

A
Mrs Katherine Dwyer
Dwyer

7 Mr Mc Donough

Faculty

Sister Anne
Joachim
Jo & Kin

Sister Mary
Edward

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ST. MARY'S JUNIOR COLLEGE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JUNE 5, 1966

1st graduation

Darlene Gates

Mayor Hoffmann

I congratulate all of you -- the many fine
young ladies and these few fine young men -- on the
happy occasion of your graduation.

Speaking to my fellow-males, I am reminded of
the time when George Bernard Shaw was called to the stage
after the first performance of one of his plays. The audience
was cheering and clapping enthusiastically, but a voice from
the galleries bellowed:

↳ "Shaw, your play's rotten!"

"You know it and I know it," he answered, "but who are we among so many?"

↳ We men are indeed few among many here, and I hope therefore that you will forgive me if I address some of my remarks particularly to the ladies.

↳ It has been said that women are wiser than men because they know less and understand more.

↳ I think that ^{maybe} ~~is~~ true.

↳ It is particularly true of you who have chosen to dedicate your lives to the service of humanity in a most direct and meaningful way.

↳ You will give your care -- your tender, loving care, as ~~intending~~ nurses are rightly instructed -- to those who need it most, those who suffer from physical or mental

illness. You will ease their pain, and help speed their way
back to full physical or mental health.

on the And there is nothing more sacred than the saving *a life*
and healing of your fellow man.

I know that St. Mary's has prepared you well for
your chosen profession -- a profession so urgently in need
of trained, dedicated workers.

med. Records X-ray Technic
- med. Secretary occupational
- med. Laboratory therapy,
- nursing
- child develop

I want particularly to commend St. Mary's on
its program for training child development technicians
whose work can mean so much to mentally retarded children.

Junior colleges like this perform an essential
service in our contemporary society -- offering technical
training and general education. Classes are held
conveniently close to where most of you live, and junior
colleges hold forth the great promise of making advanced
education available to every young person with the
qualifications and interest.

↳ The ~~challenges of~~ ^{needs of} tomorrow will require the full utilization of all our resources -- both material and human.

↳ Junior colleges are one of the principal means whereby these human resources will be fully developed -- whereby no person's talents will remain unused and untapped due to inadequate educational opportunity.

↳ Today one of the richest under-utilized resource in America is the talent of its women.

↳ And this nation has for many years ~~squandered~~ ^{wasted} this talent in shameful fashion. ^{But,} We are doing better than we used to do -- more and more fields, formerly reserved to men, are being opened up to all comers.

↳ There's much greater readiness to employ older women and to schedule jobs on a part-time basis -- particularly where women have ^{much} needed skills to offer.

+ 6 graduates of H. M. Corp

Yes, today you join the wider -- and growing -- company of women who are contributing to society outside as well as inside their homes.

As recently as 1940, less than a third of the women of working age were employed. Now the proportion is almost half, and is steadily increasing.

A growing number will work until they begin having children, and resume their careers after ~~at~~ their children are safely at school. *all the more reason for good schools!*

There are good reasons for this. One half of all American women are married by the time they are twenty. And one-half have their last child by their 30th year.

Women are living longer -- longer than men, in fact. So there's a lot of life still to be lived after the children have started school. And women are putting these years to good use.

Although we have made some progress recently in using the talents and skills of our women more fully, we still fail to recognize this contribution in the most tangible way -- what we pay them.

Today, the average woman worker earns only three-fifths as much as a man. In that respect we haven't made any progress at all, for the ratio was the same a quarter of a century ago. #

In the field of health services, the need for manpower -- and much of it is actually woman-power -- is desperate.

I am indeed proud that my own daughter elected to train as a nurse. Like many others thus qualified, she is now busy as a mother raising her children. And I cannot think of any better preparation for this greatest of womenly responsibilities than that which a nurse brings to it.

It is estimated that, between now and 1975, we will need an increase of a million men and women, above present totals, in all the health occupations.

That includes 60,000 physicians -- and, incidentally, I hope that a growing proportion of them will be women.

Other countries do much better in this respect than we do.

What is the cause of this great need for workers in the health services? ~~There is not just a single cause, but several converging ones.~~

In the first place, Americans expect the best in medical services -- and we have fallen behind the best of which we are capable.

We no longer have the lowest infant mortality rate in the world.

Life expectancy is greater in most of the other *modern* industrial countries, exceeding ours in some of them by as much as five years.

↳ The mortality rate of men in early middle age is substantially higher in the United States than in other industrial countries, and is twice the rate of Sweden -- a shocking disproportion.

↳ In the second place, our medical services are not equally accessible to all Americans. The infant mortality rate is three times as high among Negroes as among whites.

↳ In the Appalachians, and in other depressed rural areas, there are millions of Americans who do not enjoy even the most elementary health services. In our cities, the slum dweller does not have access to care nearly as good as others more fortunate.

↳ Third, there is the rapid growth of our population, expected to jump 30 million by 1975. The major increases will be in the very young and the very old -- two age groups most in need of good medical services.

Head Start
Tot Cntrs

225 million

↳ The 1965 amendments to the Social Security Act have committed us to better health services for the children of the poor which we must and shall meet. And on July 1, with Medicare, we shall take a giant step forward -- fulfilling our long overdue responsibilities to our senior citizens.

↳ Fourth, there is a veritable explosion going on in medical knowledge. The new methods can work miracles, but they require a much greater number of health workers.

↳ Here is one dramatic example. Not long ago it took only one doctor to diagnose a "blue baby" as doomed to early and inevitable death. Now this doctor can give it the great gift of life -- but only by calling upon a large

} team of medical specialists and auxiliary personnel, More than 100 ^{surgeons} may be required for the preparations for the operation and its performance, and for post-surgical care. *But a life is saved.*

The federal government has taken action, and *in cooperation with State & Local Govt & Private agencies* will take more action, to increase the opportunities for training health workers, and to make available to them more of the tools they need for their job.

But, if I may be permitted to sound a more down-to-earth theme, better pay is urgently needed. If women are generally underpaid in comparison with men, women in our health services have been slighted even more.

When, and only when, wages and working conditions are made competitive -- then, and only then good facilities for training can attract the expanding numbers required.

Believe me, this is a basic truth that all of us, men especially, must take to heart -- not only for the health services, but in most fields where women work.

I for one am an optimist. In this day and age, when under-privileged minorities are at last beginning to receive their due, I am confident that women -- still, as in the past, an under-privileged majority -- will receive theirs as well.

You are fortunate in taking your place in the world of work at this point in our history. For you are moving into a society in which, at a steadily increasing pace, women are coming into their own, not only as wives and mothers, but as full participants in our economic and professional life -- in other words, as complete human beings.

Our world needs more than a woman's touch -- it needs her mind and her heart as well.

Women
in Arts,
Science,
humanities,
Social
Engineering

There are great challenges to meet.

There is the elimination of poverty -- a major cause of ill health.

There is the achievement of full equality for all our citizens.

There is the task of making our cities fit to live in and our countryside beautiful and refreshing to the body and soul.

There is, above all, the task of building a durable peace.

For, after all, you have studied hard and conscientiously, you have prepared to render arduous and devoted service, for one all-important purpose -- to save human lives.

↳ What madness it is that mankind still squanders
so many precious lives -- and particularly those of the
young, the vigorous, and the hopeful -- in the age-old
folly of war and violence.

↳ That is why all our hopes and dreams rest not
with our capacity to destroy nor with our capacity to make
more and better things and objects, but with our capacity
to achieve that day prophesied by Isaiah, when "nation
shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they
learn war any more."

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Presented by Vice President Humphrey
Commencement, 1966
St. Mary's Junior College
Minneapolis, Minnesota



Thank you, Father McDonough, Sister Mary Edward and Sister Anne Joachim, and the other sisters, members of the faculty and members of this graduating class of 1966, this class that is so filled with tradition and precedents and ivy, and the very many happy parents and friends and neighbors that are here today. I gather that all of you must have felt somewhat as I did as Father McDonough presented me. He, indeed, has been kissing the blarney stone many, many times. Well, I must say that if a fellow has to be introduced, it's good to be introduced by Father McDonough...and I do appreciate the fine company that the Father places me within. He says next year it is his hope that beloved Pope Paul will be here. I want to say that there is some possibility of that, because last year when the Holy Father came to the United States you may recall that he went to Yankee Stadium in New York. That's because the New York Yankees were in the second division of the American League and if the Twins don't do any better, you may have your wish. Today you will just have to settle for a Vice President.

I'm so happy to see here today a friend of mine for many years, a lady that I have respected and admired for a long time in the field of education and not only because of qualities as an educator, but because she is a very lovely lady, and I want to pay my respects to my friend, Katherine Densford Dreaves, who was at one time a director of the school of nursing at the University of Minnesota, and who has done more to help promote nursing education in the United States than almost anyone I know. Katherine, it's mighty nice to see you,

It's always nice to see my friend, the mayor of Minneapolis, on these occasions. I know that every time that there is any group of charming young ladies present that he never lets me go alone. He's always there, and today I see that Sister Mary Edward and Sister Anne Joachim saw to it that Mrs. Humphrey sat right here in the first row; but I did sneak in a wink or two at the girls as they went by and I've learned how to keep one eye on Mrs. Humphrey and one on you.

Now, I do want to, as a friend and neighbor and not so much as a public official today, extend my congratulations to all of you and not only to the graduates, not only on the occasion of this first annual commencement, and it is nice to be first for a Vice President, you know something; but to congratulate the faculty and all of those that have made possible St. Mary's Junior College. And I want to say a few words about junior colleges and the role that I believe these colleges play in our American life, but I first of all congratulate the many fine young ladies and these few fine young men on the happy occasion of their graduation.

Speaking to my fellow males in this graduating class, I am reminded of the time when George Bernard Shaw, the great playwright, was called to the stage after

So, as I have said to you, the needs of tomorrow - they're going to require everything we have and all of our resources, because the tomorrows are very demanding and junior colleges are going to be one of the principal means whereby we are going to develop the human resources that are needed. And it is the human resources that really are the basic resources...it was the human resource today in the space flight that many of you undoubtedly heard about this morning and watched on your television that counts; it was the men, the astronauts, and even the men that perfected the machine.

Now, today, one of the richest and under-utilized human resources in this land, in America, is the talent of its women. This nation has for many years wasted this talent in a shameful fashion. I can say, without trying to be, oh, super-patriotic or in any way flattering, that there are no women in the world more charming and lovely than the Americans. They are healthier, they are better looking, they take care of themselves better, they know more about health and personal appearance than any group of women in the world. That is a fact, but it can equally be said that regrettably in this nation that we have never quite understood that you can have brains and beauty and still have a career. And I'm going to talk a little bit about the career because we've been wasting talent here. This isn't a man's world, even if we fellows try to pretend it is--let's admit it, occasionally, that this is a myth we've been trying to hang on to. Now we're doing better than we used to and more and more fields formerly reserved entirely for men are now being opened up to all comers. There is much greater readiness, for example, today to employ older women and to schedule jobs on a part time basis, particularly where women have much needed skills to offer. I say that we need to use these human resources fuller and better because there are only a few of us, we Americans in this world, compared to the total population and much is expected of us and we better buckle down to the task of getting everybody to carry his or her fair share of the load.

One of the reasons that we engage in the war on poverty is because we can't afford to have one-fifth of this nation like a drag, like a chain, like a weight on the other four-fifths. And, of course, more importantly, everybody is entitled to a chance, every person is a creature of divine providence, every person has a spark of the divine within him and every person is, therefore, entitled to a chance to make something out of his or her life.

As recently as 1940, less than a third of the women of working age were employed. The proportion today is almost half, and is steadily increasing. A growing number will work until they begin having children and then resume their careers after their children are safely in school. And I underscore the word safely and this is one of the reasons that mothers ought to be the champions of education, because the fact is, that children spend more time under the care of the teacher than they do under the care of the mother. Therefore, you ought to be interested in the teacher and interested in the school. Those children will spend more time in a school building than they will in your home and sometimes

I wondered if we really loved our children the way we did not attend to our schools. A child leaves your home at eight in the morning and returns after four in the afternoon, and then he spends his time out in the neighborhood and not near you. Therefore, the neighborhood becomes important and occasionally you get a hold of them long enough to get their faces washed, get them some food, maybe have a few moments with them, tuck them into bed, and that's it. It is the teacher and the neighborhood that conditions a great deal a child. Therefore, our interest in education and teachers and neighborhoods.

Now there are mighty good reasons why mothers resume their careers after their children are in school. One-half of all the American women are married by the time they are twenty. And one-half have their last child by their thirtieth birthday. Women are living longer--and, by the way, longer than men--so there's a lot of life to be lived after the children have started school. And fortunately, more and more American women are putting that life to good use and many of them are putting it to good use in voluntary service to help others. Now although we've made progress recently in using the talents and skills of our women more fully, I think that we still fail to recognize this contribution in the most tangible way--namely, what we pay them. Today the average woman worker earns only three-fifths as much as a man doing exactly the same job, and in that respect we haven't progressed a bit in the last quarter of a century because that was the ratio twenty-five years ago. A little improvement is needed there, wouldn't you say, girls?

In the field of health services, the need for manpower, or should I say womanpower, is desperate. I'm very proud and Mrs. Humphrey is proud, that our daughter, Nancy, took some training in nursing. She was married and had her first baby before she completed that course. But like many others, thus qualified, she is now busy as a mother of three children. And I cannot think of any better preparation for the greatest of womanly responsibilities than that which a nurse brings to it.

It is estimated that between now and 1975 we will need an increase of over one million men and women, above the present totals, in all of our healing arts and health occupations. This means at least 60,000 more doctors than we have today, and let me just lay it on the line, we're short--desperately short. If we were as short of restaurants and honky-tonks as we are of doctors, there would be an outcry in this country. We're short, we ought to face up to it, and yet your government does have programs today to expand the personnel and the training of personnel in the healing arts. I hope that our growing proportion of that 60,000 needed doctors will be women, and why not? Most of the civilized countries of the world have a majority of women as doctors. The Scandinavian countries it runs over fifty percent that are women--even in the Soviet Union, over sixty percent--and good doctors, well trained, the best--and we need them.

Now what is this cause of the great need for workers in the health services? Well, in the first place, Americans expect the best in medical services, and they are entitled to them. And in many areas they get the best, yet we've fallen behind the best of what we are capable. You see, I'm one that believes we ought to set our own standards, and I don't think we ought to go around comparing ourselves to Mexico, or to England, or to India, or to Egypt, or to France, or to Russia. We have our own standards and our own standards ought to be higher to start with as a minimum than the best that anybody else has because we have more to do with. After all, this country produced fifty percent of everything that was produced in the world last year. Less than 200 million Americans have thirty percent of all the income of the whole world. Six percent of the population had over thirty percent of all the income. We ought to do better, we have more to do with and it doesn't look very good for us to go around comparing ourselves with little Israel, or with big Soviet Union, or with old England, or somebody else; they are not in the same ball park when it comes to resources. So we want high standards. Now, we need these additional health people because of the high standards that we have. We no longer, by the way, have the lowest infant mortality rate. I think we are fourth or fifth, somewhere along the line. Life expectancy is greater in most of the other advanced industrialized countries than in the United States, exceeding ours in some of them by as much as five years. The mortality rate of men in early middle age is substantially higher in the United States than in other industrial countries, and is twice the rate of Sweden--a shocking disproportion. Then our medical services are not equally accessible to all Americans. The infant mortality rate is three times as high amongst the poor, white and colored. And three times as high amongst the poor Negro as amongst the whites. In the Appalachian area of America, which is the old historical area of Daniel Boone, it's the historical part of our nation, and in other depressed rural areas, there are millions of Americans who today do not even enjoy the most elementary health services; counties without a single doctor, and yet you wonder why some people are unhappy. In our cities, the slum dweller does not have access to care nearly as good as the more fortunate. I've been to our job corps camps and you read about them, all the troubles that you have in the job corps camps--well, I want to tell you--every boy that goes in there was in trouble literally before he went. How would you like to go to a job corps camp on the Eastern seaboard as I have in Camp Kilmer, where a thousand boys are, and find that out of the thousand boys that were in that camp, over 400 of them at age eighteen have never seen a doctor or a dentist, never had a physical examination. In the richest country on the face of the earth. And little Project Headstart, for the little ones, age three to five--most of the children that went into that project had never had a health examination since the day that they were born.

So we're having to learn a great deal. In rich America the real problem we have, my dear friends, is that it is hard to put ourselves in the other fellow's position. It is hard for we Americans to understand the poverty in the world and it's hard for me to understand - I'll be quite frank with

you - the poverty of someone else, until I go there, and as your Vice President, I have gone into the ghettos and slums of America until I'm sick, physically and emotionally, to see the unbelievable deprivation in this rich America.

I'm not now talking about handing people a check - I don't believe in giving people just a handout. I believe that people ought to have only the hand of fellowship and opportunity. I'm not for the welfare state, I'm for the state of opportunity, for people to earn their way. But I do think that every boy and girl in this land is entitled to an education no matter what his circumstances and I think they are at least entitled, at least in their childhood years, to health care. We ought to do more about it. And then there is the rapid growth of our population which demands more health services - we are going to have 30 million more people between now and 1957, and that's just a few days away, so to speak. The major increases will be among the very young and the old--two groups that need the most of medical care.

The 1965 amendments to the Social Security Act have committed us to better health services for the children of the poor, which we must and shall meet. And on July 1 of this year, Medicare goes into effect and we're going to take a giant step forward fulfilling our long overdue responsibilities to our senior citizens--and we're going to learn more about medicine, more about disease, more about hospital administration, more about medical care out of Medicare than we've learned since the beginning of this republic. We're going to learn because we're going to be compelled to - just exactly as Sputnik compelled us to learn about space. Just exactly as Pearl Harbor compelled us to learn about Social Security. We Americans learn the hard way, but we learn, and we'll give good care.

There is a veritable explosion going on in medical knowledge. As a matter of fact, there's an unbelievable amount of technical information and medical information that is available that is not even usable because we haven't learned how to manage it as yet. I spent several years as a senator working on the whole subject of the retrieval and the gathering and the utilization of scientific and medical information. That was one of my major duties as a senator.

So you can see that we're going to need more health workers, people that know how to handle medical records, how to deal with medical information--the technicians that are so important. Let me give you an example of what I speak about. Not long ago, it took only one doctor to diagnose a "blue baby" as doomed to early and inevitable death. I'm here today for several reasons. First of all, you had a very, very good promoter in your graduating class, Miss Darlene Gates. She wrote me about six letters and every time I'd get within fifty miles of here she'd call me--and we had approximately

two hundred invitations to commencement exercises this year, and I had to make some choices. You can't do very many, you know. Next week it will be West Point, and then I'll do the University of Minnesota at Duluth, University of Michigan and Temple University, that's it. Yesterday I was with our son, Douglas, down at Shattuck, and, by the way, that one and this one are the hardest ones in the whole group, I can tell you, to handle. But I think it's fair to say that had my dear, dear friend, Darlene, been born 25-30 years sooner, she might not be very healthy right now, because this young lady, as you know, had open heart surgery. It took only one doctor twenty-five years ago or fifty years ago to tell a mother "Your baby won't live." Today it takes one doctor to diagnose, and that doctor now can give the greatest of all gifts--the gift of life. But only by calling upon a large team of medical specialists and auxiliary personnel. More than one hundred persons may be required for the preparations for the operation and its performance, and for the post-surgical care. But we have learned how to save a life, and that's the greatest thing that you can do.

You see what I mean, there is this great growing need---if we're going to have transplant of human organs, if we're going to have open heart surgery, if we're going to find the cure for cancer, and we must, if we're going to treat the mentally ill and the mentally retarded, if we're going to find out all about these things, then we must do more than we're doing. One out of every five people in this room will die of cancer--one out of three will die of heart disease or cancer. So we have to do something about it--that's what we are trying to do, we're putting in--your federal government this year will be putting in 10.5 billions of dollars into the medical care and medical research. As a government, that does include state government and local government, and most of it is all private, because this isn't a government society, this is a private society.

So the federal government is taking action, working with all groups, including our great churches and hospitals, to increase the opportunities for training health workers and to make available to them more of the tools that they need for the job. But if I may be permitted again to sound a more down-to-earth plea, for many of these positions, better pay is urgently needed. Believe me, this is a basic truth that all of us must especially must take to heart not only for the health services, but for the other fields within which women work.

Now let me conclude by saying to you that you live in the best time of all times. I am an optimist, I guess, somewhat by nature. You have really two choices in life: you can go around looking like you swallowed a dill pickle or you can sort of take a good look at life and come around with a balanced view. I never really thought it made you any more intelligent to look like you were constantly worried and discouraged and distressed all of the days of your life. It seems to me that an element of strength in character and in a nation is to be able to take the bumps...to face up to the hard tasks, and to do it with a serenity, and at times with a sense of joy, because it's in the trying and in the doing that the joys should come. And this is the most wonderful period for young people

to have for their lives. Never been any time in history like it. The time of nuclear developments, space developments, new nations, new ideas, new technology, new services, new inventions. My gracious, what a wonderful world we live in--even with all of its problems, and I'm not unmindful that the problems are tremendous and they are sometimes terrifying, but we know more what to do about these problems. The most important thing, it seems to me, is to have the confidence backed up by training and ability that these problems are manageable, and not to constantly run for cover and to give up and to say you can't do it. This nation needs can do people, not can't do people. America is what it is because there were people that performed the impossible. Anybody can do what's possible, you don't need to be much to do what's possible. It's what's impossible that makes for a great man and a great nation. The impossibility of building a great cathedral was literally impossible until they found out how. The impossibility of the Roman aqueduct, but they did it. The impossibility of aerodynamics, of air flight, but Orville Wright and his brother did it. The impossibility of traveling in space and landing on the moon, of taking pictures of the other side of the moon, but we did it. The impossibility, if you please, of life. I said yesterday that one of my favorite notes in scripture, favorite passages, was when Christ was talking to his disciples and said that "greater things than I have done, ye shall do also." And I believe it, and we're doing it everyday. The blind are made to see, the sick are healed, the leper is cured, the lame walk upright, the dead come to life, and life has been restored. Hearts have been massaged, organs have transplanted, and we do it, and the difference between a great people and just a plain, ordinary people is the ability and the willingness to dare to do the impossible. So you see that you have a wonderful period in which to live because we now do dare..and we are going to need women, not only as wives and mothers, which is the most wonderful of all; but as full participants in our economical and professional life. We need you as engineers and scientists, why not? And architects, not just lovely, attractive secretaries and clerks. We need them as engineers, scientists, doctors, people in every basic work of present existence. Our nation, above all though, needs the woman's touch and it needs her mind and her heart as well. There are great challenges to meet. The elimination of poverty, a major cause of ill health, the achievement of full equality for all our citizens, the task of making our great cities livable, and our countryside beautiful, and refreshing the body and soul. There is, above all, the task of building the enduring, enduring peace.

For, after all, you have studied hard and conscientiously, and you have prepared to render arduous and devoted service for the all important purpose--to save human lives. Therefore, what madness it is, that mankind still squanders so many precious lives, and particularly those of the young, the vigorous and the hopeful, in the age-old folly of war and violence.

That is why all of our hopes and dreams rest not on our capacity to destroy, nor even with our capacity to make more and better things and objects, but rather with our capacity to achieve that day prophesied by Isaiah, when "nation shall

not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

That is our fervent and reverent prayer. Congratulations to members of this class.



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