

Buy a Light Donors owe to My Right

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ROSEDALE PLAYGROUND

WASHINGTON, D.C.

AUGUST 10, 1966

Mr Winters

Mr Tobin

Mr Horky

"Great Sign!!"

Champs

↳ We are here this evening to salute the "champs" of the District of Columbia.

sports-a-rama

And the list of champions is long and impressive.

↳ First, on the list of champions there are hundreds of citizens who came forward so promptly to put our Buy-a-Light Campaign over the top.

↳ We are pleased and honored that so many could be with us this evening.

↳ I thought you might be interested in a current report on the status of the Buy-a-Light Campaign. As of August 10, 1966, a total of 91 thousand 384 dollars and 24 cents has been donated in money, merchandise and pledges.

↳ The total is well in excess of our original goal of 70 thousand dollars and has permitted us to donate ten thousand dollars of this excess to the portable swimming pool project sponsored by Operation Champ. We have also been able to illuminate extra playgrounds and to install additional lights on many of the playgrounds.

↳ We should not forget that the federal government and the District of Columbia also made available 436 thousand dollars to install the kind of permanent lighting that exists here at Rosedale Playground.

Rosedale

And even here at the Rosedale Playground we have been helped by some good friends of the District. Many of the fixtures were once installed at the Griffith Stadium and were donated to the District of Columbia by the General Wrecking Company. ↳ The lighting elements themselves were donated by the Duro-Test Company of New Jersey. And I think we can all agree these are mighty fine lights.

With the money raised by private donations and ~~made~~  
*available by* the federal and District governments, we have now completed  
temporary lighting on 52 playgrounds. And permanent  
lighting, like you see here at Rosedale, on 12. By the end  
of the summer, 33 playgrounds will have permanent lighting  
for a grand total of 85 playgrounds.

I want again to extend a very sincere thank you to  
the many private individuals, the businesses, the labor unions,  
the civic organizations, the churches, who contributed so  
generously ~~to the Buy a Light campaign~~.

The D.C. Board of Trade has been especially helpful  
in coordinating contributions by the District business community.

Many labor unions have made substantial contributions --  
dozens of business organizations have made \$1500 contributions  
to light one entire playground.

↳ The Potomac Electric Power Company and the D.C. Buildings and Grounds Department did an outstanding job in installing the lights on a crash schedule.

↳ We are also here this evening to honor those Champs -- the boys and girls -- who have been part of the District's Operation Champ program and the many summer activities sponsored by the Department of Recreation and the Board of Education.

*10 Cities*  
↳ Operation Champ is a new program this year, operating in ten selected cities around the country. ~~It has been an innovative program --~~ this a program that has tried new ideas, new techniques, with one objective firmly in mind -- that of getting wholesome physical fitness and recreation activities right to where they are needed -- in the streets -- on street corners -- and on the playgrounds of the poorer areas of these ten cities.

↳ The Operation Champ program has also employed thousands of Neighborhood Youth Corps workers as counsellors and leaders for our young people, working closely with professional physical education instructors, college athletes and some of our national sports figures.

↳ We are particularly indebted to Wilma Rudolph, our great Olympic champion; <sup>to</sup> Donna DeVerona, another of our great Olympic gold medal winners; <sup>to</sup> Rocky Marciano, Ollie Matson, <sup>of Phil Eagles</sup> the Baltimore Bullets, the Washington Senators, the Washington Redskins, and countless other individuals and teams have traveled throughout America letting the young people of our cities know we care about them. - D.C. great city

Now let's see what our D.C. Champs can do -----

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young  
People  
Done  
well!



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