

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
Legislators' Day Dinner - July 16, 1966
Minneapolis, Minnesota

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, BILL FOSS, and
Members of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, the
Minnesota Legislators -- I was going to say fellow legislators,
but I am sort of a hybrid as Presiding Officer of the United
States Senate, Senator McCarthy, Senator Mondale and
Governor Rolvaag.

Governor, I don't know -- I can't say I don't
know, how the other convention came out, but it seems like
you got this one rigged -- and don't worry about Clark MacGregor
-- he isn't going to run. I have already mentioned Congressman
MacGregor, but I want you to know I am totally non-partisan
and by-partisan like Congressman Fraser and Speaker Durlan.
I have to make sure in this nonpartisan gathering of nonpartisan
legislators that I am totally nonpartisan tonight, and also that I
came out on an Airforce plane and not Anheiser Bush -- and
I thought we ought to set the ground rules. I don't need your watch,
Bill, I have a better one -- my doesn't run.

Mayor Naftalin came up to me a few minutes ago
while I was enjoying a conversation with a lovely lady and
proceeded to take a good deal of my time while I was trying to
get back to that very enjoyable conversation and said "Hubert, how
long do you plan on talking", and I said that this is the most

safeguarded secret of the nation -- that I have no intention of telling anyone about that, but I do know two or three things that happened here tonight that disturbed me. I suppose in this day of uncertainty that anyone shouldn't be shaken by anything. First of all when Bill Foss, this wonderful friend of ours, this newly elected President of the Chamber of Commerce, was introducing head table guests he got around to where he said to my extreme right was the Mayor of Minneapolis, but if you think that kind of confuses you he then said "to my extreme left he said a leading banker" he had over there -- and he had our good friend Dennis Dunn.

When you get the bankers over on the extreme left and the mayor of Minneapolis on the extreme right -- who knows what's going to happen in this country.

I was somewhat impressed with the sense of self-confidence and assurance that has been emphasized here tonight and notice that Bill said he had been elected on the first ballot of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce. I was suspicious that was the way they ran things over there, but I am glad they do, Bill, and I want to join with you -- I was nominated on the first ballot at the Democratic National Convention in 1964 and I am not at all sure that that is a precedent that will last forever -- but at least it was an encouraging beginning.

I made a lot of notes here -- none of which may make any particular sense at the moment, but I can tell you I have had a great day and Mrs. Humphrey has had a great day on this Aquatennial. This is our 21st year at the Minneapolis Aquatennial. I remember our very first dinner and luncheon right here in Minneapolis in this hotel in 1945 right after having been elected Mayor of Minneapolis, and I am happy to say that the present mayor at that time was arranging things for me and telling me just what to do, but we were right in this hotel and the father of the man who now manages this hotel was our very devoted, dear and good friend. I refer, of course, to Neal Messick -- many of you here remember Neal and his lovely wife, Frances, with great affection. And tonight Neal Messick, Jr. is here and we feel mighty close to being at home. Those were extremely happy days for us, but it is of little use to reflect just on the past even though everyday that we can think of in our public lives, every day has been one that has been rewarding. Some times were some problems, but many times with many gifts and many rewards.

This noon we were at a neighboring facility -- I hate to give commercials for any particular place -- we were down at the wonderful luncheon for the MINNESOTA EDITORS and I want you to know they were talking about each and every one of you.

I was polling the place and if you wish to see me after this meeting, I can tell you how you are going to come out as they had it all under control, but in all candor the EDITORS seemed to me much more reflecting. You seem to be much more spontaneous -- much more exhuberant than the Editors. I knew the moment I walked in here I was in a group of politicians -- everybody was talking just like I like to talk -- it was a great night right away.

We had a wonderful chance to visit at that Noon Luncheon and I discussed some of the challenges and opportunities that face our country in which I have some little opportunity to make some contribution. But most of all we discussed protocol and authority and responsibility -- and the distinguished admiral that is here with us tonight made some very important remarks, complimented Mrs. Humphrey and that started everything off very well. Then I noticed he only had two stars. Now I mentioned that I have great respect for those two stars, but when AL HEIMBACH got up with FIVE in the Minneapolis Navy and CARL PLATOU with Five in the Minneapolis Navy -- and me wearing my ice cream suit with no stars, I knew what my position was in this whole get up today -- its a sort of a way to make the Vice President feel a sense of humility. It isn't that you need to overdue it, but it keeps one in his place.

I think I should relate to you what I related to our friends there this Noon because every Legislator will get a very good feeling out of it. The Presidential Seal has the American Eagle -- that great symbol of this Nation and as you notice the American Eagle on the Presidential Seal his wings are lifted up and he seems to be soaring up to new heights moving out into the horizon -- and in one of the claws is the arrows -- 13 arrows -- and the olive branches and, of course, as we noted that the head of the eagle is turned toward the olive branch which is the symbol of peace, but this eagle is filled with vitality -- everything about him appears to be strength -- that is for the President.

In 1948 the Congress of the United States decided to give the Vice President a seal. Well that is sort of heady stuff to give a fella a seal to start off with and I gather they talked to the President at that time and he decided that that shouldn't be anything taken too seriously, so the Vice Presidential Seal, if you will note, has the same eagle slightly imatiated I might add -- and the wings are sort of down for a soft landing you know, and if you will note that in the claws of that Vice Presidential Seal the eagle is just holding one little old olive branch and one arrow -- and I want you to know that I am saving that one.

Its just a way of making Vice Presidents and Lt. Governors feel like they ought to - Karl.

I would never have thought of telling a story like that except in the presence of people who have a great sense of responsibility, maturity and I know it will never get out of this room -- that's one thing I am sure of. (Clark, DID I TELL IT ALL RIGHT).

I was just going to say a serious word to you.

The Legislators who are here tonight and representatives of local government, city and county, state government, represent part of the great team of American democracy.

Frequently when people speak of government, at least if you are on the Eastern seaboard, they are talking about the Federal government, but I think it is fair to say, and I know it is true, that most of the government of our country is where we live. It is not remote, but close at hand. It is the government of the Township back where we live, Marysville township in Wright County. It is the government of the county seat like where we live out at Buffalo, our Minneapolis the government of the City - Minneapolis or St. Paul. The government of the state. It's the levels of this government that really affect daily lives of our vast population of this country. What we are trying to do these days is put together a partnership, a working partnership of federal, state and local government, and I say to the assembled legislators here and representatives of levels of governments here that the day is long past when you can afford to indulge yourself or to bore our neighbors and friends with the fictitious controversy between

Federal, State and Local governments as a way of apologizing for inadequacies. In other words, we are all on the same team. This is one country we do not have separate representation in the United Nations for the 50 states or the thousands of counties or the many thousands cities, towns and villages -- we are represented in the counsels of the World organizations by one and in America there is one government. The government of the people with its many different levels of service, local, state and federal. Recently words have been used to describe this situation as "Creative Federalism", but I am not sure that's a very expressive term, but I do know that the American people have a right to expect from all of us a measure of devotion to duty and also have a right to expect from us a constant concern as to whether or not those institutions of government for which we had momentary stewardship are adequate for the needs of our time.

After all, we come and we go -- Life is not eternal for us. We live on this planet for a short trickling second in the history of mankind. We have a responsibility to make sure that what we do during the time we are here is of some benefit to someone else besides ourselves -- and above all -- we have an opportunity and responsibility to look ahead and I think that most of us try to do just that. What I am tempting to say in a

rather inadequate fashion is that each of us has his job to do and we need each other not for self-protection, but for the good of the public -- the good of the people.

This Nation has unbelievable burdens and responsibilities and untold opportunities, and America will be no better than its people. This Nation will have good schools not because of Washington, but because of what you do. Washington can help, but it cannot supplant. It can Supplement, but not supplant. It can assist, but it should not and I TRUST WILL NOT, ever take over. Therefore, we are partners in the very real sense - the Federal Government the junior partner.

I say these things because our great State of Minnesota -- One that we are very proud of -- can above all be proud of its investments in education. I mentioned education a moment ago and I conclude on the emphasis to it. Our great University is one of the Greatest -- not only in America but in the World. Its partly great, or its greatness in part I should say, is due to the fact that the State Government, the Governor and the Legislature ---- regardless of political party --- have been deeply concerned about the educational wellbeing of the people of this State and coming generations. The University of Minnesota is one of the top fifteen universities in the World. That's quite a distinction and yet it still has an opportunity to be greater. Our State Colleges -- I have a son that goes to Mankato State College, a great college -- only a few years ago a small teachers college now one of our great

colleges, and all over Minnesota this is true. Our Private colleges that are a fundamental part of our educational structure in a sense acting as a standard of comparison of public education, all of these add to the wealth of this State.

It is my privilege to serve as Chairman of the Space Council. Inevitably it will be larger as the days come on because of the need and the growing population, but that is but a small part of the total investment in education because education today is the Nations business. It makes General Motors look like a popcorn stand with all due respect to that great company. It makes the A T & T look like a small hometown homemade radio, compared to the investment in education, both public and private. This investment in education today is developing a pattern of relationship between Government, Industry, University, Elementary and Secondary Schools, Labor and Capital -- such as no other Nation has known.

Our great University of Minnesota today is one of the centers for the National Aeronautics and Space Agency. Our own University of Minnesota today is one of the centers for the program for atomic energy . It has one of the ten greatest medical schools in the World on this campus, right here at the University of Minnesota. Science and Technology, the humanities , the fine arts -- all to be found there. All of this may I say as a result of your endeavors, Mr. Legislator, your concern over the future of

this State -- your real confidence in this moral, plus -- plus may I say, the supplemental assistance of a Federal Government that understands its citizenship in the United States is not based upon region or state, but upon the Nation. We are citizens of the United States of America and every citizen needs to be developed to his full potentiality, and when I stand alongside of a man like Bill Foss, representing the Chamber of Commerce, I am reminded that all of this could not be were it not for the fact that American business management, American business capacity, technical, scientific and engineering is a partner in this great endeavor of the educational progress of this land.

I thought tonight I might just emphasize for the moments that are mine what I consider to be the most valuable investment that our nation can make. Investment in the enrichment of the mind in the intellect. I guess it was H. G. Wells who once said "That civilization was a race between education and catastrophe" and since thats the case I want to put my chips on education. I appeal to the members of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota. I need not appeal to our Governor, because I have talked to him so many times and know him so well, I know of his strong feeling about this, and I think I know yours. But you control the purse strings, you ultimately set policy just as Members of the Congress ultimately set policy and control the purse strings. I appeal to you to remember a lesson of history. NO SOCIETY HAS

EVER BECOME INSOLVENT BECAUSE OF INVESTMENT IN LEARNING -- BUT MANY A CIVILIZATION HAS VANISHED BECAUSE THOSE WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF GOVERNMENT THOUGHT IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO BE INTERESTED IN THINGS THAN IDEAS, MORE IMPORTANT TO EMPHASIZE THE TEMPORARY DEVELOPMENT FIXTURE THAN THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION. Its another way of saying that the Nation that will be strong tomorrow is the Nation that invests today.

I didn't mean to be quite so serious, but this is very close to my heart and I can speak to you because you have done so well. I AM NOT SCOLDING, I AM THANKING.

I graduated from our great university, and I am a product of public education -- and I hope that won't be held against it --, but I am deeply committed to the educational wellbeing of our young people and I call upon every Legislator whatever your future may be, to earn for yourselves by your actions and by your votes and by your deeds, a line in the History Books of Minnesota that this Legislator thought about tomorrow by investing in the education of the young today.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



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