

54th annual Purchasing
International Conference

REMARKS

THE HONORABLE HUMBERT H. HUMPHREY

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PURCHASING MANAGEMENT

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

MAY 20, 1969

what take
Administration Library

never happened
under Humphrey
Admin

President
Hedeman

✓ Bill Bunin
(Tom company)

✓ Fred Fisher
+ Margaret

✓ Leo Baker

Harold
Bloom
Pres-
ent



It is time for some straight talk -- some honest talk --
about the subject of crime which continues to plague this
nation and alarm a growing number of Americans.

I know that in your respective businesses the effect
of crime is evident in rising costs -- and not just the costs
of stolen or damaged merchandise, or the costs of rising
insurance rates -- but more seriously, the costs of growing
anxiety and dislocation in the cities and towns where you
conduct business.

Concerns
Inflation
Unrest
Crime
Peace

① Ruthlessness.

War II -
Empires dissolved
Science Technology
Atomic Energy

Radar
TV
Space
Knowledge
etc.

Alan
Caldwell
(Bulmer)

- 2 -

urban crisis

I have encountered the problems of crime, delinquency
 and criminal justice as Mayor of this city, as a Senator of
 this state, and as Vice President of the United States. And
 while I cannot buy the theory that if you've seen one of
anything, you've seen them all -- still I have learned
 enough to know that crime is the paramount source of
fear, friction and resentment in our cities.

Violence
 Crime has given the affluent *Properous* new reason to get out of
 the cities where their influence, their vigor and their self
confidence are sorely needed.

Crime has given the vindictive new motive to move into
 the political scene, preaching a hate-filled doctrine.

-3-

From the relative -- but not total -- safety of the
 suburbs, many of our conservatives seek refuge -- our
bigots seek revenge -- and our liberals too often seek a
polite accommodation with spokesmen who see, not a crime
problem, but merely a residual racism stirred by unthinking
alarmists.

You come from the world of business and approach a
 problem in terms of its functioning elements -- to find a
solution.

And I come from the world of government and politics --
 and I see this nation's crime problem in terms of what I can
 call functioning political ideas that are in conflict.

But These conflicts will not be resolved until people like you take
 a hand -- firmly, wisely and with conviction.

In the meantime -- the nation
 suffers - Crime infects the body politic
 and the social and economic bloodstream,
 Sapping our strength & threatening life itself.

- 4 -

On this I know we can agree: We are finished with approaches which study a problem to death, and then move on -- the problem still intact and growing worse -- no solutions...no action...no relief.

yes It is time to demand a change.

It is time to go and get it.

The victims of sloppy and inefficient justice are not just the accused people who are delayed of trial, convicted, freed and returned -- people whose whole life is as a revolving door to jail.

The victims are not just the families who lose a member to homicide, or whose life is a constant series of threats and precautions.

Urban Crisis

- 5 -

also

The victims are the cities themselves, the states, and
a Nation...and the quality of democratic life we are able to
sustain in this country.

Let me remind you of some facts ~~I reported on television~~
~~last fall, during the Presidential campaign:~~

("Of the nearly half-million Americans now in jail and
prison, three out of every four will be arrested again for
another crime.

~~Let's~~ "Now, if we reduce the number of repeaters by only
one-fifth, we would stop the increase in crime.

"If we cut the number of repeaters in half, the crime
rate would drop sharply.

- 6 -

↳ "But the most tragic fact of all is that almost the entire increase in crime since 1960 has been caused by young people.

↳ Last year, people under 25 committed 88 percent of the auto thefts... 82 percent of the burglaries... and 80 percent of the arsons.

↳ "A majority of crimes against property -- burglary, larceny and car theft -- are committed by young people between the ages, mind you, of 11 and 17."

But What disturbs me most is the ~~partisan~~ and often unreasoning reaction these facts seem to stimulate in our fellow citizens.

↳ I call this reaction "the politics of crime."

- 7 -

most people
As you might expect, ~~these partisans~~ tend to see
crime exactly the same way their reflexes run in other matters
of politics. *for* Extreme conservatives see the inner city as a
monolithic whole, laden with hostility, totally alienated
from the broader society and willingly represented only
by spokesmen who are shrewd manipulators of violence and hate.

And the extreme liberals tend to view any serious effort
to fight crime as tinged with racist overtones -- the new
extension of a conspiracy to scrap the Bill of Rights, enthrone
'The Fuzz', and preventively detain a whole society.

And you and I are asked to live with the disastrous
results of these extreme misconceptions of reality.

↳ People who confuse public safety with public repression bend every effort, for example, to retain a police chief who represents to them the stern old hand of the law.

↳ These same people ^{often} conveniently overlook the police chief's rejection of every modern police method which could transform their force into a tougher, faster, more reliable instrument of public safety and civil justice.

↳ Some people -- yes, even progressive business leaders, will support some senior police officers who couldn't even begin to make it as ^{Junior} executives in their own fast-moving organizations. But, how the weeping starts when police are slow to respond in a crisis.

V.P. insert

"This new generation of law enforcement officers must be

000545

trained not only in the conventional law enforcement techniques and tactics, but also he must know his rights and duties, and the rights of the citizen. He must be trained in community relations. He must be devoid of racial prejudice. He must be prepared to use the most modern equipment and above all, he must have made available to him the best equipment.

p. 11 "I also caution us to take a long hard look at what has emerged as extreme liberal doctrine in the field of criminal justice. It can be just as emotional, just as thoughtless and just as careless as its counterpart on the right.

000545

- 9 -

Effective police work is brain work -- not just muscles, and not just guns. A new generation of police officers will be needed to safeguard the lives of your children, their families, their homes and their business, in a complex society. (Insert)

~~But~~ As I stressed in the campaign, if we want first-class police work we must be willing to pay first-class salaries and provide first-class professional training. We will also need more efficient courts and more effective rehabilitation procedures to reduce the high percentage of repeaters.

What will it cost? ^{well,} I proposed in the Presidential campaign that funds available under the Safe Streets Act of 1968 be increased from 62 million dollars to 620 million dollars this fiscal year.

- 10 -

That dimension of increase, ~~my friends~~, would get some results -- I can promise you that.

Less than that dimension of effort, and you will only be fooling yourselves.

This is why the question of national priorities is so crucial. Until we are able to divert substantial sums of money from the defense budget into domestic channels, the short-changing of ourselves will continue.

Given the size and effectiveness of our present strategic nuclear forces, I remain unconvinced that our security demands deployment of the Safeguard anti-ballistic missile system at this time.

- II -

↳ The gravest threat to our internal security can be found today on the streets of our cities... and in the poverty, deprivation and urban decay which contribute so directly to our problem of crime.

↳ These are the missiles -- home grown and home launched -- which threaten our survival. And meeting this threat should command top-priority attention by our entire society.

↳ This means we must make some difficult choices in drawing up our budgetary priorities. And this also means we must start thinking clearly about the problem which confronts us, rather than merely accepting some of the false doctrines and ideologies that today dominate public discussion and debate.

- 12 -

* * * *

I caution you to take a long, hard look at what has emerged as extreme liberal doctrine in the field of criminal justice. It can be just as emotional, just as thoughtless and just as careless as its extreme counterpart on the right. *Insert*

← The greater your knowledge in the fields of crime and juvenile delinquency, the more firmly you become convinced that the system of justice in the land is indeed stacked against the ignorant, the poor, the people of limited scope in their means and social contacts.

↳ Get a good look at some of these injustices, and you emerge fighting mad.

But the answer is better, more efficient systems of justice *yes*

It is surely not the coddling of criminals of any age, of any background, of any race or any sex.

*more courts, more & better Correctional Institutions,
better programs of rehabilitation and training.*

- 13 -

Some people claim that the only solution to our crime problems is the "long-range" solution -- that we will remove the problems when we remove the heartless conditions which spawn criminals in our society.

They are absolutely right...in part. In the long run we cannot have civil order without social justice, ^{and we must} as I said ~~not procrastinate in our effort to get at the~~ again and again in the campaign.

~~problems of Slums, Poverty, Hunger etc~~
But there is another serious factor we cannot overlook.

^{violence}
Crime itself is rapidly becoming a barrier to achieving these long-range goals.

^{violence}
Crime is beginning to generate an ugly spirit in our communities...a spirit which threatens to rend the fabric of society.

- 14 -

~ Criminals have to be apprehended, brought to timely trial, and if guilty, sent to jail. ~ It's a hard, firm process calling for hard, firm decisions.

~ There can be no alternative to public safety. There can be no substitute. ~ It is the heart -- indeed, it is the unspoken, unwritten, underlying premise of the social contract.

~ And if anyone believes that ghetto dwellers think otherwise, then that person ought to move back into the inner city, and learn first hand.

~ I am convinced the most under-represented Americans today are the host of tolerant, hard-working, striving residents of the inner city -- men and women who share your faith in this nation.

- 15 -

+ Protection

They are people who want action too -- and they want it now -- fast, because their need is much, much greater.

These men and women have been silenced by the louder more frightening, more threatening voices around them.

Yet they are the prime victims of criminals in every city in the land.

The rate of crime in the United States is a gain to the poor, the black, the Puerto Rican, the minority.

What irony. Just when a host of new legislation has enabled action in our cities, such as the Model Cities program, and the Safe Streets Act... just when law schools are turning out a new breed of young lawyers bent on service to the poor and to new measures of criminal justice... just when the courts are giving new vigor to the spirit of protection offered by our Constitution... now, also, comes a devastating crisis of urban crime, calculated to grow, and sure to bring repression, if some people persist in looking the other way.

Des Moines excerpts --3

Mr. V.P. insert The rate of crime in the ghetto -- acts of crime committed against the poor, the black and Puerto Ricans and other minorities -- continues to rise.

p. 15 "The battle against the dope peddler, the pusher -- is everyone's business. These scoundrels are murderers on the instalment plan. They are catalysts of crime. They are the bacteria of criminal acts in order to pay for the dope.

We need action on the dangerous drugs and narcotics front. Where thousands of our young are being systematically destroyed physically, mentally and morally. There is no ^{greater} ~~greater~~ social problem in the nation than the rapidly growing sale and use of habit-formin drugs. The traffic in heroin, LSD, speed, not to mention barbituates and marijuana is frightening. 6

*Crime infects the body politic and the sovial and economic bloodstream, sapping our strength and threatening life itself.

- 16 -

↳ Nobody with conviction in the rightness of this nation -- and certainly no one who has given of himself in the welfare of its people -- ought to keep silent on the subject of crime in America.

↳ You can't play Hamlet with crime.

↳ We need action, we need it desperately, and we need it now. *(X) insert*

↳ We need action from people who are most sensitive to the social and economic injustices which create the need for action in the first place.

↳ We need action from people like you, people who ^{may} come to the battle reluctantly -- without particular joy or mood of retribution.

↳ I urge you to this work! The business community has
taken leadership elsewhere.

Above all, I urge you into the inner city.

- 17 -

↳ You have bretheren there -- and many of us have not met them.

↳ They know crime, believe me.

And they're as disturbed about it as we are.

↳ But until now, they have been the victims of the politics of crime...of conservatives who sometimes fail to separate people as people, one by one -- of liberals who sometimes fail to consider ideas, one by one.

As we join ranks in this common struggle against crime, I believe we will also contribute to building the larger, single community to which this nation is still dedicated and on which the long-run survival of this nation depends.

↳ We know that, as in business and professional life, the only lasting order is the dynamic of change.

- 18 -

And, in the end, this is our only hope: that efforts
~~by dedicated persons~~ ^{by people} like yourselves, in conjunction with
the efforts of the total community, can produce the changes
which are so urgently needed.

The future of our cities -- and the future of this
country -- are now at stake.

#

REMARKS

THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
National Association of Purchasing Management

~~NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY~~

~~Muncie, Indiana~~

~~DES MOINES, IOWA~~

~~May 20, 1969~~

~~APRIL 23, 1969~~

It is time

~~I think it is time for some straight~~
talk -- some honest talk -- about the ~~problem~~ subject
of crime which continues to plague this nation and
crime in the City of Des Moines or the State of Iowa.
alarm a growing number of Americans

I have encountered the problems of crime, delinquency
and criminal justice as ~~a~~ ^{of this City, as a Senator of this State,}
Mayor ~~and~~ and as Vice President
of the United States. And while I cannot buy the theory that
if you've seen one of anything, you've seen them all -- still
I have learned enough to know that crime is the paramount
source of fear, friction and resentment in our cities.

the effect
I know that in your respective businesses ~~the~~
~~the~~ ~~the~~ of crime and its ~~placation~~ ~~has become~~
~~a source of~~ is evident in rising costs -- and not just the
costs of stolen or damaged merchandise, or the cost of rising
insurance rates -- but more seriously, the costs --

And I come from the world of government and politics -- and I see this nation's crime problem in terms of what I can call functioning political ideas that are in conflict. These conflicts will not be resolved until people like you take a hand -- firmly, wisely and with conviction.

On this I know we can agree: We are finished with approaches which study a problem to death, and then move on -- the problem still intact and growing worse -- no solutions... no action ... no relief.

~~I don't know about Des Moines. Let me tell you a little about a city I do know well -- Washington, D.C. And let me say at the outset -- despite what some others have said in the past -- Washington, D.C. is not the crime capital of the United States, far from it. Moreover, Washington, D.C. is~~

fortunate to have an extremely gifted and able public servant, Mayor Walter Washington, doing everything in his power to make the nation's Capital safe for everyone. I use Washington simply to illustrate the nature of the problem we face nationwide and to suggest what must be done to remedy this problem -- not in any way to condemn our nation's Capital or its citizens.

Washington right now can sadly lay claim to almost half-again as many homicides as traffic fatalities at the end of the first quarter of 1969 -- and this, in a year when traffic deaths were twice their number in the same period last year.

Crime in other major categories has also risen at disturbing rates.

I believe a crime is an event half done. We drop the other shoe with a conviction or other appropriate disposition under

the law. Yet of all the events which constituted felonies in Washington, something like five or six percent end in conviction of anyone.

Ask what is being done about crime and criminal justice in the nation's Capital, and no less than 29 different federal and local agencies have to respond.

How many such jurisdictions would you find in your city? And how many are beyond your effective control?

In Washington, as much as half a year has been required to move from indictment to conviction, and then add another year to clear appeals. Yet the proportion of felonies has been on the decline -- not because they are not committed, but because the process, somehow, invites plea-bargaining and other reductions which bring in guilty pleas for other offenses.

And, as elsewhere, the proportion of youthful offenders in Washington has soared. Yet youthful offenders in the city are governed by a Juvenile Court Act passed in 1933 -- legislation whose basic precept, we are told, is to assure that "the child" will be returned as promptly as possible to the close ties of the family situation.

That the children often aren't children and that the family situation of the 1930's is sorely strained, just doesn't seem to matter.

In other words, in Washington, D.C. as just about everywhere else in our land, we are living under a system of criminal justice which has little relationship to the dynamics of urban life in 1969.

It is time to demand a change.

It is time to go and get it.

The victims of ~~the~~ sloppy and inefficient justice are not just the accused people who are delayed of trial, convicted, freed and returned -- people whose whole life is as a revolving door to jail.

The victims are not just the families who lose a member to homicide, or whose life is a constant series of threats and precautions.

The victims are the cities themselves, the states, and a Nation ... and the quality of democratic life we are able to sustain in this country.

* * * *

Let me remind you of some facts I reported on television last fall, during the *Presidential* campaign:

"Of the nearly half-million Americans now in jail and prison, three out of every four will be arrested again for another time.

"Now, if we reduce the number of repeaters by only one-fifth, we would stop the increase in crime.

"If we cut the number of repeaters in half, the crime rate would drop sharply.

"But the most tragic fact of all is that almost the entire increase in crime since 1960 has been caused by young people. Last year, people under 25 committed 88 percent of the auto thefts ... 82 percent of the burglaries ... and 80 percent of the arsons.

"A majority of crimes against property -- burglary, larceny and car theft -- are committed by young people between the ages, mind you, of 11 and 17."

What disturbs me most is the partisan and often unreasoning reaction these facts seem to stimulate in our fellow citizens.

I call this reaction "the politics of crime."

As you might expect, these partisans tend to see crime exactly the same way their reflexes run in other matters of politics: Extreme conservatives see the inner city as a monolithic whole, laden with hostility, totally alienated from the broader society and willingly represented only by spokesmen who are shrewd manipulators of violence and hate.

And the extreme liberals tend to view any ^{serious} ~~my~~ effort to fight crime as tinged with racist overtones -- the new extension of a conspiracy to scrap the Bill of Rights, enthrone "The Fuzz," and preventively detain a whole society.

And you and I are asked to live with the disastrous results of these extreme misconceptions of reality.

~~My~~ People who confuse public safety with public repression bend every effort, for example, to retain a police chief

As I stressed in the campaign, if we want first-class police work we must be willing to pay first-class salaries and provide first-class professional training. We will also need more efficient courts and more effective rehabilitation procedures to reduce the high percentage of repeaters.

What will it cost? I proposed in the Presidential campaign that funds available under the Safe Streets Act of 1968 be increased from 62 million dollars to 620 million dollars this fiscal year.

That dimension of increase, my friends, would get some results -- I can promise you that.

Less than that dimension of effort, and you will only be fooling yourselves.

I ~~do~~ caution you to take a long, hard look at what has emerged as extreme liberal doctrine in the field of criminal justice.

It can be just as emotional, just as thoughtless and just as ~~careless~~ ^{extreme} as its counterpart on the right.

This is why the question of national priorities is so crucial. Until we are able to divert substantial sums of money from the defense budget into domestic channels, ~~especially~~ ^{especially} the short-changing of ourselves will continue. (over 4)

The greater your knowledge in the fields of crime and juvenile delinquency, the more firmly you become convinced that the system of justice in the land is indeed stacked against the ignorant, the poor, the people of limited scope in their means and social contacts.

Get a good look at some of ^{these} ~~the~~ injustices, ~~and~~ and you emerge fighting mad.

But the answer is better, more efficient systems of justice -- it is surely not the coddling of criminals of any age, of any background, of any race or any sex.

Some people claim that the only solution to our crime problems is the "long-range" solution -- that we will remove the problems when we remove the heartless conditions which spawn criminals in our society.

They are absolutely right ... in part. In the long run we cannot have civil order without social justice, as I said again and again in the campaign.

But there is another serious factor we cannot overlook. Crime itself is rapidly becoming a barrier to ^{achieving} these long-range goals.

Crime is beginning to generate an ugly spirit in our communities ... a spirit which threatens to rend the fabric of society.

Criminals have to be apprehended, brought to timely trial, and if guilty, sent to jail. It's a hard, firm process calling for hard, firm decisions.

There can be no alternative to public safety. There can be no substitute. It is the heart -- indeed, it is the unspoken, unwritten, underlying premise of the social contract.

believes
if anyone ~~thinks~~ that
And let me tell some of my liberal friends, if they
believe ghetto dwellers think otherwise, then ~~that person~~
ought to *move*
they from their suburbs and semi-suburbs back into the
inner city, and learn first hand.

I am convinced the most under-represented Americans
today are the host of tolerant, hard-working, striving residents
of the inner city -- men and women who share your faith in
this nation.

They are people who want action too -- and they want it
now -- fast, because their need is much, much greater.

These men and women have been silenced by the louder
more frightening, more threatening voices around them.

Yet they are the prime victims of criminals in every city in
the land.

We need action, we need it desperately, and we need it now.

We need action from people who are most sensitive to the social and economic injustices which create the need for action in the first place.

We need action from people like you, people who come to the battle reluctantly -- without particular joy or mood of retribution.

I urge you to this work. The business community has taken leadership elsewhere. ~~The National Council on Crime~~

~~and Delinquency has organized conferences such as this, to~~

~~stimulate citizen participation.~~

Above all, I urge you into the inner city.

You have brethren there -- and many of us have not met them.

They know crime, believe me.

And they're as disturbed about it as we are.

But until now, they have been the victims of the policies of crime ... of conservatives who sometimes fail to separate people as people, one by one [^] of liberals who sometimes fail to consider ideas, one by one.

As we join ranks in this common struggle against crime, I believe we will also contribute to building the larger, single community to which this nation is still dedicated and on which the long-run survival of this nation depends.

We know that, as in business and professional life, the only lasting order is the dynamic of change.

And,
Mr.

this

in the end, is our only hope: that efforts by dedicated persons like yourselves, in conjunction with the efforts of the total community, can produce the changes which are so urgently needed.

The future of our cities -- and the future of this country -- are now at stake.

#



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