You know and I know that there is much that is good in this country.

You know and I know that Thomas Wolfe spoke the truth when he wrote of America: "It is a fabulous country, the only fabulous country; it is the only place where miracles not only happen, but where they happen all the time."

Perhaps some of the "miracles" are spontaneous, or inspired from above, but many of them -- I like to think -- are wrought day by day by people who live by the American Commitment.

Some months before he left the office of Secretary of Mealth, Education and Welfare, John Gardner offered this definition of the American Commitment:

"I believe," he said, "that when we are being most true to ourselves as Americans we are seeking a society in which every young person has the opportunity to grow to his full stature; a society in which every older person can live out his years in dignity; a society in which no one is irreparably damaged by circumstances that can be prevented ... The release of human potential, the enhancement of individual dignity, the liberation of the human spirit -- these are the deepest and truest goals to be conceived by the hearts and the minds of the American people. And these are the ideas that can sustain and strengthen a great civilization."

add this

The last is crucial.

But how do we achieve national unanimity for any purpose at a time when, as John Gardner said: "All groups in our national life seem caught up in mutual recriminations -- Negro and white, rich and poor, conservative and liberal, hawk and dove, Democrat and Republican, labor and management, young and old."

We can only do it by emphasizing the things that bind us together -- not the things that drive us apart. And there is a great deal more binding us together than tearing us apart -- despite what the desciples of disquietude are preaching.

This thought brings me to my final point. Which of the three candidates for the nomination would best serve to heal and unify -- not only our beloved party -- but our beloved nations?

In this time of divisiveness, of strife and stridency and unrestrained passion, when bitterness and hatred threaten to tear apart our entire social fabric, Mubert Humphrey stands out as a man who hates only hatred, a man singularly free of bitterness, a man singularly committed to party levelty and unity of purpose.

Beyond that, he is a truly happy man. And for those who choose to believe that happiness connotes unconcern, I say once more ... look at the record.

And consider, please, that the "highest happiness," as John Buchan wrote, "is the sense of competence."

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