



FOR RELEASE
FRIDAY PM'S
AUGUST 2, 1968
Telephone 202/225-2961

NOTES
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
DEDICATION OF THE CHAPATON RETENTION BASIN
ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN
AUGUST 2, 1968

There is plenty to celebrate here today...

--the fact that St. Clair Shores, East Detroit and Roseville, with an assist from the federal government, have successfully met a common need for flood and pollution control;

--the fact that Macomb County is lucky enough to have a Commissioner with the foresight and dynamism of Tom Welsh;

--the fact that this sewage retention basin and pumping facility have been completed -- after a long struggle.

The combination of local initiative and leadership, careful regional planning and federal back-up that made this project possible is, I firmly believe, the key to rebuilding urban America. I have made it the basis of my Marshall Plan for the cities.

* * * *

The plant we dedicate today symbolizes an important new departure in America.

Our people, by and large, have made up their minds to ensure a living environment for themselves and their children.

The vast majority of us enjoy unprecedented material prosperity today. But abundance has produced some dangerous by-products: polluted air that can kill...and has; noise that can damage property...and has; dirty rivers that can deny urban water supplies...and have.

The peace of our split level, air-conditioned homes is shattered by the roar of new airliners.

Our increasing leisure is blighted by lakes where fish can't live and people can't swim.

PAGE TWO

What is the cumulative effect of these pollutants working together, over time, on our bodies and minds? What is the price of the strain and tension they cause in our families and our communities. How much do they reduce our freedom to live the way we really want to live.

But the polls are beginning to show that an overwhelming majority of Americans are worried about them -- and that there is a growing public out-cry for clean air, clean water, quiet, and uncluttered outdoors.

People are simply no longer willing to let what happened to Lake Erie and the Detroit River happen to the Lake St. Clair's of America. They are now prepared to think in bold terms -- about the proper management of great areas like the Clinton River Basin.

In the last few years America has reached a new threshold in its social thinking -- a threshold where the quality of our environment is assuming equal importance with the quality of the goods we produce.

We are crossing that threshold.

We are beginning to mobilize the same technology which has polluted our environment to restore it as a suitable home for a nation of free people.

* * * *

PAGE THREE

But we have only begun.

Our achievements thus far add up to no more than a good beginning -- a downpayment on the debt incurred by past neglect, and a declaration of intent to catch up.

There is an enormous task ahead which presents an immense challenge to government at all levels and to our free enterprise economy.

First, our governments -- federal, state and local -- must become active trustees to the environment for all our people, rather than just referees between competing natural resource users.

Second, we need to bring our best scientific and technical know-how to bear on the implications of what we do -- or don't do -- to our natural environment.

Third, our state and local governments must begin to cooperate much more closely, as you have done, particularly in the cast of pollution.

...Cont'd.

Pollution -- like migration, modern transportation and much else that goes with contemporary society -- has little respect for our present jurisdictional boundaries, many of which were drawn in an agrarian age.

I believe we need to consider creation of totally new Regional Pollution Authorities in many areas, which would be funded by the states or localities covered and authorized to receive and administer federal anti-pollution funds.

As for the cost, I suspect that clean air and clean water may be one of the few urgent social necessities we can buy rather cheaply.

Pollution and inadequate waste disposal cost each of us money today -- about 11 billion dollars for air pollution alone. Moreover, some of these waste products are valuable resources out of place -- raw materials which can be processed and sold at a tidy profit.

America seems to prosper more every time we raise our standards to meet a new social demand.

It happened with minimum wage.

It happened with social security.

It happened with food and drug inspection.

I should think today's popular demand for a living environment will produce important economic returns, too.

* * *

The quest for a living environment is but one facet of a revolutionary process that is underway in America today -- a turbulent ... irrepressible ... sometimes uncomfortable drive toward quality as well as quantity in our lives.

We are struggling to stop the human wastage caused by discrimination, inadequate education and poverty -- human wastage which has, to a very real extent, polluted our social environment with mistrust and hatred.

We are engaged in an unprecedented, often frustrating effort to build a social, economic and technical environment in which every individual can find dignity, health and hope

... where man shall prevail.

Some people diagnose a sickness in our impatience with what is, and in the pressures for what ought to be.

But I am frequently reminded of this passage from Alfred North Whitehead:

"The vigor of civilized societies is preserved by the widespread sense that high aims are worthwhile ... vigorous societies harbour a certain extravagance of objectives."

A living environment is a minimum objective for America.

#

Sen Hart
Cong Martha Griffiths
Cong Jim O'Hara
" Bill Ford
15th

NOTES

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

DEDICATION OF THE CHAPATON RETENTION BASIN

ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN

AUGUST 2, 1968

Jim O'Hara
12th DIST

There is plenty to celebrate here today...

-- the fact that St. Clair Shores, East Detroit and Roseville,
with ~~an assist~~ ^{help} from the federal government, have successfully met

a common need for flood and pollution control;

-- the fact that ^{Macomb} ~~Macomb~~ County is lucky enough to have a
Commissioner with the foresight and dynamism of Tom Welsh;

-- the fact that this sewage retention basin and pumping
facility have been completed -- after a long struggle.

↳ The combination of local initiative and leadership, careful regional planning and federal back-up that made this project possible is, I firmly believe, the key to rebuilding urban America.
~~I have made it the basis of my Marshall Plan for the cities.~~

* * *

↳ The plant we dedicate today symbolizes an important new departure in America.

↳ Our people ~~by and large~~, have made up their minds to ensure a living environment for themselves and their children.

↳ The vast majority of us enjoy unprecedented material prosperity today. But abundance has produced some dangerous by-products: polluted air that can kill ... ~~and has~~; noise that can damage property ... ~~and has~~; dirty rivers that can deny urban water supplies ... ~~and have~~.

↳ The peace of our split level, air-conditioned homes is shattered by the roar of new airliners.

↳ Our increasing leisure is blighted by lakes where fish can't live and people can't swim.

↳ Cars are choking our cities -- and their exhaust is choking us.

↳ What is the cumulative effect of these pollutants working together, over time, on our bodies and minds? ↳ What is the price of the strain and tension they cause in our families and our communities. How much do they reduce our freedom to live the way we really want to live. ?

↳ ~~But~~ the polls are beginning to show that an overwhelming majority of Americans are worried about them -- and that there is a growing public out-cry for clean air, clean water, quiet, and uncluttered outdoors.

People are simply no longer willing to let what happened to Lake Erie and the Detroit River happen to the Lake St. Clair's of America. They are now prepared to think in bold terms -- about the proper management of great areas like the Clinton River Basin.

In the last few years America has reached a new threshold in its social thinking -- a threshold where the quality of our environment is assuming equal importance with the quality of *our* the goods ~~we produce~~.

We are crossing that threshold.

We are beginning to mobilize the same technology which has polluted our environment to restore it as a suitable home for a nation of free people.

↳ But we have only begun.

Our achievements thus far add up to no more than a good beginning -- a downpayment on the debt incurred by past neglect, and a declaration of intent to catch up.

↳ There is an enormous task ahead which presents an immense challenge to government at all levels and to our free enterprise economy.

↳ First, our governments -- federal, state and local -- must become active trustees to the environment for all our people, rather than just referees between competing natural resource users.

↳ Second, we need to bring our best scientific and technical know-how to bear on the implications of what we do -- or don't do -- to our natural environment.

↳ Third, our state and local governments must begin to cooperate much more closely, as you have done, particularly in the case of pollution.

Pollution -- like migration, modern transportation and much else that goes with contemporary society -- has little respect for our present jurisdictional boundaries, many of which were drawn in an agrarian age.

↳ I believe we need to consider creation of totally new Regional Pollution Authorities in many areas, which would be funded by the states or localities covered and authorized to receive and administer federal anti-pollution funds.

↳ As for the cost, I suspect that clean air and clean water may be one of the few urgent social necessities we can buy rather cheaply.

↳ Pollution and inadequate waste disposal cost each of us money today -- about 11 billion dollars for air pollution alone.

↳ Moreover, some of these waste products are valuable resources out of place -- raw materials which can be processed and sold at a tidy profit.

↳ America seems to prosper ~~more~~ every time we raise our standards to meet a new social demand.

It happened with minimum wage.

It happened with social security.

It happened with food and drug inspection.

I should think today's popular demand for a living environment will produce important economic returns, too.

* * *

↳ The quest for a living environment is but one facet of a revolutionary process that is underway in America today -- a turbulent ... irrepressible ... sometimes uncomfortable drive toward quality as well as quantity in our lives.

We are struggling to stop the human wastage caused by discrimination, inadequate education and poverty -- human wastage which has, to a very real extent, polluted our social environment with mistrust and hatred.

↳ We are engaged in an unprecedented, often frustrating effort to build a social, economic and technical environment in which every individual can find dignity, health and hope ... where man shall prevail.

↳ Some people diagnose a sickness in our impatience with what is, and in the pressures for what ought to be.

But I am frequently reminded of this passage from Alfred North Whitehead:

"The vigor of civilized societies is preserved by the widespread sense that high aims are worthwhile ... vigorous societies harbour a certain extravagance of objectives."

A living environment is a minimum objective
for America.

###

Call Pat
on this

Detroit
1968

with some
of city officials

1
2
3 SPEECH OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
4 on
5 FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 2, 1968
6 at
7 DEDICATION OF THE CHAPATON PUMPING STATION AND
8 RETENTION BASIN - ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN
9

10 * * *

11 CONGRESSMAN JAMES G. O'HARA: Thank you
12 very much, Lakeview Band.

13 Friends, it is now my privilege to
14 introduce a man who is a fighter, who is tough, determined
15 and courageous and effective. During the years that you
16 have given me the privilege of serving in the United States
17 House of Representatives I have watched this man, first, as
18 a member of the Senate; then, as the effective Senate Major-
19 ity Leader; and, finally, as Vice President. He has demon-
20 strated that time and time again that he does not know the
21 meaning of defeat; for him, every crisis is a challenge,
22 every setback is a spur to greater effort. And all Ameri-
23 cans, all Americans are richer because of his years of
24 service to his country.

25 This man's origins in a dusty South
Dakota town, son of a druggist, are well known. He first
won national recognition as the crime busting mayor of
Minneapolis at the age of 34. He chased the racketeers

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

and corrupters out of Minneapolis and won an award from the
FBI.

When he arrived in Washington he quickly
proved that he would take second seat to no senator in hard
work, in new ideas and in leadership. His record in Wash-
ington is one of unparalleled legislative success. They
say in Washington that Hubert Humphrey has been ten years
ahead of his time for the past twenty years. The very first
bill Hubert Humphrey introduced in the Senate in 1949 was
a proposal to provide health care for elder citizens through
Social Security. Sixteen years later that plan became law,
and we know it now as Medicare.

In 1957 Hubert Humphrey proposed a
cabinet-level department of Housing and Urban Development;
eight years later the Department of Housing and Urban
Development was established. And, just ask Macomb County
and municipal officials what that has meant to our cities
and townships in Macomb County.

In education, in jobs, in higher wages,
in aid to small businessmen, Hubert Humphrey showed all of
us the way.

He left his mark in foreign affairs as
well. The Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty had its genesis
in an early Humphrey proposal. His leadership as Majority
Whip was so important in the passage of that treaty in the

1 Senate that John F. Kennedy told him: Hubert, it is your
2 treaty.

3 There are candidates today for high
4 federal office that are running on a record that was largely
5 written by Hubert Humphrey. These are the men, some of
6 them senior senators, who merely co-sponsored legislative
7 proposals originated in the mind of Hubert Humphrey and
8 which were sweated through Congress by Hubert Humphrey.

9 He has boundless concern for people,
10 and the large majority of his proposals were conceived to
11 help the people of this nation to live richer, longer, more
12 fruitful lives. He has an unquenchable faith in this nation
13 and the basic goodness of its citizens.

14 A few days ago Hubert Humphrey spoke
15 to a gathering in the Congress. He told of the need for
16 reason and responsibility by leaders and the people.

17 I think these two words also typify
18 Hubert Humphrey as a man, as an American, as a dedicated
19 public servant.

20 I am proud to present to you the Vice
21 President of The United States, Hubert Humphrey.

22 (Applause.)

23 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you,
24 thank you. Thank you very much, Congressman O'Hara, The
25 Reverend Father Clancy, Dr. McConnell, our good friend

1 Mayor Geer, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Norman
2 Hill, and this dynamic Commissioner, Thomas Welsh, and all
3 of those who are here with us today up here on the platform
4 and out in this audience.

5 First, I want to thank the Lakeview
6 High School Band for playing the Minnesota Rouser in first-
7 class style. I am very grateful. And then I should like
8 to especially thank, especially thank the young people that
9 are here, our Cub Scouts, our Boy Scouts, our Girl Scouts,
10 and all of their sponsors, who have come here once again to
11 demonstrate the highest qualities of American citizens.

12 I met with the Commander of the V.F.W.,
13 and I want to particularly thank that fine organization
14 for its service here and all of the other veterans'
15 organizations.

16 Congressman O'Hara has been most gener-
17 ous in his introduction of me and he was most flattering,
18 but I want him to know that we, in Washington, that have
19 had a chance to work with the Congressman and with his
20 associate, Bill Ford, are mindful of the fact that much of
21 what is happening here today in this dedicatory ceremony
22 is due to the hard work of congressmen like Jim O'Hara and
23 the local public officials that are gathered here. I want
24 to particularly signal out the mayors, the councilmen, and
25 the commissioners that are here on this platform. They

5
1 represent the government that is closest to the people,
2 they represent those who today have every right to be so
3 proud, so proud of this achievement.

4 I was presented with a brochure when
5 I was preparing for this meeting entitled "An Action Program
6 for Clinton River Drainage Basin." What we are doing here
7 today is but the beginning, the first step of what can be a
8 magnificent program of conservation and of recreation for
9 this entire county and indeed for neighboring counties.

10 Now, there's plenty to celebrate here
11 today. I have noticed, Commissioner Welsh, that both you
12 and I have our fair share of signs. Right now, I think I
13 am up on you a little bit.

14 There is plenty to celebrate here today.
15 First, the fact that St. Clair Shores, East Detroit, Rose-
16 ville, with help from the federal government, have success-
17 fully met a common need and a long, long need for flood and
18 pollution control.

19 And then we can celebrate too, the fact,
20 that Macomb County is lucky enough to have a commissioner
21 with the foresight and the dynamism of this fine gentleman --
22 and I say it is always good to have a big man by your side --
23 Tom Welsh.

24 (Applause.)
25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

And we can, we can also celebrate the fact that this facility, this sewage retention basin and pumping facility have been completed now after a long, long wait, a long struggle, and many years of planning. The combination of local initiative and leadership, careful regional planning, and federal back-up, made this project possible.

I firmly believe that this combination is the key to rebuilding our urban America and to have a community develop in what we might call rural America.

The plant that we dedicate today, and I am honored as the Vice President of The United States to participate in these ceremonies, symbolizes a very important new departure in America.

Our people have made up their minds they are going to ensure a living environment, a livable environment, a pleasant environment for themselves and their children.

The vast majority of us enjoy unprecedented material prosperity today. But the abundance of that prosperity has produced some dangerous by-products: It has produced, for example, polluted air that can kill - and it has killed; it can produce noise that can damage property - and it has. This great prosperous economy has produced dirty rivers that can deny urban water supplies, and

7
1 that situation has developed; the peace, the peace of our
2 split-level, air-conditioned homes is shattered by the roar
3 of new airliners; our increasing leisure is blighted by
4 lakes where fish can't live and people can't swim.

5 Might I add that no generation has the
6 right to despoil those great natural resources. Each
7 generation should be the steward rather than the destroyer,
8 the caretaker of these great natural resources. Cars,
9 automobiles, Bible to our lives and economy, are choking
10 our cities and their exhaust is choking us.

11 Now, what is the cumulative effect of
12 all of these dangers, these pollutants working together
13 overtime on our bodies and minds? What is the price of
14 strain and tension they cause in our families and our com-
15 munities? How much do they reduce our freedom to live the
16 way we want to live?

17 I think that the public opinion polls
18 today are beginning to show that an overwhelming majority
19 of Americans are worried about these questions and that
20 there is a growing public outcry for such simple and basic
21 things that we have taken for granted for centuries as
22 clean air, clean water, quiet, and uncluttered outdoors.

23 People are no longer willing to let
24 what happened to Lake Erie and the Detroit River happen to
25 Lake St. Clair. They are now prepared to think in bold

1 terms about the proper management of great areas like the
2 Clinton River Basin.

3 In the last few years America has
4 reached a new threshold in social thinking --

5 (Heckling.)

6 Boys, turn your cameras this way. This
7 is where the action is.

8 (Applause.)

9 Ladies and gentlemen, let me say some-
10 thing, let me say something: When the media of this country
11 quits playing up these loudmouths and starts listening to
12 what goes on in this country --

13 (Applause.)

14 I happen to believe there is a very great silent majority
15 in America that wants to have something to say about this
16 country and doesn't want to have to listen to a few people
17 that like to disrupt meetings and make fools out of them-
18 selves --

19 (Applause.)

20 Now, somebody said to me "Sock it to
21 'em" --

22 (Laughter and applause.)

23 A VOICE: Once more.

24 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Now, let me
25 get back to what the purpose of this meeting is, to

1 dedicate this fine facility that represents the taxpayers'
2 money, that represents the cumulative effort of thousands of
3 people in this county.

4 Now, we are today trying to build an
5 environment in which we are trying to improve the quality
6 of our lives as well as the quantity of our goods. And,
7 we are beginning to mobilize that same technology which has
8 polluted our environment, to restore it to a suitable home
9 for a nation of free people who want to live a good life.

10 And, we have only begun, and the begin-
11 ning is demonstrated right here in local initiative by good
12 people who want to live in a good and wholesome community.
13 Their achievements, thus far, add up to but just a begin-
14 ning, a down payment on the debt incurred by past neglect
15 and a declaration of the citizenry, the citizen's desire
16 to catch up.

17 Now, there is an enormous task which
18 presents an immense challenge to government and people at
19 all levels of our free-enterprise economy.

20 First, our governments, federal, state,
21 and local, need to become active trustees to the environment
22 for all of our people rather than just referees between
23 competing users of the natural resources.

24 Second, we need to bring our best
25 scientific and technical know-how to bear on the problems

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

we face in order to help our natural environment and to keep it clean.

Third, our state and local governments must begin to cooperate much more closely, as they have done here, in this case, to control pollution. Pollution, like migration and modern transportation, has little respect for our present jurisdictional boundaries many of which were drawn in an agrarian age.

I believe we need to consider the creation today of totally new governmental authorities, regional pollution authorities in many areas, which would be funded by the state or the localities covered and authorized to receive and administer federal anti-pollution funds.

As for the cost, I suspect that clean air and clean water may be one of the urgent social necessities that we can buy rather cheaply. Pollution and inadequate waste disposal costs us vast sums of money today. It is estimated that air pollution alone costs our country eleven billion dollars of wasted resources. Moreover, some of the waste products are valuable resources that can be converted into valuable properties; raw materials which can be processed into a tidy profit.

So, my friends, America seems to prosper everytime we raise our standards, and this county has raised its standards, and the commissioners and the

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

authorities have raised the standards here of a better living.

It happened when the minimum wage came, our standards were better; with Social Security, it happened; when we inspected our food and drugs, it happened; and I should think today's popular demand for a living environment will produce vast important economic returns, too.

Finally, the quest for a living environment is but one of the factors in a revolutionary process that is underway in America today; a process that is turbulent, irrepressible, and sometimes the uncontrollable drive toward quality as well as quantity in our lives.

We are struggling today not merely to stop waste of the pollutants of the air and water, but we are struggling to stop the human waste caused by discrimination, by inadequate education, by poverty, human beings wasted, which to a very real extent is polluting our social environment with mistrust and hatred. Might I say of all, the terrible intoxicants that can affect a community, none can be more deadly than the poison of hatred itself.

We are engaged in an unprecedented and often frustrated effort to build an environment in which every individual can find dignity, health, and home; where man, God's creation for this world, shall prevail.

Some people diagnose a sickness in our

1 impatience with what is, and the pressures for what ought to
2 be.

3 But I am reminded of an important but
4 beautiful passage of poetry from Alfred North Whitehead.
5 He reminded us that:

6 "The vigor of civilized societies
7 is preserved by the widespread sense that
8 high aims are worthwhile, and that vigorous
9 societies harbour a certain extravagance
10 of objectives."

11 A living environment in which we can
12 live at peace, in which we can live in comfort, in which
13 we can live in opportunity, is a minimum objective for
14 America.

15 And as I leave this platform today, may
16 I just say this: In this election year if there ever was a
17 time when America should set an example for good manners,
18 for reason, for responsibility, and for restraint, it is
19 during this difficult year when we are going to be making
20 great decisions. Freedom, freedom is not the right to deny
21 someone else his rights; freedom of expression is not the
22 right to act like storm troopers and to break up a decent
23 meeting; freedom, if you please, requires responsibility,
24 and to take liberty is not license. Liberty is a privi-
25 lege that comes to free people and a privilege that must

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

be carefully guarded and protected. Everyone is entitled to be heard; it is not necessary that everyone that is heard necessarily needs to be taken seriously, but he ought to be heard.

And I call upon the young people, I call upon the young people of America to tell those who insist upon acting in an undemocratic manner, who insist on being the kind of hooligans of our time -- I ask these young people today to demand of America that America have respect for freedom of expression, freedom of movement, freedom of choice, and I ask that you have a great love of your country, the greatest country on the face of the earth.

(Applause.)

MR. THOMAS WELSH: I want to hand you a plaque and I will read it to you:

"Presented: August 2, 1968
The Vice President, Hubert H. Humphrey
with an expression of appreciation for
his assistance in construction of the
Macomb County drain facility.
Thomas S. Welsh, Drain Commissioner."

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much.

MR. THOMAS WELSH: And, Mr. Vice President, the portrait of the facilities themselves.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much.

MR. THOMAS WELSH: Now, Mr. Vice President, we would call upon you to officially dedicate and run officially by throwing this switch of the pump station. If you would, please.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Is this going to keep those basins dry? Ready?

MR. THOMAS WELSH: Ready.

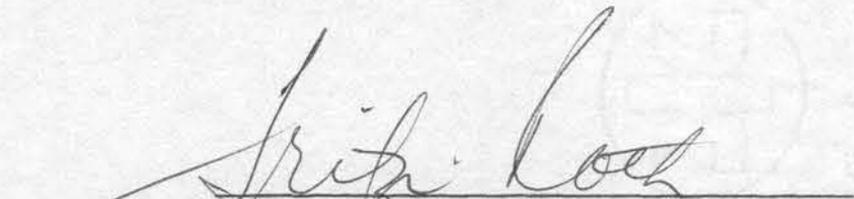
VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Okay. Right now. Well, watch out, folks, the water's coming back up. Nothing happened?

(Applause.)

- - -

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

I, Fritzi Roth, do hereby certify that I have recorded stenographically the speech of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, at the dedication of the Chapaton Pumping Station and Retention Basin, St. Clair Shores, Michigan, on Friday, August 2, 1968, and I do further certify that the foregoing transcript, consisting of fourteen (14) typewritten pages, is a true and correct transcript of my said stenographic notes.


Fritzi Roth, Court Reporter
1712 Guardian Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226
962-6021



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