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Excerpts of Address Prepared for Delivery
by the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.)
at the Hotel Radisson, Minneapolis
Evening of August 17, 6:30 p.m.
Before "Kickoff Rally,
Sister Elizabeth Kenny Foundation

SENATOR HUMPHREY URGES PREMIER KHRUSHCHEV SUPPORT
"SOVIET-AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR HEALTH"

A banquet which is a "kick-off" for a great fund-raising drive always brings to mind the traditional "kickoff" in a football game.

Both types of "kick-offs" start with a great hush, and then cheers.

But in this instance, there is no opposing team blocking your way. The whole crowd is with you in spirit. And, in certainty, you are going to march down the field for a financial touch-down!

To each and every one of you who is here tonight, let me say: - the people of our region look to every one of you as "Quarterback ball-carriers" who are going to bring this campaign to a complete success.

In the hearts of the people of our area, there is already a particularly deep admiration for the inspiring record which has been achieved by the Elizabeth Kenny Foundation.

I would like to talk to you tonight about this record and about some of the parallel interests of our Senate Subcommittee, conducting the International Health Study, of which you have heard.

A SPECIAL PURPOSE AND A SPECIAL DRIVE

First, however, let me submit to you County Chairman, and other members of the Foundation team, that you are truly called "unto a special purpose" at this time.

This is no ordinary year and no ordinary drive.

It is not simply that polio, as such, is unfortunately once again on the march inflicting tremendous damage, particularly on the young!

It is not simply that the American people are fortunately becoming increasingly aware of the vast ~~variety~~ variety of other crippling disabilities which arise from diseases

of the brain; diseases of the spinal cord or nerves, as well as from arthritis, fractures - amputations and diseases of the muscles.

Nor is it that currently, there are so many appeals from so many other sources.

Rather, it is for all these reasons and more that your particular drive is of special importance.

OUR NEED FOR SKILLS OF THE HANDICAPPED

For Today, this country of ours is short of skills, especially in certain key areas of activity, like engineering. The greatest "pool" of UNUSED skills in America is composed of our handicapped citizens.

Our capitalizing on the talents of the disabled - young and old - can truly represent the difference between America finding or not finding adequate skills for the great scientific, industrial and agricultural challenge which now confronts us.

Today, too, more than ever before, the eyes of the world are on the American people and on how we treat our disabled citizens.

In a little less than a month, the Premier of the Soviet Union is going to visit our country.

I am going to talk a little later on about that visit and what might come from it. For the moment, let me say simply this: The Soviet Union has, as you are well aware, a system of state medicine, that is, socialized medicine. There is no concept there of our type of independent, private, voluntary activity.

Yet, people in the Soviet Union have benefitted directly and indirectly from the pioneering work of Elizabeth Kenny and of the Sister Elizabeth Kenny Foundation. Elizabeth Kenny herself went behind the Iron Curtain in 1948 to help cope with a polio epidemic.

Unfortunately, her example of creative individualism, now symbolized by the superb facilities of the Elizabeth Kenny Institute, could not exist, as such, in the U.S.S.R. itself.

But the example which you set, is and can be an eye-opener and an inspiration to the world. Even in free countries, there are relatively few institutions which can match the magnificent facilities which you serve in the drive which starts tonight.

SENATE STUDY HAS RECEIVED PRAISE OF FOUNDATION

During the year in which we have carried on the Senate's International Health Study, there have been countless instances in which the noble name of the Elizabeth Kenny Foundation has come to our attention throughout the world.

In personal conversations last November and December in Europe, - in letters from Europe, Latin America and elsewhere, the good deeds of the Foundation have been reported to us.

In addition, our Subcommittee has been in contact with physicians and rehabilitation leaders throughout the 50 States of the Union. Time after time, reference has been received as to the work of the Foundation. And always it has rightly been a reference of pride, of praise and of tribute.

MINNESOTA LEADERSHIP IN FOUNDATION

The fact too, is that so closely has the State of Minnesota become intertwined in the history of the Foundation that the name of Minnesota physicians, in particular, has repeatedly come up in such correspondence and discussion from all over the Nation.

I would not want in any way to under estimate the expert services of health officials, doctors and laymen of other States who have served with and in the Foundation. Let me, however, with pride which I know you will understand say this brief word of well-deserved tribute to men like: National Executive Director, Marvin Kline; to Dr. Paul Elwood, Medical Administrator of the Elizabeth Kenny Institute; to Dr. Frank H. Krusen, Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Mayo Clinic; Dr. Frederick J. Kottke, Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University of Minnesota; Dr. Miland E. Knapp, Director of Rehabilitation, Elizabeth Kenny Institute; Dr. E. J. Huenekens, Chief of Staff of the Institute; Dr. Gaylord W. Anderson; Dr. Wallace H. Cole and others too numerous to mention.

HOW YOUR WORK AND SENATE'S WORK INTER-TWINE

But now let me tell you about the specific parallel interests of the Senate Health Study and the Elizabeth Kenny Foundation. Last month, our Subcommittee held Hearings in Washington at which distinguished medical experts testified. One of the first statements which we heard came from Dr. Albert Sabin of Cincinnati concerning the trial of oral vaccine against poliomyelitis. This represents an important milestone and one to which the Foundation has made a particular contribution.

Similarly, we heard testimony on the subject of epilepsy, which afflicts one and one-half million individuals throughout our country. Here, again, by its relentless and diverse work in neurology, your Foundation has contributed immeasurably. In its work on Parkinson's and related diseases, you have helped achieve better understanding of how the brain and central nervous system function and what steps can be taken in the event of damage.

Similarly, the Kenny Foundation has been concerned with coping with the results of birth injuries and congenital disorders. In this connection, let me mention that one of the very first types of institutions which I visited in Europe was a neo-natal clinic at the Maternity Hospital in Paris. There, and elsewhere, I discussed with medical leaders the problem of preventing and minimizing birth damage. That means helping to assure the greatest possible health for expectant mothers, the best possible health for the fetus as it develops, as well as for the infant during that crucial time, when he or she first appears in the world.

And I could cite other examples of the parallel interests of the Foundation and our Senate Health Study. In fact, one of the future publications to be released by our Subcommittee will concern this vital subject of rehabilitation itself throughout the world.

A Section of that publication will be devoted to the great international efforts of this Foundation, particularly in its training services for Latin American and other physicians.

For while the Foundation primarily contributes to well-being in America itself, it has generously contributed to the world pool of knowledge as well.

IMPORTANCE OF TEAM CONCEPT.

It is natural that our Subcommittee should find widespread evidences of the work of the Foundation abroad. Why? Because the enlightened modern concept which guides the Foundation is, we find, one of the most important single concepts which the U. S. can contribute to science everywhere.

It is your concept of the team and the team approach - the bringing together of diverse, well-trained medical specialists and medical personnel to cope with the problems of/^{the}whole human being. This team concept which has been so well accepted in the United States - thanks, in large part to pioneering by this Foundation - needs to be demonstrated further, elsewhere in the world.

THE LARGER MEANING OF THE FOUNDATION'S WORK

But there is a larger meaning to the work of the Foundation. The meaning is several-fold.

First, the Foundation itself is the living embodiment of the remarkable vision, courage and achievements of one human being, a woman.

The fact is that there are other women, throughout this and other lands, who, if given the proper opportunity, can make, if not comparably great contributions, at least - some contribution to the healing arts.

The dynamic force of American womanpower has still not been capitalized upon to the fullest by the American people. This is despite the fact that women in this

country participate and contribute probably in more phases of life, especially in voluntary organizations such as this, and in a freer and more equal manner than anywhere else on earth.

But women can do, will do, want to do and should do far more, for example, in the field of medicine itself. We all know glowing examples from Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell's days onward of what women have accomplished, as doctors, particularly as well as in the capacity / of nurses, therapists and medical technicians. But we have today a severe shortage of nurses and of these other specialists. And we have a critical shortage of doctors as well.

Only around eight per cent of America's doctors are women. By contrast, in the Soviet Union, 75 per cent of its doctors are women. The reasons for that large Soviet proportion are many. But the fact is that, whatever the reasons, we in the U. S. would benefit from having more woman doctors and from more women in the healing and related arts. That means more woman, chemists, biologists, physicists and others.

Consider for example that only 2% of U. S. engineers are women.

Yet, engineering is more and more essential for national survival, yes, for development of such fields as medical electronics and in other medical fields as well.

So, let's get busy to bring more women into professional life. Let's attract them into these occupations; let's breakdown the barriers which bar them or discourage their advancement.

OUR INDEBTEDNESS TO FOREIGN SCIENCE

Now, let me refer to a second larger meaning of our purpose tonight. It is that we remember that the Foundation is the living embodiment of the deeds of an immortal woman who was not born on our shores.

The fact that we honor an Australian-born leader symbolizes, it seems to me, the enormous indebtedness which we in America owe to foreign countries. And

in no single field is our indebtedness greater than in the field of medicine.

The very first publication which was issued by our Senate Subcommittee demonstrated how, in every single field of medical science (cancer, heart disease, neurology, arthritis, metabolic and other disorders) foreign scientists have bequeathed to us and to all mankind a legacy of discoveries, which has transcended national boundaries. Elizabeth Kenny was not simply an Australian, she was the symbol of the universality of science.

That is why we who are interested in medical science are so hopeful that the House of Representatives will approve a Senate-passed Bill, S.J.Res. 41, which I co-sponsor, to establish a National Institute for International Medical Research.

For this Bill authored by the Senate's foremost single champion of health legislation, the Honorable Lister Hill, will enable the Elizabeth Kenny's of tomorrow - foreign scientists - men and women - to contribute more effectively to ^{medical} world research.

THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF YOUR EFFORTS

And there is a third meaning of our work tonight: It is a meaning which goes to the heart of all the religious faiths represented in this audience.

For whatever your creed, I know that in your Scriptures, in the teachings of the great Saints, Prophets, or wise men of your faith, is this concept: -- that "the good which we do is returned to us."

Elizabeth Kenny brought good to the American people, and the good was returned to Australia and to all the world.

The good which you bring to the world through this Foundation, as Americans, returns to us -- if not in tangible, then certainly in intangible ways.

The good which you, the people of the states of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Iowa, and Wisconsin make possible through allies such as tonight will return to you -- tangibly and intangibly -- in abundant ways almost impossible to calculate.

SOVIET-U.S. AGREEMENT ON MEDICAL COOPERATION

But now let me return to the meaning of the visit next month of Premier Nikita Krushchev.

You will recall that on December 1st, 1958, I had met in Moscow with the Soviet Premier. I believe that you will recall, as well, that in the initial period of our discussion, I had concentrated with him on expanding Soviet-American medical cooperation.

I had proposed to him a Five-Point Health Program. He had agreed to every single one of those points.

5 Point
Program

The points included expanding the Soviet-U.S. Medical Exchange Program, increasing the two-way flow of medical books, magazines, and correspondence, Soviet-U.S. cooperation in an International Health Year, cooperation in peri-natal research and cooperation in rehabilitation.

Obviously, this was not a ~~purely~~ ^{solidly} American and certainly not a partisan subject. For, as I recalled to him, as to other officials elsewhere, in the State of the Union message which had been delivered by the President of the United States in January, 1958, there had been a ~~solid~~ ^{front} appeal to the Soviet Union to cooperate with us in important medical fields, particularly in combatting cancer and heart disease. The Soviet leader had enthusiastically agreed.

~~The big problem however is that~~ ^{But} it is a long way between agreement on generalities with the Soviet Union and the Carrying out of those generalities by concrete deeds.

This unfortunate gap between promise and fulfillment, however, is not unique to the Soviet Union. The fact of the matter is that, unfortunately, here in the United States, Washington, D. C. has often been long on high statements and short on prompt and specific fulfillment. I do not say this in any partisan sense, but simply as a matter of fact. This is a subject which, I repeat, is non-partisan and which always must remain so. At the same time, it is a field which will benefit from down-to-earth frankness, rather than simply lofty pronouncements.

A SUGGESTION TO PREMIER KRUSCHEV

Therefore, when the Soviet Premier visits the United States, in addition to his shaking hands and appearing in photos with officials, with factory workers and

farmers and little children; in addition to making speeches before the United Nations and other assemblies, I respectfully suggest that the Soviet leader announce a program of specific deeds.

He could choose few better fields than health. Let him visit a great facility such as the Elizabeth Kenny Institute and let him then proclaim his specific health cooperation.

Here is a historic opportunity -- not simply for propaganda, but for the kind of epochal deeds which, speak far more eloquently than words and which count far more in the annals of history.

They will count in lessening East-West tension as well.

The lesson of past history is that the Soviet Union can definitely make a tremendous contribution to the advancement of medical science. The history of the Russian people is replete with scientific contributions. In the days both before and during the present regime, Russian scientists have ranked high, particularly in the fields of psychology and in the central nervous system.

It was with great pleasure, therefore, that I welcomed the appointment of a distinguished Soviet neurologist as Assistant Director of the World Health Organization, Dr. N. I. Graschenkov. I have been happy to pay tribute to Dr. Graschenkov in the course of a published report and have been in correspondence with him, as well as with other officials of the World Health Organization.

Recently Dr. Graschenkov, writing to me as an individual, kindly commented on the importance of intensified research into the disorders of the human brain. He added these words, which I should like to quote now -- not because they refer to me personally, but because they refer to bridging the

overall gap between the United States and the U.S.S.R.

"I would also like to thank you for your tribute to Soviet pioneering in many fields of science. You were the first influential American Statesman to plough the soil during the cold war time....I am sure that people in both countries will never forget it."

The Soviet people would not forget American deeds which would bring health and happiness to Russians and to all mankind. By these deeds, we would help encourage more understanding. We would help to banish the clouds of conflict. We would, as I have often said, help to "disarm" the international atmosphere of tension.

But let me follow my own suggestions and get more specific:

SOVIET-AMERICAN HEALTH INSTITUTES

The Elizabeth Kenny Foundation is synonymous with physical medicine and rehabilitation.

The Soviet Union is a nation which was cruelly devastated by war. Millions of her citizens, civilians and members of her armed forces were not only killed, but deafened, blinded, and crippled in the savagery of World War II.

I propose, therefore, that we send over not simply as brief exchange visitors, but as one-year and two-year scientists in Soviet hospitals and sanatoria more -- many more -- of the very best American specialists in physical medicine and rehabilitation, and that the Soviets, in turn, send their very best specialists to us as well.

I propose that there be established, at the start on a small scale, "Soviet, American Institutes of Health." That means that in advanced, scientific institutions there be established new Soviet-American research laboratories for example, in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

These laboratories, ~~financed respectively~~ by the respective governments, or in the instance of the United States, by private contributions would be specifically staffed by nationals of the two countries, working side by side.

In other words, let's not scatter our exchange effort, as helpful as that can be within limits. Let's put under ~~our~~^{my} new roof a facility which we can easily locate and see and hear and touch -- a concrete new example of bi-national cooperation. And let's not do this in Moscow or in Washington, let's do it at the grassroots of both nations in some appropriate center where the greatest experts can battle, as well, against, say, cancer or heart disease.

My proposal means, too, that in Soviet universities, there be established Soviet-American medical Chairs, i.e., professorships, fellowships, in physical medicine and rehabilitation. And, naturally, I suggest that we reciprocate as well.

In other words, let us within Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, and in other Soviet cities establish new and specific facilities which are, in effect, international zones of peace -- zones of enlightenment -- zones of healing.

Let us carve on the doors of new wings of hospitals, new wings of clinics, and laboratories the words, "SOVIET-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF COOPERATION."

But most important, let us write in the one place where it can never be effaced -- in the hearts of human beings -- the words, "SOVIET-AMERICAN COOPERATION."

Let us bring Soviet brain specialists to the United States to operate and display their very best technique on our patients. Let us send our best neurosurgeons to the Soviet Union -- not simply to teach, but to heal -- with their brilliant minds, hands, and skills.

If this sounds surprising to you, let me say that it is by no means unique or unprecedented. For example, not long ago, a California doctor wrote to me how

on a visit to a Soviet hospital, he had been invited by a Soviet woman obstetrician to perform an operation on a patient, and how the experience had successfully demonstrated "SOVIET-AMERICAN COOPERATION" in action.

In other words, let's not simply talk peace and cooperation; let's live it -- do it -- achieve it.

You may remember that I have previously urged: "FOOD FOR PEACE," "SCHOOLS FOR PEACE," -- "LOANS FOR PEACE," -- "HEALTH FOR PEACE."

I say, let us get still more specific.

LET US HAVE SURGERY FOR PEACE -- REHABILITATION FOR PEACE
-- OBSTETRICS FOR PEACE -- PEDIATRICS FOR PEACE. Yes, BRAINS FOR
PEACE!

The Soviet Union can contribute a great deal of knowledge about the biochemical and electrical features of the human brain.

Let us find out what makes the human brain tick, and then let us see if (applying a favorite Soviet term) we can CONDITION the human mind -- for PEACE -- for HEALTH -- for COOPERATION.

CONCLUSION

This then is my message for you "touchdowners" tonight.

It is a message of salute to all of you, who by your deeds, carry out the type of "grassroots" leadership which is so essential if our country is to become still healthier and happier.

It is a message of applying on the international scale what is applied here in Minneapolis so well. Here, individuals of every race, creed, color, and ancestry are enabled, by the healing arts, to realize the dignity, the fruition which God intended for them.

Premier Nikita Khrushchev can take his cue from Sister Elizabeth Kenny.

It is a cue of inspiring deeds which can thrill the hearts of mankind -- the kind of deeds which echo down through the corridors of time, long beyond the normal life span of any one individual. In this way, "HEALTH FOR PEACE" becomes not simply words, but deeds which can bring joy to the heart of generations unborn.

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