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NOTES

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INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM ASSOCIATION

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Yellow Members

(I had to speak
my way in and out of trouble)

It is a special honor to speak to an audience
of speakers.

You and I have shared a great privilege -- the
opportunity of addressing free men and women on
great issues in the most exciting age of man's
history.

In an earlier, more tranquil time, Vice President
Thomas Riley Marshall said that what this country
needed was a good 5-cent cigar. Today, one thing
America needs is more -- not fewer -- lecture
platforms.

3D's

Discussion - debate -
Decision

Drew's father
Governor
Paul Pearson
Past President
Drew Pearson
Past President

✓ In American history, the Chatauqua lingers as
an inspiring tradition.

T.V.
yes
but

The "Golden Age of Lecturing" was brought to
an end by many factors, including technical advances
in communication. But even in the current age of
television, every community can benefit from lively
dialogues -- in a town hall or in a stadium.

④ There is still no substitute for man's direct
exchange of ideas with fellow man.

For the issues before us are great. And they
must have full and responsible public examination.

We live in an age of revolutions.

International violence may attract the most
headlines. But there is a far older -- a continuing --
revolution which began at Independence Hall a century
and three quarters ago -- a universal revolution for
human freedom.

Today, too, the revolution of rising expectationsⁱ
mounts in the emerging nations.

Here in the United States, we are experiencing
a new industrial revolution -- automation. A single
revolutionary machine -- the computer -- has altered
the working, teaching, learning, training, habits of
this nation. Today's computer has the equivalent of
a 14-year education. Anyone who expects to compete
with it in the job market needs that much more
education.

We are experiencing other revolutions, too. They
involve vast numbers of our citizens. They are largely
peaceful, non-violent revolutions.

The 1/10th of our population who are Negroes are
engaged in a peaceful revolution toward self-respect.

"Quiet Revolution"

The ^{1/5}~~1/15~~th of our population who are poverty-stricken are rising ^{up} against their hopelessness.

Most revolutions tend to pit classes or regions or races or religions against one another. But the great fact of our domestic revolutions is that we are undertaking them through a peaceful consensus. It is not an apathetic consensus -- an agreement to do little or to do it late. It is a forward-moving consensus of the great majority of Americans.

Stresses and strains occur amid these revolutions. There is a tendency to speak at the top of one's voice in order to be heard. But what we need are not loud voices, harsh voices -- we need voices of reason, of judgment, of enlightenment. But at the same time we need voices -- and minds and public attention --

getting to the heart of real controversies, to the
articulation of real needs.

Consider the challenges facing us as we seek to
create a better society.

In five years, 211 million people will live here.
Half of them will be under age 25. Within ten years
we will need, each year, over 2 million new homes
. . . welfare and health facilities for 5 million more
people over age 65 . . . transportation systems to
move goods and people . . . fresh air and light and
open space.

We face, too, continuing, unending burdens
of responsibility in the world -- to defend freedom
and to close the gap between rich and poor.

To meet these challenges we need plans and
blueprints -- but even more, we need the activism

cooperation and commitment of the American people.

Let me recall a phrase that will be familiar to those of you who are senior members of this fellowship. You will recall, I am sure, the theme of the most famous lecturer of a few decades ago, Russell Conwell.

Up and down this land, he brought a message of how men might achieve personal success - by discovering "Acres of Diamonds" -- not afar -- but in their own backyards.

Today, the key to our national success is recognition of other "Acres of Diamonds." I do not in this instance mean 3 million square miles of the continental United States -- as valued as those resources are.

No, I mean our human resources -- our American citizens.

This is why, today, we seek in this nation to provide full and equal opportunity to each American to contribute to and share in our progress.

*Intern
Responsibilities* We know that our burdens and responsibilities are too great to be borne by anything less than a nation fully utilizing both its material and its people.

Today, we call on men and women who can provide leadership to join in our cause. We can be remembered, as Toynbee says, not for crimes or even for astonishing inventions, but as the first generation to dare to make the benefits of civilization available to the whole human race.

*Our responsibility to our children -
Grandchildren (Drew Pearson)*

You as Americans can help build the strong and free democracy which will be able to sustain our hopes -- and the hopes of all men.

Your voices can be the voices -- today as yesterday -- helping us, in the words of our President, "to press forward, not for our gain and our greatness alone, but rather for the gain and the good of all mankind."

*' Move forward with a Strong

and Active Faith '*



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