## REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS St. Paul, Minnesota

October 9, 1971

Almost 480 years ago an explorer of vision and determination stood on the deck of a small vessel scarred by the storms of an ocean crossing, and looked upon the beauty of unspoiled and richly promising islands in the Caribbean Sea. Through his eyes Europe took a hard look for the first time at a whole new world.

But fourteen centuries before Christopher Columbus discovered America, an unknown missionary, St. Paul, took a lonely voyage to foreign lands in the Mediterranean, to open the eyes of distant peoples to an entirely new world of religious faith. Through hastily written letters to the small congregations that he left behind, he struggled to nourish and strengthen this faith.

Christopher Columbus and St. Paul were both men of great vision and intense realism. Both men confronted overwhelming odds against the accomplishment of their goal. Columbus achieved fame and wealth but died alone and in poverty. Paul suffered abuse and imprisonment but established a faith that would transform lives throughout the world.

Columbus had a vision of a new route to the gold of "India," but in America he saw a new source of untapped wealth -- the opportunity for settlement and trade in a continent of seemingly limitless resources. And in establishing a claim upon this new world, he claimed it, not for exploitation but for development and opportunity, immediately establishing small outposts of settlers to work the land.

And so it was with Paul who communicated to the outposts of a new faith the necessity for sowing precious seed in an unploughed land by their conduct and their actions. Listen to his letter to the Christians in Galatia:

"Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men . . . " (Galatians 6:9-10)

These two themes -- the development of a great land of opportunity, and effective service to meet the needs of people -- come together in the celebration of Columbus Day by the Knights of Columbus of the Great St. Paul Metropolitan Area. Established some 90 years ago in New Haven, Connecticut, the fraternal order of the Knights of Columbus has had at the center of its oath the conscientious performance of the duties of an American citizen and the faithful practice of religion.

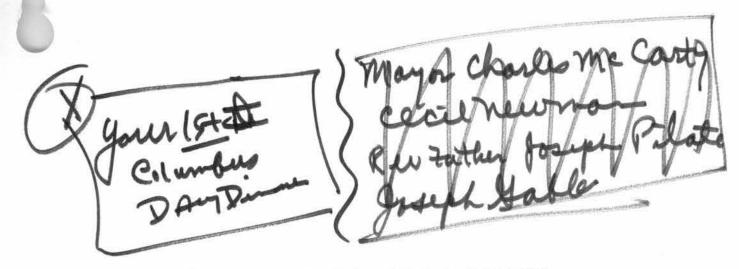
I challenge you today to pledge yourselves anew to the fulfillment of this oath. There is a tremendous task ahead of us in America. In a nation that is privately wealthy but that has become publicly poor, there is a desperate need for citizens who care about the needs of people. And it is essential that the private sector become totally involved in the development of better communities offering good housing at all incomelevels, a strong and vibrant business economy that expands job opportunities, and effective law enforcement that assures justice and the protection of citizens.

We want a nation moving ahead strongly, confidently, where the jobless have jobs, where the hungry have food, where the poor can live with dignity, where every child attends a decent school, where there is fair taxation, where brotherhood is practiced as well as preached, where health care is available for all, where pollution is a memory, and where the "system really does work."

Columbus discovered a new land of opportunity. Let us dedicate ourselves to the task of making America a great land

of hope and promise.

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS -- COLUMBUS DAY CELEBRATION

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