

REMARKS BY

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ~~MEETING~~ MEETING

ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENCES FOR

THE RETARDED OF MINNESOTA

RADISSON SOUTH

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

MAY 23, 1974

Dr ~~Foster~~ Lawson
- Dr Milton Bartsch
- Evelyn Carlson
Ross Craig
Skip Szejvic

It is a pleasure for me to join you this evening at the annual meeting of the Association of Residences for the Retarded in Minnesota. The cause to which you are devoted is one that is close to my heart, and I feel both kinship with you and admiration for your work.

Not many years ago, if a family had a retarded child, it was faced with nearly insurmountable problems -- economically, socially, and psychologically.

and there was limited knowledge about the retarded.

There were few facilities for their care, and most were either exorbitantly priced or were large institutions in which the retarded were hidden away without receiving the personal care or individualized attention they so very much needed.

↳ BUT NOW WE ARE BEGINNING TO EMERGE FROM THE DARK AGES. YOUR
EFFORTS HERE IN MINNESOTA, AND THE EFFORTS OF YOUR FELLOW WORKERS
IN OTHER STATES, HAVE MADE ^{possible} SELF RESPECT, SIGNIFICANT SELF-
SUPPORT, AND MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN THE LIFE OF OUR SOCIETY
~~POSSIBLE~~ FOR RETARDED PERSONS.

↳ TONIGHT, AS A RESULT, WE CAN CELEBRATE THE REMARKABLE GAINS
WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE FOR OUR RETARDED CITIZENS AND WE CAN HONOR
THE EXCEPTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ONE OF THE MANY PEOPLE WHO
HAVE MADE THESE ACHIEVEMENTS POSSIBLE, *Evelyn Carlson*.

↳ BUT OUR HAPPINESS WITH THE DISTANCE WE HAVE TRAVELED THIS
FAR CANNOT BLIND US TO THE GREAT WORK WHICH STILL NEEDS TO BE
DONE. MANY OF THE MOST VITAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN THE OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE TO THE RETARDED STILL LIE BEFORE US.

↳ THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THESE IS THE CHANGING OF PUBLIC
ATTITUDES -- THE FOSTERING OF THE REALIZATION AMONG THE PEOPLE
OF THIS COUNTRY THAT WE HAVE REACHED THE TIME WHEN IT IS
IMPORTANT TO START TALKING ABOUT WHAT RETARDED PERSONS CAN DO,
RATHER THAN CONTINUOUSLY EMPHASIZING THEIR LIMITATIONS.

↳ WE MUST CHANGE THE ATTITUDE OF HOPELESSNESS WHICH HAS
PREVAILED IN THE PAST. ↳ THIS IS THE ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE FOR
BRINGING THE RETARDED MORE FULLY INTO OUR COMMUNITIES, AND
GUARANTEEING TO THEM THE CHANCE TO ENHANCE AND UTILIZE THEIR
ABILITIES TO THE FULLEST.

L THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POSITIVE PUBLIC ATTITUDE TOWARD MENTAL
RETARDATION WOULD DO MUCH TO CREATE THE CLIMATE NECESSARY TO
BRING TO FULFILLMENT MANY OF THE PROGRAMS -- SUCH AS SMALL
RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES FOR THE RETARDED WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES --
WHICH NOW ARE BEGINNING. IT IS ~~VERY~~ ENCOURAGING, FOR
EXAMPLE, THAT ALL BUT ONE OF THE HEARINGS ON RE-ZONING TO ALLOW
RESIDENCES FOR THE RETARDED IN THE TWIN CITIES AREA RESULTED IN
THE REQUIRED ZONING CHANGE.

L THE TRANSFORMATION OF PUBLIC ATTITUDES ALSO WOULD DO MUCH
TO ELIMINATE THE TRAGEDY OF PREVENTABLE OR READILY REMEDIABLE
RETARDATION, WHERE IT IS DUE TO MALNUTRITION, REVERSIBLE PHYSICAL
MALADY, OR SIMPLY THE ABSENCE IN THE EARLIEST YEARS OF *life of*

~~WIC~~

an adequately stimulating environment \ It is not coincidence that

seventy-five percent of all the mental retardation ~~in this~~

~~country~~ is found in our poor neighborhoods, where basic health

care all too often is lacking.

\ The solution to many of these problems is beyond the

capacity of local resources, what is required is a "national

effort spearheaded by federal funding

\ The problems of mental retardation cannot be solved in

Washington. \ They can only be solved where the work actually is

being done. But the federal government can provide the funds

and supporting services necessary to make your efforts a

success.

THE SENATE ALREADY IS ACTING ON LEGISLATION WHICH PROVIDES
SOME OF THE PREREQUISITES FOR SUCCESSFUL PREVENTION AND
TREATMENT OF MENTAL RETARDATION -- THE EXTENSION AND EXPANSION
OF NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ^{WIC} THE CREATION OF
DIAGNOSTIC COMPONENTS IN THE VARIOUS PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMS, AND
THE PROVISION OF MAJOR NEW FUNDS FOR THE EDUCATION OF ALL
HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. / IN ADDITION, ~~soon~~ ^{soon} I WILL INTRODUCE ↗
LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE WAGE SUPPLEMENTS TO THE HANDICAPPED
WORKING IN SHELTERED WORKSHOPS AND IN WORK ACTIVITIES CENTERS.

It is interesting that many of the activities which we now consider to be such novel innovations in diagnosis and care of the mentally retarded, and which the present administration finds far too expensive for this country, are part of the Soviet Union's program of identification and treatment of the retarded.

The Soviet Union finds it practicable to examine children for signs of retardation at birth, and to have subsequent examinations thereafter to follow up any early signs of developmental disabilities. Where retardation is diagnosed, the child may be sent to a special school for the retarded, where particular attention is given to individual instruction and the provision of appropriate facilities and programs.

I cannot believe that this great country of ours lacks the funds necessary to ~~equal~~ ^{equal} or surpass such accomplishments.

AND I AM CERTAIN THAT EVEN A COUNTRY AS ~~WEALTHY~~ ^{wealthy} AS OURS CANNOT

AFFORD TO ALLOW THE ABILITIES AND PRODUCTIVE CAPACITIES OF OUR

^{handicapped or}
MILDLY AND MODERATELY RETARDED TO GO UNUTILIZED.

WE NEED TO CARRY THE MESSAGE TO THOSE OPPOSING ADDITIONAL
FUNDS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE RETARDED AND THE HANDICAPPED

THAT IT IS FAR MORE EXPENSIVE FOR SOCIETY TO FAIL TO PROVIDE

THE CARE THAT IS NEEDED. IT COSTS MORE TO INSTITUTIONALIZE ONE

RETARDED PERSON FOR LIFE THAN IT DOES TO PROVIDE RESIDENTIAL AND

TRAINING SUPPORT FOR THREE PEOPLE. AND THAT IS WITHOUT CONSIDERING

THE LOST PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF THOSE WHO ARE INSTITUTIONALIZED,

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS MESSAGE HAS NOT YET BEEN UNDERSTOOD BY
SOME OF THOSE WHO OUGHT TO KNOW. THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH
THE PRIORITIES OF THIS ~~ADMINISTRATION~~ ^{country} WHEN A PRESIDENTIAL VETO

COULD BE CAST LAST YEAR AGAINST BASIC LEGISLATION FOR EXTENSION

AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION ACT,

AND WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION'S BUDGET REQUESTS FOR EDUCATING

THE HANDICAPPED REMAIN RIDICULOUSLY LOW.

L OVER THE PAST YEARS CONGRESS HAS AUTHORIZED AS MUCH AS
\$486 MILLION FOR EDUCATING THE HANDICAPPED, BUT BUDGET REQUESTS

~~AND, UNFORTUNATELY, APPROPRIATIONS~~ HAVE NEVER EXCEEDED \$133 MILLION.

L LAST MONDAY THE SENATE ONCE AGAIN -- IN ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT
with mathematics 7md.
WHICH I JOINTLY SPONSORED -- ASSERTED THE NEED FOR A MASSIVE

INCREASE IN AID TO THE HANDICAPPED, THIS TIME BY AUTHORIZING AN

EMERGENCY ONE-YEAR GRANT TO THE STATES OF \$632 MILLION FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE HANDICAPPED.

L I AM URGING THE HOUSE AND SENATE CONFEREES ON THE EDUCATION
BILL TO RETAIN THIS URGENT MEASURE IN THE FINAL BILL.

↳ DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN 36 COURT CASES
IN 24 STATES ON EDUCATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED.

↳ IN ~~THESE~~ ^{the} CASES WHICH HAVE BEEN DECIDED, DECISIONS HAVE BEEN
RENDERED ~~AGAINST THE STATES AND~~ IN FAVOR OF ~~THE STATES~~ ^{equal Educational}
opportunity for the Handicapped.
↳ HOPE THAT THIS SITUATION WILL PROVIDE SOME INCENTIVE

TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND ^{the Congress} ~~TO THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES~~ TO
ACCEPT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO PROVIDE THE EDUCATION FOR THE

HANDICAPPED WHICH THEY REQUIRE *and deserve*

↳ WHILE WE URGENTLY NEED THIS EMERGENCY MEASURE, WE ALSO
NEED A CONTINUOUS EFFORT.

↳ A LONG-RANGE, COMPREHENSIVE BILL FOR EDUCATION OF THE
HANDICAPPED (S.6), OF WHICH I AM A CO-SPONSOR, HAS BEEN BEFORE
THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE HANDICAPPED FOR SOME TIME.

I can tell you tonight that the

~~I HOPE THAT THE~~ SUBCOMMITTEE WILL NOW TAKE RAPID ACTION

ON THIS COMPREHENSIVE BILL.

L THE LONG-RANGE, WELL-PLANNED EFFORT WE NEED CANNOT BE

SUCCESSFULLY INAUGURATED UNLESS THOSE RECEIVING EMERGENCY FUNDS

ARE CERTAIN THAT THEIR PROGRAMS WILL NOT HAVE TO BE DROPPED WITH

THE EXPIRATION OF THE EMERGENCY MEASURE.

L **TWO** MAJOR BILLS ALSO HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED RECENTLY DEALING

SPECIFICALLY WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED.

L THE HOUSE BILL IS BEFORE THE FULL COMMITTEE THIS WEEK. THE SENATE

BILL, (S.3378), OF WHICH I AM A CO-SPONSOR, PRESENTLY IS BEFORE

THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE HANDICAPPED.

L THE BILL BEFORE THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE INCLUDES SOME MAJOR

REFORMS IN PROGRAMS FOR FEDERAL AID FOR THE RETARDED:

-- IT ESTABLISHES MINIMUM OPERATING STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL
FACILITIES FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED, AND IT FURTHER AUTHORIZES
FUNDS TO BRING PUBLICLY OPERATED AND SUPPORTED FACILITIES INTO
COMPLIANCE WITH THESE MINIMUM STANDARDS.

-- IT REQUIRES THAT STATES SUBMIT PLANS WHICH MEET FEDERAL
STANDARDS, AND THAT EACH STATE MAINTAIN AT LEAST ITS CURRENT LEVEL
OF NON-FEDERAL EXPENDITURES ANY RESIDENTIAL FACILITY WHICH
FAILS TO ACHIEVE THE MINIMAL STANDARDS FOR SUCH FACILITIES FIVE
YEARS AFTER THE ENACTMENT OF THIS LEGISLATION WILL NOT RECEIVE
FEDERAL AID.

-- IT CREATES A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY
DISABLED, SPELLING OUT STANDARDS WHICH MUST BE MET IN THEIR
CARE.

4 -- IT SETS STANDARDS FOR MORE EFFECTIVE DIAGNOSIS AND
SCREENING FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED, IN AN EFFORT TO
ELIMINATE INAPPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATIONS AND INSTITUTIONALIZATIONS.

4 -- IT ESTABLISHES A COORDINATING AND PLANNING MECHANISM
AT THE NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS, IN AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE A
CONTINUOUS FLOW OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE BETWEEN STATE
AND NATIONAL AGENCIES.

4 THE ENACTMENT OF THE SENATE BILL WILL BE A STEP IN THE
DIRECTION OF RESOLVING MANY OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE PLAGUED
CARE FOR THE RETARDED IN GENERAL AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY
RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES SPECIFICALLY.

↳ NON-PROFIT GROUPS ATTEMPTING TO OPEN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

FOR THE RETARDED OFTEN HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OVERCOME THE INITIAL

OBSTACLES OF CONSTRUCTION OR PURCHASE, START-UP COSTS FOR THE

FIRST MONTHS OF OPERATION, AND OBTAINING OF ADEQUATE SKILLED

STAFF. IF THEY WERE ABLE TO OVERCOME THESE INITIAL BARRIERS,

THEY HAVE FACED A LACK OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ~~OTHER~~ ^{THEIR}

RESIDENTS BEYOND THE MOST MENIAL LEVEL, AND THE ALMOST TOTAL

ABSENCE OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITY SERVICES.

↳ THE COORDINATED EFFORT AND UNIFORM STANDARDS ~~PROVIDED FOR~~

IN THE SENATE BILL WOULD PROVIDE THE KIND OF SUPPORT AND

^{that} INFORMATION COMMUNITY RESIDENCES HAVE SO BADLY NEEDED.

↳ SUCH A PROGRAM WILL ALSO ENCOURAGE THE EXPANSION OF STATE

PROGRAMS LIKE THE ONE DEVELOPING HERE IN MINNESOTA.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE PLANNING CAPACITY, HOWEVER
RUDIMENTARY, FOR LINKING TOGETHER THE EFFORTS OF RESIDENTIAL
FACILITIES AND STATE INSTITUTIONS ON A REGIONAL BASIS ~~DECIDEDLY~~
DECIDEDLY
IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE
MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF STATE INSTITUTIONS AND RESIDENTIAL
FACILITIES.

WE NOW CAN CLEARLY LOOK FORWARD TO A TIME WHEN OUR ISLANDS
OF SUCCESS NO LONGER WILL BE OVERSHADOWED BY THE STORIES OF
HUMAN MISERY EMANATING FROM WILLOWBROOK, FROM ROSEWOOD, AND FROM
MANY OTHER RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY,

THE MEDIA HAVE HELPED TO UNCOVER THESE SCANDALS; SO HAVE
THE NUMEROUS LAWSUITS. AS ~~ENLIGHTENED~~ ^{new} STANDARDS ARE ENFORCED,

AS NEW ALTERNATIVES ARE PROVIDED, THE ~~DARK BACK WARDS~~
ILL-EQUIPPED AND SHODDILY OPERATED ^{facilities} ~~OF SUCH PLACES~~ WILL BECOME
DIMLY REMEMBERED NIGHTMARES OF THE PAST.

TONIGHT, AS WE REMEMBER THE PAST AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE
OPPORTUNITIES OF THE FUTURE, IT IS FITTING THAT WE HONOR A

REMARKABLE WOMAN WHO HAS BEEN A PIONEER IN OPENING THE FUTURE
FOR US -- MISS EVELYN CARLSON,

Hammer

MISS CARLSON HAS BEEN DIRECTOR AND TEACHER AT THE HAMMER
SCHOOL FOR OVER FORTY YEARS. SHE WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF

THE MINNEAPOLIS ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN, AND A MAJOR
INFLUENCE IN THE FOUNDING OF THE DAY ACTIVITY CENTER COUNCIL OF
HENNEPIN COUNTY.

SHE HAS BEEN A COMBINATION TEACHER, COUNSELOR, ADMINISTRATOR,
FUND RAISER, PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST AND POLITICIAN.

IN ALL OF ~~OUR~~ ^{HER} GROUND-BREAKING WORK, IN ALL HER ACTIVITIES
WITH COMMITTEES AND PLANNING GROUPS, AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY
IN HER WORK WITH THE CHILDREN OF HAMMER SCHOOL, EVELYN CARLSON

HAS DISPLAYED THE DEDICATION AND THE WARM PERSONAL TOUCH WHICH
HAVE ENABLED HER TO ACHIEVE SO MUCH FOR THE RETARDED, AND WHICH

HAVE WON HER THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT OF ALL THOSE WHO HAVE

COME IN CONTACT WITH HER.

EVELYN CARLSON NOW HAS RETIRED AS THE DIRECTOR OF HAMMER
SCHOOL. BUT SHE IS NOT THE KIND OF PERSON WHO RETIRES.

SHE ~~STILL~~ ^{STILL} WILL BE ADVISING THOSE WHO ARE CONTINUING HER

WORK. SHE WILL BE CONTINUING TO DO ALL IN HER POWER TO INSURE

QUALITY SERVICES FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED IN RESIDENTIAL

FACILITIES AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS,

SHE IS A PERSON WHO CONTINUES TO EARN IN RETIREMENT THE

HONOR WE PAY HER TONIGHT.

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