

Mayor Juan Allen
Cong Weltner

Cong. James Mackay
Dr John Lister - supt
REMARKS Dr Paul West

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

FIRST ANNUAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

NOVEMBER 19, 1965

Sen Russell
Sutcliffe

Gov Sanders
in Augusta
today
Gov Sanders

Ralph McGill -

I always welcome the opportunity to speak to
young people.

Andrew Hill
Robert Dwellie

President Truman has often said that young
people are the best audiences. 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.

Dyke High School Band

Escort car
Band at Airport
Mum Rouser

My pleasure is enhanced by meeting with you
in Atlanta -- this bustling, growing, active city . . .
this city filled with a spirit of faith in itself and in
the future.

In this city of Coca Cola
yes This pause today with young people is truly the
pause that refreshes.

✓ A young friend of mine, who only a few years
ago was also a high school student in a Southern city,
told me recently of the visit he made this summer to
his college reunion.

He found his college to be, on the surface at
least, unchanged.

The one change that caught his eye was the bulletin
boards.

The bulletin boards were filled with evidence of concern and activity which had not existed only a few years before.

↳ There were placards describing the life of a Peace Corps volunteer.

↳ There were ^{pamphlets} brochures explaining how students could devote several hours each week to working in the city's slums.

↳ There were organizational ^{brochures} brochures for students' political groups ~~ranging across the whole spectrum of the American political scene.~~

↳ And there were copies of letters from classmates or recent graduates who had spent their summer working for causes in which they believed -- on an Indian reservation in Oklahoma, or a village in Peru, ~~or~~ a town in Mississippi — or a slum area in N. Y.

Bulletin Board

- 4 -

My young friend believed, and I believe, that the symbol of your generation of Americans is the

and conscience
bulletin board -- filled with evidence of concern, *compassion,* and commitment which young people today feel, ~~and~~ understand, and act upon.

What is it that has motivated young people to be interested in and concerned about their country, their world, and their future?

Your Congressman, Charles Weltner, perhaps put it best when he spoke for young people at the Democratic National Convention last year:

"The world is a glistening, challenging, beckoning field of adventure and excitement."

So it is. And young Americans mean to make the most of it. *Great time to be alive!*

Today let us examine some of the challenges ahead.

Bombs

↳ We are challenged first and foremost by the need to insure that history's mightiest instruments of destruction will never be used. We are challenged to pursue the cause of a just and enduring peace.

Science
Technology!

↳ We are challenged by our need to comprehend and to master the wonders of science and technology.

↳ Of all the scientists who ever lived in all the history of mankind, 95 per cent are now living and working. We must channel scientific revolution toward the creation of a better life for ourselves and for our children.

President's
Challenge!

and, We are challenged by the vision expressed by our President: Listen

"An America in which no young person, whatever the circumstances, shall reach the age of 21 without the health, education and skills that will give him an opportunity to be an effective citizen and a self-supporting individual."

↳ We are challenged to lift the yoke of poverty from
one-fifth of our fellow citizens) to reverse that
tragic equation which has too often decreed that poor
shall beget poor and ignorance shall beget misery.

↳ Nowhere is that equation more accurate, or its
consequences more devastating, than in our own American
Southland where almost one-half the families live below
the poverty line.

↳ What a burden this is on the South -- in terms of *Cent*
welfare costs, of lost productivity, of stress on *your*
society.

↳ We are challenged to make our cities decent places
in which to live and learn, to work and play.

young Atlanta

And this is a challenge which means as much to you here in Atlanta as to any people in all the world -- for Atlanta is a city which is still young enough to avoid the mistakes which have fouled the atmosphere and shattered the hopes of millions of urban dwellers across our land.

And, finally, we are challenged to make good the promise of our Constitution -- to insure that all Americans shall, as citizens, have equal opportunity to enjoy the blessings of our Republic.

- your challenges & opportunities

These, then, are the challenges. We as Americans, can share a sense of pride in what we are doing to meet them. You know of the record of this remarkable 89th Congress.

(X) *These are the challenges to get excited about - It's right here & now that we build the kind of world we want!*

and as ~~congressman wetters~~ could tell you ^{this 89th Congress}
This Congress ^{many} has passed laws which build a base for

our American future! laws for better education, better
housing, better medical care . . . laws to extend opportunity
to people and places by-passed by opportunity.

Most of those laws directly benefit the American
younger generation, ~~as well they should.~~

~~as~~ But ~~as the late~~ President Kennedy so often said,
~~you must~~ "ask not what your country can do for you . . .

~~you must~~ ask what you can do for your country."

~~and you can do it.~~

Atlanta's great editor, Ralph McGill, recently wrote:

"Today's generation of young people is our best. It is
better educated, more poised, possesses superior information,
and is in general more determined to commit itself to
beliefs and principle."

There's
work to
do!

He was right. Here and in the world, young men and women are showing what this generation of Americans can do:

More than 10,000 young volunteers -- including 62 from the state of Georgia -- are now serving in the Peace Corps. Another 3,000 have already returned after tours of duty. But most significant, more than 100,000 have asked to take part in the bold and imaginative experiment.

When VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America -- the domestic Peace Corps) was launched, more than 3,000 inquiries were received from young people on the first day of business.

No fewer than one-quarter of the members of our armed services are under twenty years old.

armed
services!

Specifically, what can you do for your community and your country?

↳ You can, first of all, stay in school and finish school — you can go on to higher education!

↳ The young person who does not educate himself to the limit of his ability dissipates his most precious possession.

See the facts!

Unemployment among younger workers is already three times as high as among older workers.

↳ A diploma is the key to a job. Without it you may find the door of opportunity locked.

With Hi School Diploma - Earn Twice as much!

You will hear that success is simply a matter of being in the right place at the right time -- or of knowing the right people. Do not believe it.!

The great scientist Louis Pasteur said, "Chance favors the prepared mind."

*opportunity, like sparring
to busting out all over!*

↳ You make your opportunities.

Today -- as you never will again -- you have a
priceless chance to prepare your mind, to seize opportunity.

*you vote here
in SA
at age 18
simple!*

↳ You can be aware of what is happening in the world
and this Public Affairs Conference is a tribute not only
to the foresight of your teachers and principals but also
to your own interest in what is happening around you.

And as you enhance your awareness of the great issues
of our time, exercise your precious right to vote.

*Pol
Action*

↳ More than half the ^{american} electorate today is under 35.

By next year half of the population will be under 25 years
of age. ↳ Work and vote for the candidates and the party

you believe in. Improve the quality of politics. *! Needs*

some cleaning up!

need of Teachers
nurses - Doctors

- 12 -

Public
Service

L ^{And} You should give serious consideration to the
opportunities for ^{Public} service ^{Govt - Education - Health} which can be afforded best by
public office. I do not mean to imply that only through

elective or appointive office can you make your contribution
to our progress as a civilization. ^{Justice} As Oliver Wendell Holmes

✓ said: "Every calling is great when greatly pursued."

L ^{For} American business, labor and agriculture need
the vitality, the idealism and the dedication of young men
and women. They welcome the spirit of adventure, and
enterprise so characteristic of youth.

L Holmes also said, "As life is action and passion,
it is required of a man that he should share the passion
and action of his time, at peril of being judged not to
have lived."

our free
enterprise
needs you

Our

No state offers a better example of the opportunities for young people in public service than your own Georgia.

For this is the state that produced Richard Russell --

elected Governor of Georgia at 34, the youngest member

of the United States Senate at 35, as was Herman Talmadge

later. This is the state that produced your young, able, gifted

Governor Sanders. This is the state that has now

produced young men such as Charles Weltner and James

Mackay. This is the state which produced such far-seeing

men as Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Walter George,

Carl Vinson and General Lucius Clay, who entered public

life as young men.

There is a proud tradition of public service in Georgia --

and you would do well to turn your thoughts toward a

role in carrying forward that tradition.

Russell
+ Talmadge

Amnell
Sanders
Weltner
Mackay

Rusk
Walter George
Carl Vinson
Lucius Clay

Rep

yes

Public

Don't Put off

- 14 -

And

Finally, you should ~~not~~ ^{never} put off until middle age those tasks which call for the zest and vigor of youth.

Story of
Pericles

The story is told that Pericles of Ancient Greece in his later years came across a young lawyer ^{from} Athens who was deeply involved in public affairs.

Pericles chastized the young man for being too bold and too brash -- for concerning himself with things better left to older men.

Pericles said: "Of course, I understand, for I, too, was overeager in my youth. But now that I am older I have learned better. Take my advice and do not become so involved."

To which the young man replied: "I regret I did not have the privilege of knowing you when you were at your best."

↳ In the years immediately ahead you will be at your best. So do become involved -- for only by becoming involved in the needs and aspirations of others, can you truly satisfy your own inner needs and aspirations. And I hope you will become involved right here in your own community.

It was after the Civil War that Atlanta became the symbol of the New South. Rising like a phoenix from the ashes of that tragic war, Atlanta -- under the Atlanta Constitution's editor Henry Grady and others -- came to epitomize the spirit of that new South.

↳ Atlantans took bold action, recognizing the urgent need to reestablish relationships with the rest of the nation, to restore business, to build a more stable future for young people.

*You are
where the
Action
is!*

Today, as then, ^{your} Atlanta symbolizes the New South ^{the spirit of America}

This is a city on the move -- and America knows it.

In your hands lies Atlanta's future, and the future of America.

Here in the South there lies before you the immediate task of extending opportunity and defeating poverty -- of building a society equal and not separate.

And in this task you are joined by your President and the citizens of this nation -- a nation unified in its belief that all people and places in America shall be full partners in our American tomorrow.

All of us bear responsibility for those left behind. ~~it is the fault of~~ No one section of the country, or political party *is without fault.*

Partners

↳ And all of us bear responsibility for righting
past wrongs . . . for practicing what we preach in
this country.

↳ In America today we seek to create a Great Society:
a society of opportunity, and justice, and human dignity
where each child can step forth into life with his eyes
up and on the stars.

↳ You young people, coming of age in this community,
have the chance to make this dream come true.

I know of no place on earth where men more love their country than in the South.

More than once have I heard one of my colleagues in the United States Senate say: "I love the South."

cut And he has meant: I love the soil, I love my family, I love the people, I love the spirit of the place that bore me. I love a sense of duty and responsibility. I love men and women who hold their heads high in adversity and face tomorrow with determination. I love my country.

in

It is/this spirit that I charge you with responsibility for tomorrow.

May you work toward the goal expressed a generation ago by the author Thomas Wolfe:

"To every man his chance, to every man regardless
of his birth, his shining golden opportunity -- to every
man the right to live, to work, to be himself and to
become whatever thing his manhood and his vision can
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REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY BEFORE THE
FIRST ANNUAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA,
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President Truman has often said that young people are the best audiences. 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.

My pleasure is enhanced by meeting with you in Atlanta -- this bustling, growing, active city . . . this city filled with a spirit of faith in itself and in the future.

This pause today with young people is truly the pause that refreshes.

A young friend of mine, who only a few years ago was also a high school student in a Southern city, told me recently of the visit he made this summer to his college reunion.

He found his college to be, on the surface at least unchanged.

The one change that caught his eye was the bulletin boards.

The bulletin boards were filled with evidence of concern and activity which had not existed only a few years before.

There were placards describing the life of a Peace Corps volunteer.

There were brochures explaining how students could devote several hours each week to working in the city's slums.

There were organizational brochures for students' political groups ranging across the whole spectrum of the American political scene.

And there were copies of letters from classmates or recent graduates who had spent their summer working for causes in which they believed -- on an Indian reservation in Oklahoma,

or a village in Peru, or a town in Mississippi.

My young friend believed, and I believe, that the symbol of your generation of Americans is the bulletin board -- filled with evidence of concern and commitment which young people today feel, and understand, and act upon.

What is it that has motivated young people to be interested in and concerned about their country, their world, and their future?

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Of all the scientists who ever lived in all the history of mankind, 95 per cent are now living and working. We must channel scientific revolution toward the creation of a better life for ourselves and for our children.

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"An America in which no young person, whatever the circumstances, shall reach the age of 21 without the health, education and skills that will give him an opportunity to be an effective citizen and a self-supporting individual."

We are challenged to lift the yoke of poverty from one-fifth of our fellow citizens . . . to reverse that tragic equation which has too often decreed that poor shall beget poor and ignorance shall beget misery.

Nowhere is that equation more accurate, or its consequences more devastating, than in our own American Southland where almost one-half the families live below the poverty line.

What a burden this is on the South -- in terms of welfare costs, of lost productivity, of stress on your society.

We are challenged to make our cities decent places in which to live and learn, to work and play.

And this is a challenge which means as much to you here in Atlanta as to any people in all the world -- for Atlanta is a city which is still young enough to avoid the mistakes which have fouled the atmosphere and shattered the hopes of millions of urban dwellers across our land.

And, finally, we are challenged to make good the promise of our Constitution -- to insure that all Americans shall, as citizens, have equal opportunity to enjoy the blessings of our Republic.

These, then, are the challenges. We as Americans can share a sense of pride in what we are doing to meet them. You know of the record of this remarkable 89th Congress.

This Congress has passed laws which build a base for our American future: laws for better education, better housing, better medical care . . . laws to extend opportunity to people and places by-passed by opportunity.

Most of those laws directly benefit the American younger generation, as well they should.

But, as the late President Kennedy so often said, you must ask not what your country can do for you . . . you must ask what you can do for your country.

Atlanta's great editor, Ralph McGill, recently wrote: "Today's generation of young people is our best. It is better educated, more poised, possesses superior information, and is in general more determined to commit itself to beliefs and principle."

He was right. Here and in the world, young men and women are showing what this generation of Americans can do:

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You can be aware of what is happening in the world -- and this Public Affairs Conference is a tribute not only to the foresight of your teachers and principals but also to your own interest in what is happening around you. And as you enhance your awareness of the great issues of our time, exercise your precious right to vote .

More than half the electorate today is under 35. By next year half of the population will be under 25 years of age. Work and vote for the candidates and the party you believe in. Improve the quality of politics.

You should give serious consideration to the opportunities for service which can be afforded best by public office. I do not mean to imply that only through elective or appointive office can you make your contribution to our progress as a civilization. As Oliver Wendell Holmes said: "Every calling is great when greatly pursued."

For American business, labor and agriculture need the vitality, the idealism and the dedication of young men and women. They welcome the spirit of adventure, and enterprise so characteristic of youth.

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There is a proud tradition of service in Georgia -- and you would do well to turn your thoughts toward a role in carrying forward that tradition.

Finally, you should not put off until middle age those tasks which call for the zest and vigor of youth.

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And in this task you are joined by your President and the citizens of this nation -- a nation unified in its belief that all people and places in America shall be full partners in our American tomorrow.

All of us bear responsibility for those left behind. It is the fault of no one section of the country, or political party.

And all of us bear responsibility for righting past wrongs . . . for practicing what we preach in this country.

In America today we seek to create a Great Society: a society of opportunity, and justice, and human dignity where each child can step forth into life with his eyes up and on the stars.

You young people, coming of age in this community, have the chance to make this dream come true.

I know of no place on earth where men more love their country than in the South.

More than once have I heard one of my colleagues in the United States Senate say: "I love the South."

And he has meant: I love the soil, I love my family, I love the people, I love the spirit of the place that bore me. I love a sense of duty and responsibility. I love men and women who hold their heads high in adversity and face tomorrow with determination. I love my country.

It is in this spirit that I charge you with responsibility for tomorrow.

May you work toward the goal expressed a generation ago by the author Thomas Wolfe:

"To every man his chance, to every man regardless of his birth, his shining golden opportunity -- to every man the right to live to work, to be himself and to become whatever thing his manhood and his vision can combine to make him -- this . . . is the promise of America."

*Sp. File: Nov. 13
Atlanta?*

file

FOR RELEASE:
November 15, 1965

STATEMENT

FROM VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
TO ATLANTA REGION URBAN CONFERENCE
ATLANTA BILTMORE HOTEL, ATLANTA, GA.

NOVEMBER 15, 1965

Several months ago the President asked me to act as his liaison with officials of local government. As one who has served in local government -- as Mayor of Minneapolis -- I believe I have some appreciation of the important role played by local government in our federal system. Because I know how distant and remote Washington can seem to the man with local responsibility, I have been trying, in these months, to make Washington less distant, less remote, more able to help. And that is why I have been meeting with Mayors and other local government officials.

If we are to meet the staggering problems of today, our federal system must work, and work well.

Atlanta is a very good example of creative federalism at work in the city. Atlanta stands today as an outstanding example of the physical and material resources of an urban area being used for the benefit of the people.

There are 17 urban renewal projects in Atlanta and Fulton County. But this does not tell the whole story. People have not just been displaced. They have been relocated with attention to their needs and aspirations.

This city has received 44 million dollars in federal urban renewal financing through the Housing and Home Finance Agency. But this is only part of the story. Many millions of dollars in local public and private investment have also been put to work in the job of renewal.

This is creative federalism -- the coordinated programs of national, state and local governments aided by the efforts of business, labor and private interests.

And this success story is important. For major cities and smaller cities alike face tremendous problems.

Your Congressmen -- Phil Landrum, Jack Flynt, Bob Stephens, John W. Davis, Charlie Weltner and Jim Mackay -- are to be commended for the leadership they have displayed by sponsoring this conference. I would like also to commend the Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission. Your Congressmen and the officials of this organization hereby demonstrate a grasp of the challenges ahead.

We know that the world's population will double by the year 2000. Within 10 short years the United States alone will have 30 million more people.

We know there will be many, many more people living within the Atlanta Regional Area.

And we know that less than 20 per cent of the population will live outside our urban areas.

This distribution of population will produce not only the growth of individual cities but also the expansion of sprawling urban areas -- areas needing local services.

This Administration is pledged to help meet this challenge.

But the future of our nation lies not only with the federal government. It lies in our heartland -- in individual American communities.

The Great Society will be an America made up of thousands of great communities.

It is your communities that will have good schools or bad ones.

It is your communities that will have decent homes or slums.

It is your communities that will have racial harmony or racial antagonism.

It is your communities that will either wage intelligent, coordinated drives on the causes of poverty -- or will ignore this social cancer.

Our explosive population growth and rapid urbanization have combined to place unprecedented burdens on local government.

Today there are over 9 million American homes which should not be lived in, but are. Four million of those homes have no running water or plumbing.

There are water shortages.

There are millions of children who will, without a doubt, be on the welfare rolls a few years hence if something is not done. One out of every three children now in fifth grade will not finish high school, if the present dropout rate continues. Every mayor should have established task forces within his city so that each dropout or potential dropout can be personally contacted and helped.

There is a general shortage of clean, fresh air . . . of open space . . . of parkland . . . of the things that make life livable.

And small cities equally face the same converging forces of growth and decay that plague large cities -- slums, blight, traffic and parking problems, badly platted blocks, demands for services are high and tax money is short.

No single community in this age of change can meet these demands alone and without help. That is why there are more than 50 major programs of federal assistance to local governments. In fiscal 1966 there will be a total of 13.6 billion dollars in federal aid payments to state and local units.

The Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, passed by this Congress and signed into law by President Johnson, is designed to help meet these problems.

The President has called this Act "breakthrough legislation." And it is.

Under this Act, the best of the old programs have been extended and expanded. The urban renewal program has loans and grants for rehabilitation of homes, buildings and neighborhoods.

Public Housing programs have been made more flexible so local authorities can buy or rent existing housing. This will help large families.

There are grants for building such things as youth and community centers in low-income neighborhoods. Park and playground land can be acquired and improved under another program. Streets can be beautified. Malls can be built.

The FHA mortgage insurance programs are extended and in many cases liberalized. There is a new low-downpayment program for veterans to buy homes. The ceiling has been raised on insured home mortgage money in outlying areas.

There is a new rent supplement program which will result in new housing for low-income families built by private builders with private money. Middle income housing and college housing . . . housing for the elderly can be built with direct 3 per cent loans.

This Act also authorizes rural housing loans for purchase of previously occupied dwellings and structures. These loans can also be used to buy building sites and to build new homes. This is a program of the Farmers Home Administration.

All this should add greatly to the supply of housing for our smaller cities, particularly for those of low-income and medium-income.

A major addition to the legislation this year is a matching grant program for the construction of sewer and water facilities. There is also a grant program for the acquisition of land for future construction of public facilities.

These programs, except for rural housing, are administered by the new Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The establishment of this Department is in response to a long-standing need.

Not only will it now be possible to administer these wide-ranging programs more effectively, but there will now be a voice responsible to the wishes of urban people in the highest councils of government -- in the President's Cabinet.

Dissatisfaction with rural life increases the exodus to the cities. Unemployment, poor housing, poor education combine to increase the movement to the cities -- an exodus all too often composed of people unprepared for employment and participation in city life.

One half the disadvantaged people of our nation live outside urban areas. We hear so much about urban slums that we often forget that there are twice as many dilapidated houses in rural areas as in the cities. Forty-seven per cent of the nation's poverty exists in rural communities where only 30 per cent of the nation's people live.

But there is now more hope for the rural poor.

The Office of Economic Opportunity is now preparing a massive attack on the root causes of rural poverty. Rural towns and counties are joining in the war on poverty at a rapidly expanding rate.

The President has also acted to establish in the Department of Agriculture the Rural Community Development Service. The President named as the goal "parity of opportunity for rural America."

This expanded service to rural America will be carried out through the field offices of the Department of Agriculture. Men in the field will inform rural communities of all the federal programs that can be applied in the countryside.

But none of the federal programs can be fully effective without a lot of help from you in this conference.

You know local conditions, you know local problems, you know your people.

It is our responsibility to inform you of federal programs. From then on it will be a matter of local determination as to how these programs can be used, and how they can be implemented by local funds.

It is you who must supply the dedication, the talent and the leadership to carry these projects through.

Ours is an age of social tumult. This is the age where the phrase "human dignity" has taken on concrete meaning. People are on the march. They are no longer willing to be taken for granted, forgotten or used. The process is a disorderly one. There has not been time for people to gain any sense of perspective or orderly growth.

Can this tremendous force of movement and change be directed in constructive and democratic patterns?

The answer to this problem will depend upon the performance and cooperation of each level of government. Local, state and national governments are all part of the federal system. Each has a job to do. Each must work efficiently with the other if we are to progress together. Together we can break old barriers and see to it that all Americans share the bounty of our great country.

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