

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

44th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

SUPREME SONS OF NORWAY

Alexandria, Minnesota
August 28, 1976

I am deeply honored to have been asked to visit with the many delegates to this 44th convention of the International Sons of Norway. My long and fruitful association with this organization is a matter of great pride. I have a feeling of kinship and brotherhood with all of you.

It's doubly good to be able to welcome you to our beautiful State of Minnesota. I know I speak for the next Vice President of the United States -- that great Norwegian Democrat Fritz Mondale -- in extending a hearty welcome!

In this Bicentennial year, Americans of every heritage celebrate the unique history which is ours as Americans. This is a very special birthday. It is the 200th anniversary of our system of government -- the greatest force for freedom in the history of civilization. It is a time for celebration, and a time for reflection -- on what we have become and what we want to be.

What we have become has been a measure of our willingness to work together -- peoples from every part of the globe, united in the spirit of freedom of mankind and the belief that free men and women can govern themselves.

Some three million Americans today look to Norway as their homeland. The mutuality of our two histories is easily recognizable in the tapestry we call the United States. Threads of varying colors and textures, each one separate, achieve a greater fullness because of the presence of the others.

America truly is a land of immigrants. Almost every nation on earth has given of her people, and with them, part of her culture and character. But no nation has given more of herself and of her heritage than Norway.

No nation has added more strength to the fabric of our democratic society, none has blessed our land with more enlightenment, sense of purpose, or commitment to the ideals of a free and just nation.

Almost one year ago, on October 9, we celebrated the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the RESTAURATIONEN, bringing the first organized group of settlers to make America their new home.

With the presence of His Majesty King Olav V we commemorated the contributions made by Norwegian-Americans in every aspect of American life. And we pledged to continue the strong bond between our peoples and between our governments.

As I look to what America will become in the next 100 years, I call on you to maintain the efforts you have made to make America what it should be.

Much remains to be done.

We are the richest nation on earth, yet many of our people continue to suffer the pain of poverty and the humiliation of unemployment.

-- We have great medical technologies -- yet millions of Americans still do not have access to decent health care at a cost they can afford.

-- There are Americans who don't have a decent home, who suffer from emotional disease and alienation, and who labor under serious physical handicaps which prevent their full participation in American life.

Solutions to these problems will require the best that is in us.

We must look to our heritage as something not just to be pulled out and praised on anniversaries, but as a strength and spirit that can make our nation -- indeed, the international community of nations -- strong and free and happy.

Your efforts have shown us the way in so many areas of American life. I challenge you to continue this work, knowing that the choices you make can affect the course of the future for Americans of every heritage.

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Paul Dychkowski (Arden)

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44TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
SUPREME SONS OF NORWAY

ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA

AUGUST 28, 1976

- President - TOR DAHL - Sons of Norway founder
- Supreme
- Fred - Sons of Norway
Roy Eide
- Ralph Duran

I AM DEEPLY HONORED TO HAVE BEEN ASKED TO VISIT WITH THE
MANY DELEGATES TO THIS 44TH CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SONS
OF NORWAY. MY LONG AND FRUITFUL ASSOCIATION WITH THIS ORGANIZATION
IS A MATTER OF GREAT PRIDE. I HAVE A FEELING OF KINSHIP AND
BROTHERHOOD WITH ALL OF YOU.

"Ski for Light" Project

IT'S DOUBLY GOOD TO BE ABLE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR BEAUTIFUL
STATE OF MINNESOTA. I KNOW I SPEAK FOR THE NEXT VICE PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES -- THAT GREAT NORWEGIAN DEMOCRAT FRITZ MONDALE --
IN EXTENDING A HEARTY WELCOME:

Group of Norway Foundation

(1) "Ski for Light" Feb 1976

*(2) B. centennial gift "Vandland Center"
white house conference
Crown Prince Harald present check
12 mill. on kroner to Pres. Ford. Funds to
Plan Project & raise funds for Development*

(3) Sono of Norway Foundation initiated Project
for Exchange of Physically Disabled children
Norway + U.S. - Camp Haraldsvangen
Camp Norway -

IN THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR, AMERICANS OF EVERY HERITAGE
CELEBRATE THE UNIQUE HISTORY WHICH IS OURS AS AMERICANS. THIS IS A
VERY SPECIAL BIRTHDAY. IT IS THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR SYSTEM OF
GOVERNMENT -- THE GREATEST FORCE FOR FREEDOM IN THE HISTORY OF
CIVILIZATION. IT IS A TIME FOR CELEBRATION, AND A TIME FOR
REFLECTION -- ON WHAT WE HAVE BECOME AND WHAT WE WANT TO BE.

150 nations, 30 can be called Democracies.

WHAT WE HAVE BECOME HAS BEEN A MEASURE OF OUR WILLINGNESS
TO WORK TOGETHER -- PEOPLES FROM EVERY PART OF THE GLOBE, UNITED
IN THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM OF ~~HUMANITY~~ AND THE BELIEF THAT FREE ~~MAN~~
people CAN GOVERN THEMSELVES.

Being tested

200 yrs History, - Pioneer
- Optimism
- Tolerance

We The
People

Norwegian Characteristics of Adventure
Courage, Tenacity, Work, & Faith

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homeland. The mutuality of our two histories is easily recognizable
in the tapestry we call the United States. Threads of varying
colors and textures, each one separate, achieve a greater
fullness because of the presence of the others.

America truly is a land of immigrants. Almost every nation
on earth has given of her people, and with them, part of her
culture and character. But no nation has given more of herself
and of her heritage than Norway.

Norway has
~~THE NATION~~ ~~HAS~~ ~~ADDED~~ ~~THE~~ STRENGTH TO THE FABRIC OF OUR

DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY; ~~WE~~ BLESSED OUR LAND WITH ~~THE~~

ENLIGHTENMENT, SENSE OF PURPOSE, *and a* ~~THE~~ COMMITMENT TO THE IDEALS

OF A FREE AND JUST NATION.

Jesper Stavanger
July 4, 1975

L ALMOST ONE YEAR AGO, ON OCTOBER 9, WE CELEBRATED THE 150TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE RESTAURATIONEN, BRINGING THE
FIRST ORGANIZED GROUP OF SETTLERS TO MAKE AMERICA THEIR NEW HOME.

L WITH THE PRESENCE OF HIS MAJESTY KING OLAV V, WE COMMEMORATED THE
CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY NORWEGIAN-AMERICANS IN EVERY ASPECT OF
AMERICAN LIFE L AND WE PLEDGED TO CONTINUE THE STRONG BOND BETWEEN
OUR PEOPLES AND BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS.

Bicentennial Past & future

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↳ AS I LOOK TO WHAT AMERICA WILL BECOME IN THE NEXT 100 YEARS,

I CALL ON YOU TO MAINTAIN THE EFFORTS YOU HAVE MADE TO MAKE

AMERICA WHAT IT SHOULD BE.

↳ MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE.

↳ WE ARE THE RICHEST NATION ON EARTH, YET MANY OF OUR PEOPLE
CONTINUE TO SUFFER THE PAIN OF POVERTY AND THE HUMILIATION OF
UNEMPLOYMENT.

↳ -- WE HAVE GREAT MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES -- YET MILLIONS
OF AMERICANS STILL DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO DECENT HEALTH CARE
AT A COST THEY CAN AFFORD.

↳ We produce vast quantities
of food, yet malnourished

↳ We are the most advanced in Science
& Technology. Yet endanger our environment

*1 We offer more opportunity, Education
than any other nation, yet Crime, +
Unemployment —*
and

-- THERE ARE AMERICANS WHO DON'T HAVE A DECENT HOME, WHO
SUFFER FROM EMOTIONAL DISEASE AND ALIENATION, AND WHO LABOR
UNDER SERIOUS PHYSICAL HANDICAPS WHICH PREVENT THEIR FULL
PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN LIFE.

SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS WILL REQUIRE THE BEST THAT IS
IN US. *But, we can do better*

WE MUST LOOK TO OUR HERITAGE AS SOMETHING NOT JUST TO BE
PULLED OUT AND PRAISED ON ANNIVERSARIES, BUT AS A ^{*source of*} STRENGTH AND SPIRIT
THAT CAN MAKE OUR NATION -- INDEED, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
OF NATIONS -- STRONG AND FREE AND HAPPY.

YOUR EFFORTS HAVE SHOWN US THE WAY IN SO MANY AREAS OF
AMERICAN LIFE. I CHALLENGE YOU TO CONTINUE THIS WORK, KNOWING
THAT THE CHOICES YOU MAKE CAN AFFECT THE COURSE OF THE FUTURE
FOR AMERICANS OF EVERY HERITAGE.

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