

October 18, 1965

Memo to the Oakland College Speech File

From Leo Janos

Cong. Farnum requests the Vice President make the following points in his opening remarks.

1. Mention Matilda Wilson. The week of October 22 is

Matilda Wilson week at Oakland University - she is celebrating her 82nd birthday that week, gave 2 million dollars to the school and donated 1,600 acres of its land.

2. Mention Chancellor Varner and Harold Fitzgerald,

the head of the Oakland University Foundation and publisher of the Pontiac Press.

3. C. Allen Harland, a good Democrat, will be representing the Board of Trustees at the convocation.

Pat McN
Phil Hart-

Pontiac
Central Hi School Band

REMARKS

Ray Rauten
or
Walt Rauten

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

Pat McNamara

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Phil Hart

ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN

OCTOBER 22, 1965

Billie Farnum

My fellow students, I always welcome the
opportunity to speak on a college campus.

President Truman has often said that college
audiences are the best. They listen intently -- weighing
each word with a scholarly mixture of skepticism and
objectivity -- and then ask questions that make you wish
you had stayed in Washington. And he is right.

As a refugee from the classroom -- a former
professor of political science -- I am careful to keep my
academic credentials in order by regularly facing campus
audiences.

Change L Brooklyn
L West Sun
L Pope to Yankee Stadium
- 2 -

In the past few years, I have found significant changes on campus. Ten years ago, most students were primarily concerned with their own well-being and security.

It was "Me First."

L But this is not true today. This is the era of committed young Americans.

L Today's college students are less introspective and more outward-looking, less unconcerned and more involved in the political and social issues of the day than at any other time in our history.

L You are in the forefront in the battle to restore civil rights, correct social injustice, and enhance human dignity.

L You comprise the majority of volunteer workers helping to teach the illiterate, train the unskilled, and administer to the sick and poor.

Your motivation is, I think, based upon the same desire that has prompted us to seek a Great Society -- a realization that today we have our best chance in history to better the human condition. And we have our best chance ever of truly becoming an educated and enlightened society.

Jefferson
H&A 11/16
Education is the fortress of our liberties. And it is the foundation of the Great Society. When every boy and girl with the capacity to profit from a good education can get one, we shall have unlocked the door to universal opportunity.

Without knowledge we Americans cannot live successfully in the society we are building.
In the last decade, jobs requiring a high school education grew by forty per cent; but those open to people without a high school diploma dropped by ten per cent.

Today, 54 million young people are in school -- *over*
one fourth of our total population. This tidal wave of
enrollment presents a challenge to our 125,000 schools
... 100,000 administrators ... and two million teachers.

(I might add that Oakland is a good example of the
"enrollment explosion." When your doors opened for the
first time in 1959, you had several hundred students; today
you have several thousand. And in the next few years,
you can expect to double your enrollment.)

(We anticipate even greater demands on our educational
system in the near future. Four million youngsters must
find seats in schoolrooms in the next five years. We need
400,000 more classrooms. (And there will be fifty per cent
more college students in the next five years.)

also
need
more
teacher
assistant
behaviors

Under the leadership of President Johnson we have enacted in this session of Congress the most far-reaching education legislation in history. These programs will help us to prepare today to meet tomorrow's demands. And they will enhance the educational opportunity here in Michigan.

Last year, Michigan opened 3,202 new classrooms for 1.1 million elementary school pupils and 793,000 secondary school pupils. The student teacher ratio was 27. Michigan will need more classrooms and more teachers in the months and years ahead if it is to maintain this ratio, much less better it.

Under all the titles of the new Elementary and Secondary Education Act your state will receive 42 million dollars to aid low income districts, help purchase library and textbooks for public and private schools, establish model school programs and educational centers, and to initiate a program of grants to strengthen the state's department of education.

Here in Oakland County, 1.5 million dollars in federal funds will help 6,800 school children from low income families.

Michigan is receiving 10 million dollars this year from the Higher Education Facilities Act; and the University of Michigan ranks among the top ten universities in the country receiving federal research grant funds.

The state also receives 916,000 dollars to help finance guidance, consulting and testing in public schools. And under the Economic Opportunity Act -- which Congress has doubled this year -- you are receiving 6.5 million dollars for vocational and adult education programs.

These programs, together with the Higher Education Bill, the Vocational Education Amendments, the Manpower Training and Development Act, and the Teaching Professions Act, will help your state realize the potential of each of its children.

↳ These programs cost money. But they are bargains in comparison to the cost of inadequate or incomplete education, to wasted talent and resources.

↳ Inadequate education leads to unemployment: The high school dropout is twice as likely to be unemployed as the high school graduate, and five times as likely as the college graduate.

↳ Inadequate education leads to poverty: Two-thirds of the families in which the father had less than eight years of schooling find themselves locked in economic hopelessness.

↳ Inadequate education perpetuates itself in future generations: The children of the unemployed and poor become themselves unemployed and poor.

↳ For these reasons, President Johnson proposed in his historic education message to the Congress that we declare a national goal of Full Educational Opportunity.

✓ The evidence indicates that the American people support this goal. This year -- for the first time -- public opinion polls show that Americans consider educational opportunities to be their most important domestic concern.

✓ My fellow students, the foundations of this Republic rest on a people capable of accepting the burden of choice -- a people who can assume voluntarily the burden of freedom. ~~It~~

✓ Our wealth and power represent freedom's best hope in the world. And our people represent the best hope for human, social and scientific progress.

✓ Two thirds of all the scientists who ever lived are alive and working today. This age has already produced twice as much knowledge as in all succeeding history. The science student today is learning four hundred times the amount of new information that his predecessor did of only a decade ago.

Each new discovery in turn triggers other new advances and more new knowledge. Yet, our ability to harness new progress for the benefit of all is even more challenging and complex than the discoveries themselves.

(V) It has been said that the race of man moves slowly because it must all move together. But we now have the means -- for the first time in human history -- to extend mankind's benefits to all men.

We have the genius to soar far beyond our own imaginations into the distant reaches of space. But we also have the chance to reach for the human heart -- to do what we must to preserve life and make it full and free and bountiful.

(X) My generation had its rendezvous with destiny. Your generation will have its rendezvous with opportunity.

For you, and future generations, will have the best chance yet to right old wrongs and offer each person -- and each place -- in our country the chance to be better than today.

L The Great Society offers our people the rare opportunity of self-fulfillment. Let us, then, accept seriously our obligation to liberate the human spirit in America and embrace the responsibilities of freedom. Let us resolve that freedom's holy light shall never be the light that failed.

Today we are embarked on one of the great adventures in human history -- to join in the task of building the America begun but never complete.

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