to their limits, there is a sense of fulfillment -- yes, of joy.

∠ It will belong to every citizen who has learned that, in public or private life . . . in role of scientist, statesman, physician or citizen, it is the effort to make the most of what he has, and is, that counts.

∠ It will belong, in short, to every man who has perceived that, "Every calling is great when greatly pursued."

Reach
for the
stars -

∟ This is the spirit that was described by John Adams as "one of public happiness" -- a spirit, in the words of Adams, "that possessed the American colonists and won the Revolution even before it was fought . . . a spirit which is reflected in the life, in participation of public discussion and public action. This spirit of public happiness is a joy in American citizenship, in self-government, in self-control, in self-discipline, in dedication."

∟ The education you have received, and will yet receive, will provide you with knowledge and skill -- with the tools to pursue your chosen life.

∟ I hope you will not use those tools selfishly or with indifference.

↳ For those tools will give you positions not only of privilege but of responsibility in helping to make the revolution of human expectation a successful adventure ~~revolution~~.

↳ Do not be afraid to live with enthusiasm. Do not be afraid to commit yourselves to the things you believe in.

↳ "Your old men shall dream dreams," the Old Testament tells us, "but your young men shall see visions."

↳ Our world is in need of vision.

and Do not let your vision be dimmed by the day-to-day tasks of life. — *Don't let the mountain of things cast shadows on the sun. Shut out the sun of ideas.*

↳ And do not let the grasping demands of a serious world steal that other precious possession of youth, the gift of laughter — *the music of the soul.*

For, as has been written:

↳ "There are three things which are real:

God, human folly, and laughter,

∟ The first two are beyond our comprehension,
So we must do what we can with the third."

∟ So there is time for both -- for the serious and
for the joyful.

∟ Finally, do not put off until later those tasks which
call for the zest and vigor of youth.

∟ The story is told that Pericles of Ancient Greece
in his later years came across a young lawyer of Athens
who was deeply involved in public affairs.

∟ Pericles chastized the young man for being too bold
and too brash -- for concerning himself with things better
left to older men.

∟ Patronizingly, the older man said: "Of course, I
understand, for I, too, was overeager in my youth. But
now that I am older I have learned better. Take my advice
and do not become so involved."

To which the young man replied: "I regret I did ^{not} not have the privilege of knowing you when you were at your best."

↳ In the years immediately ahead you will be at your best. So do become involved -- for only by becoming involved in the needs and aspirations of others, can you truly satisfy your own inner needs and aspirations.

↳ I promised you that I would talk to you about the great things which you could do in your exciting world of tomorrow.

↳ Perhaps you feel that I have failed you; that I have offered you no sure road to success, no guidebook to the promises of adulthood.

↳ Perhaps you feel that I gave you just what you had feared -- a lot of unsolicited advice.

∠ If this is what you are thinking, if you have made the disillusioning discovery that parents cannot tell their children how to find happiness in life, then you have made a small down payment against the price you must pay for growing up.

∠ For there is, after all, not much which one generation can pass on to the next.

∠ We can give you material goods, if we have been fortunate enough to accumulate wealth.

∠ But a lifetime has not yet provided us with a rebuttal to that age-old charge so well posed by the poet:

∠ All fare, the land

To hastening ills a prey

Where wealth accumulates

And men decay.

∠ In short, I'm not at all sure whether, by passing on worldly goods to you, we sharpen your tastes . . . or dull your talents.

∟ We cannot really give you knowledge and Wisdom.

∟ We cannot give you the assurance that fathers could give their sons in those simpler days of old—the assurance that the world of the sons would be operated by the same rules, guided by the same principles, as the world of the fathers.

This is world of vast & violent change.

Perhaps, then, all we can really give to you is a gift which has neither a price-tag nor a resale value.

∟ I am speaking of the gift of love.

I am frank to say that I am disturbed at what seems to be a characteristic of this mechanized age: the reluctance to concede and demonstrate the love which ties father to son; the love which binds one generation to the next. That bond can be at once the most fragile, and the strongest, of human relationships.

∠ From that bond -- a bond of love and of mutual respect, a bond of shared values and common traditions -- emerge young men and women prepared to assume their rightful place in a society desperately in need of those qualities.

∠ It is indeed a new world which you are entering -- but a world which still needs those precious values.

∠ If we have given you that gift of love, we have not left you totally unprepared for the world you enter today.

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REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

SHATTUCK SCHOOL

FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA

JUNE 4, 1966

Since, as you know, this is a special occasion for me, I gave some thought to the subject of my remarks

today. ~~Mrs. Humphrey~~ and I discussed ^{with the} subjects which

discussed at Break Hall some of the subjects which
might be particularly appropriate for our son Douglas.

For instance, ~~we~~ thought of "Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother." ~~We~~ thought of "Respect Thy Elders." ~~we~~ thought of "Early To Bed and Early To Rise." Mrs. Humphrey thought of a speech on the uses of adversity. I thought of something on the importance of scholarship.

But we finally decided that ^{you} ~~you~~ had heard all those speeches too many times already.

~~So today~~ I'm going to talk about the place where you will spend your lives -- I mean, the future.

↳ Mankind has always been fascinated by the future, and intensely curious about it.

↳ The ancient Greeks consulted the oracle at Delphi.

Even today, some people profess to find the future in a crystal ball, the fall of the cards, or the lines of a man's hand, tea leaves or astrology.

↳ Now, however, much more serious efforts are being made to foresee the future.

The French Government, for instance, established last year an official 1985 Committee, to explore different choices in the uses of expected increases in the French national income.

↳ The American Academy of Arts and Sciences is looking even further ahead. It is creating a Commission on the Year 2000 to anticipate social problems and to design new institutions to cope with them.

↳ At least half a dozen ~~non-governmental~~ organizations are seeking to forecast some aspect ~~of another~~ of the future, and something like two dozen serious books have been published on this theme.

What accounts for this new and highly practical interest in the future? Several things, I believe.

First, there is the fading of the horrors of the past, like Nazism and Stalinism, and the rise of a new generation and of many new nations. These developments have created many new demands upon human society and a new optimism about their fulfilment.

Second, there is the commitment to "economic growth" as an institutionalized feature of every modern nation. This inevitably raises the question: Growth for what?

Third, there is the development of a new intellectual technology -- game theory, decision theory, cybernetics, systems analysis -- all of which tooled by the computer, have allowed us to construct models of the future and assess their implications.

Finally, there is the veritable explosion of scientific knowledge, bringing with it new technologies and new modes of communication which require new social forms and inventions.

According to the best judgments of our scientists, engineers, and social scientists, these are some of the things we can look for in the next 20 years:

- In agriculture, the large-scale use of de-salinated sea water.
- In medicine, the transplantation of natural organs and the use of artificial ones.
- In psychiatry, the widespread application of drugs that control or modify the personality.
- In education, the use of sophisticated teaching machines.
- In worldwide communication, the everyday employment of translating machines.
- In industry, the extensive use of automation, up to and including some kinds of decision-making at the management level.
- In space, the establishment of a permanent base upon the moon.

Some of you might say that there is nothing very surprising here. And you would be right.

Experience shows that it takes 10 to 30 years for a new idea to make its way from its inception in a scientist's mind to its general application in everyday life. Therefore, the world of 20 years from now already exists, in embryo, in today's advanced research establishments.

For the year 2000, however, the experts foresee some really far-out developments.

- The stepping-up of our food supply through large-scale ocean farming and the fabrication of synthetic proteins.
- Control of the weather, at least on a regional scale.
- The use of controlled thermonuclear energy as a major source of power.
- The correction of hereditary defects through the modification of genetic chemistry.

- In space, the mining and manufacture of propellant materials on the moon and the landing of men upon Mars.

- The creation, in the laboratory, of primitive forms of artificial life.

These things are not quite so easy to imagine. But again a basic question: How will we in America arrange our affairs in this new world?

Will we, as some people gloomily predict, become the faceless, voiceless subjects of "big government?"

I believe, as Mark Twain said of a premature report of his death, that these fears are grossly exaggerated.

The number of civilian employees of the federal government has increased by only a few percentage points over the past ten years, while our population and economic growth have increased at a far greater rate.

The real growth has been in state and local government -- the units of government closest to the people.

And it is the policy, at least of the Johnson-Humphrey Administration, to keep it that way.

The key programs of the Great Society -- the war on poverty, the coming revolution in education, the renewal of our cities -- are set up so as to stimulate and support local initiatives and local energies, rather than supplant them.

We in Washington aren't seeking to tell the local public schools now to teach better. Instead we are saying: "Come up with good new ideas, and we'll back you to the hilt."

The same with the war on poverty. Its keystone is the community action program -- and I stress the word community. That means that public-spirited citizens in each urban or rural area -- men and women who know the local problems, know the local people -- get together and formulate

their proposals for action. The officials in Washington look them over and, if they make sense, help underwrite them.

You've heard dire prophecies about automation, too -- how it will make millions of people jobless and utterly dependent upon handouts from the government.

Now, automation is only another way of stepping up productivity.

We need to do that, if we are to win the war against poverty, as we are determined to do. Unless we keep increasing our productivity, there won't be enough to go around -- even to all Americans, let alone the peoples of the developing nations whom we want to help.

The adaptability to make continuing adjustments will be required, of course, in the conduct of our national economy and in the lives and careers of individual Americans.

But they are the kind of adjustments we are learning how to make.

The Great Depression of the 1930's is only memory in the minds of those of us who lived it. And there hasn't even been a recession since 1961. We are learning how to manage our economic affairs so as to maintain vigorous and sustained growth, and we are making steady progress in mopping up the pools of unemployment that remain.

One thing we cannot and will not guarantee -- that everyone will do the same job throughout his working life.

On the contrary, in tomorrow's fast-moving economy, many Americans will change their jobs several times. And we're already developing, through practical experience, the know-how in retraining that will make this possible.

There will be more leisure, very likely. But I don't see it resulting in mass boredom. I think that people will find plenty of new and good things to do with their free time.

Already we are witnessing a tremendous boom in everything having to do with spare-time hobbies -- gardening supplies, outdoor cooking equipment, boats, travel guides, snorkels, snow and water skis, and many other such things.

We are also going to see, I am confident, a great many more people developing their talents for the arts -- music, the theatre, painting, sculpture, dancing. And of these a growing number will attain a standard of excellence and make a real contribution to our civilization and culture.

I foresee increasing volunteer activity, as well. More people will work abroad in the Peace Corps and volunteer agencies, and more in urban and rural slums right here in America through VISTA and private agencies.

This generation of young Americans has already earned the name of the "volunteer generation" -- and I am confident they will sustain this interest and spirit of dedication throughout their lives.

One place where this volunteer impulse will be felt with increasing strength is in our political life.

Ever since Adlai Stevenson, a growing number of people have decided that politics is much too important to be left to professional politicians, and have jumped in with both feet. We'll see more and more of them at work at every level -- all the way from stuffing envelopes and ringing doorbells to making their weight felt on the great issues of national and international affairs.

And there will be need for an informed and active and responsible public opinion -- for great dangers as well as great opportunities loom ahead of us in the coming years.

I think most of you know the dictum of the great English writer, H.G. Wells, that history is "a race between education and catastrophe."

But few people remember how clearly, over fifty years ago, he foresaw the actual shape of the catastrophe which now overhangs mankind.

In his book, The World Set Free, he wrote:

"Nothing could have been more obvious . . . than the rapidity with which war was becoming impossible . . . (But people) did not see it. They did not see it until the atomic bombs burst in their fumbling hands."

He was hopeful of humanity, nevertheless, for he also prophesied:

"The catastrophe of the atomic bombs . . . shook (men) out of their old-established habits of thought, and out of the lightly held beliefs and prejudices that came down to them from the past."

Samuel Johnson once remarked that nothing concentrates a man's thoughts so much as the imminence of hanging. And nothing has concentrated the world's thought so much as the prospect of thermonuclear destruction.

There is no longer any alternative to peace. The Soviet leaders acknowledged it when they said that communism itself could not survive an atomic holocaust. For the sake of all humanity, I hope that the leaders of Communist China will learn this lesson in time.

Once we accept the plain fact that war has become much too dangerous to use as an instrument of national policy -- even so-called "wars of national liberation" -- we must draw the logical conclusions. We must think and work much harder to devise peaceful ways of ordering our affairs here on earth -- an earth which science and technology have made virtually one great neighborhood.

The establishment of a world of freedom and justice under law -- this is the great challenge, this the great task of your generation. Only thus will man prove himself worthy of the incalculable power which science has placed in his hands, and make himself its master rather than its servant.

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