

1946?
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speeches

REMARKS AT THE WHIRLWIND CLUB
Andrews Hotel
Saturday, January 12

Wt *Revised*
correct

If Minneapolis is to realize the possibilities and potentialities of its future, all of us must have the imagination to visualize the development and growth of this city in the next decade.

We must have a civic consciousness and a sense of civic pride that not only causes us to state in terms of praise the many wonderful attributes of our community but also we must be willing to acknowledge our limitations and courageously develop a program of city redevelopment that will remove from us those conditions which retard the realization of a beautiful and prosperous city.

We have had those amongst us who would always criticize. It is time now that we recruited those who would build and create and those who will tell of the greatness of our people and our city. Here are a few facts that all of us need to know:

Minneapolis is the greatest city between Chicago and the West Coast. We are the 17th largest city in the United States. We stand as the gateway to the great Northwest - rich in resources relatively undeveloped and an area that puts forth a welcoming hand to the thousands of people who desire conditions of good home life, profitable employment, and business opportunity. Minneapolis is fast becoming a major industrial area. We have earned the recognition of one of the out-standing medical centers of the world. We are the home of one of the greatest universities in the world. We

proudly claim such great cultural and recreational organizations and institutions as the Mpls. Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Institute of Arts, the Walker Art Gallery, and many professional and cultural societies. Yes, we are proud of our school system which today under the able administration of an out-standing educator, Mr. Goslin, is becoming one of the most modern and democratic school systems in America. We look with pride upon our financial institutions, our labor movement, our organizations of social service, and human welfare. We have been in the lead in the new field of air transportation. Our air port stands today as one of the better ones and in the years to come will be one of the finest and largest to be found in any city. We are situated along the Mississippi and are just now beginning to appreciate the possibilities of water transportation, hydro-electric power, and all that comes with the harnessing of a river valley. Yet our greatest asset rests not in our institutions or organizations or business community but rather our greatest asset is in our people. We proudly recognize that in this city we have over 50 different races, creeds, and nationalities living in peace and cooperation. We point with justifiable pride to our war production record during World War II when not a single day of work stoppage took place. We are even more proud of the present pattern of labor-management relations wherein Minneapolis stands out as one of the great cities that is not the scene of strikes and lock-outs.

The people of Minneapolis are men and women who have dedicated their lives to the building of a better community. They sense the importance of planning today for the brighter tomorrow. Such a spirit motivated by the desire of doing their part in making this a better world to live in cannot help but yield positive and definite results.

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Humphrey Speech file

[1940?]

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A day that veterans come back to Mpls with
real ideas about govt. & how they want to live

Housing — Slums — Public Housing
Too close to slums

Dem begins in the local community

Nature of city govt. — Never voted for
collection of laws passed by state leg. over period
of 47 yrs. & lumped together in the year 1920.
This loose collection of statutes + a few amend.
is now the charter or constt. of Mpls. It is
a complicated & confused document many times
as long as the Am. constt. It is a document
which like Topsy in the story of Uncle Tom's
cabin has just grown without plan, without form
& most important without consid. of the wishes &
needs of people of Mpls. It shifts the
shift of responsibility from one branch of our
govt to another.

Mayor Council Form of govt —
Council of 26 members rep. 13 wards. This is
the leg. body of the city. But it is also the
ad. body. It appoints many of the important

city officials such as the City Engineer Public Relief Ad.
City Attorney & others. It makes app. & supervisor
such dept. So it is both a leg. & an
executive body

Second feature is bde & comm. which
ad. functions as public welfare, taxation & assessment,
library & public Parks

Mayor's office — executive — controls
Police Dept. ^{contains appointments as civil service}
Commission, ^{some of the} b.d. of public welfare —
Mayor's real job & chance for accomplishment
is as leader of various civic enterprises.

Blighted & substandard living areas

Traffic Problem

Overall community redevelopment — the
undertaking of many needed public constr. projects
& the encouragement of private capital to assist
in large scale business & residential constr.

Mpls needs a municipal housing authority,
many people can't pay rents to support private
constr.

Why has mpls. not escaped the dislocations seen in most industrial areas of the U.S. City has grown too quickly without plan & too little attention to planning

Mpls. assets

(1) People - intell., well ed., 1,000's of skilled labor - good schools

(2) ~~Great~~ ~~banker~~ Financial center of N.W.

Also flour, steel, machine tool & other industries
Crosby Co. -

(3) Location in Miss. valley - rich ag. area.
Good location for river, air, & rail, & truck transport

(4) Natural resources of forests, magnesium & wood most important now

(5) Lakes & parks & beauty within the city

Mpls. potentially a city of great commerce & ind. & of int. wealth & prosperity. So in near mpls. have physical resources, skills, & type of people to make Mpls. city of future.

Mpls. City Planning Commission

Business = Fint. rate equality, efford transportation facilities, upper labor project for adequate industrial areas

Financial structure
\$50,000,000 bonded indebtedness & demand for increasing community services

Challenge for efficient govt well stated by Franklin Roosevelt "The modern day statesman realizes now more than ever before that if govt is to be able to meet its appointed tasks it must be more practical, more efficient, & more responsive to needs. Simple honesty in the carrying out of plans & policies is not enough. So far as govt is concerned with any social or ec. planning success can be & will be impeded if we do not put in order our govt org for this duty"



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