FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
From the Office of
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
Dyckman Hotel, Minneapolis

EISENHOWER MUST TAKE STAND AGAINST COLLEGE QUOTA SYSTEMS, SEN. HUMPHREY SAYS

"Civil rights needs and scientific education needs overlap in the practice of college quota system discrimination," Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) declared today (Sat. 11-23) at a luncheon meeting of science and political leaders in St. Paul.

"Again, just as in the early phases of the Little Rock crisis, the full force and power of White House prestige should be used to break down quota-system discrimination which is still practiced by some colleges, universities, and technical schools," Humphrey said.

"Today's science manpower crisis plus today's forward movement in civil rights presents the White House a two-fold challenge which can be met by the use of the prestige of the office of the President, to break, once and for all time, the hidden quota system which has greatly contributed toward thwarting the development of American science manpower.

"The practice of admitting only a certain number of students of minority racial and religious groups to institutions of higher learning is just as subversive to the cause of national scientific development as prohibiting men of science to work freely toward atomic, rocket, missile and medical advancement, "the Senator said.

"Dr. Jonas Salk, Admiral Rickover, and George Washington Carver are shining exceptions, but through the insidious work of the quota system, they are not the rule. The simple fact of the matter is that many qualified students of minority groups in some instances have not been able to get into schools dedicated to science.

"It is to this end that I propose that the White House utilize its immense implicit power for good by using White House prestige to break down such wasteful discrimination at this time of scientific crisis, "Sen. Humphrey asserted.

From the Office of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey Dyckman Hotel, Minneapolis

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DEMOCRATS MUST 'PREPARE FOR ASSUMING MANTLE OF LEADERSHIP' -HUMPHREY SAYS

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Democrats throughout the nation "face the sobering responsibility

of preparing to assume the mantle of leadership", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

(D., Minn.) declared last night in an address before a DFL Humphrey-Freeman

Appreciation Dinner at the St. Paul Hotel.

L'It is becoming increaslingly evident that the burdens and responsibilities of guiding the nation's destiny may well pass into Democratic hands in 1960.

'As American citizens as well as political partisans, we must face the sobering responsibility of making sure we are adequately prepared to assume that mantle of leadership.

"It is not enough to be critical of the weaknesses and failures of existing leadership. It is not enough to decry the collapse of our prestige abroad, and the wavering of confidence in our economy at home, as necessary as it may be to alert the American people to the dangerous price we are paying for our failures.

"We must start asserting positive leadership ourselves, and come forward with constructive alternatives to counteract the drift and indecision hamstringing our national leadership today. We must assert a constructive influence in our society, in every walk of life, as good citizens and as patriotic Americans. And we must adequately prepare ourselves for assuming even greater burdens of responsibility in the years ahead.

"If we are to be true to ourselves and the political party in which we believe, we must dedicate our lives to winning more than elections -- we must dedicate our lives, our energies, and, yes, our fortunes, to winning for our country the all-out struggle which we face for the survival of freedom, "Senator Humphrey declared.

Commending the DFL for "showing it accepts the responsibilities of good citizenship" through such constructive activities as sponsoring the non-partisan conference on Science and National Policy held earlier in the day, Senator Humphrey added that "the nation must look beyond immediately urgent mobilization of scientific resources to longer-range improvement of our entire educational system."

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"More serious even than our lagging behind the Soviet in the conquest of space is our lagging behind the U. S. S. R. in educational opportunities for your young people," he declared.

"One hundred and fifty thousand students out of the top echelon of their classes in high school did not go on to study in college this year -- just because of a lack of means to pay for college.

"How many of those who did not go to college ten years ago for that same reason, would now be available to help our country in its desperate shortage of scientists and engineers -- had they had the chance?

"Every time a gifted young man or woman fails to go on to college, or has to drop out of college because of a lack of financial support, we lose part of the battle in the cold war. For in this total struggle between ways of life, we must engage the enemy in depth -- and on every front. We must have reserves, not just in uniform, but in our laboratories, in our classrooms, and in our hospitals. We must look far into the future.

"Americans have been shocked by Sputniks in the sky -- but they should be even more shocked by learning that the number of college graduates with math preparation declined 37.4% in the United States in the last seven years, and the number of college graduates with science preparation declined 44.5%.

"We need to look long and carefully about what is happening in our educational system, and wake up to what needs to be done.

"We need a broad program of national scholarships, to permit us to make better use of the bright young men and women now deprived of an opportunity for higher education.

"We need low-cost loan programs permitting young people to obtain higher education, and pay for it out of their improved economic status in the years ahead -- with repayment credits granted those who devote part of their lives to teaching others.

"We need income tax credits to families depleting their savings to send their children through college.

"We need greater incentives for teachers. We need to modernize our textbooks, many of which are completely outdated in this era of space conquest. We need to expand and improve our school and college building facilities, and provide better equipped laboratories.

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"But most of all, we need to change our national viewpoint toward intellectuals -- and give the scholars and thinkers, the teachers and the scientists, the recognition of importance in our society that they deserve."

"The greatest service that we in the DFL can offer our country in this hour, both as citizens and responsible political partisans, is to help mobilize public opinion toward meeting this challenge of vastly improving the educational opportunities we offer our young and our gifted, "Senator Humphrey declared.

Senator Humphrey revealed that many of the goals he had enumerated for greater emphasis on higher education were provided for in legislation he had introduced in the last session of Congress as a "Youth Opportunity Program".

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