

✓ Mr MacTear  
✓ Father Figure

✓ Ray Larson  
Mayor Sorenson  
Gov Tamm

Chamber of Commerce  
Kiwanis Club

many thanks  
V.P. JOK

NOTES

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

space  
oceans

Gov  
monism

PUBLIC AFFAIRS LUNCHEON

OMAHA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

FEBRUARY 2, 1968

I have two purposes here today: To thank you  
for the magnificent job you did last year with your  
Project Y.E.S., and to ask for more of the same  
this summer, 1968.

↳ Last summer we did some experimenting with  
youth programs across America. We had some successes  
and some failures.

↳ But just by trying we made an implicit promise to the disadvantaged young people of this nation that things would get better in summers to come:

-- that there would be more jobs;

-- that the jobs would not be make-work but real in terms of training and earnings;

-- that young people themselves would have a greater voice in planning.

↳ I am determined that this country will make good on those promises in 1968. I do not see how we can afford to do less.

↳ To get an early start on <sup>a</sup> coordinated, nationwide summer effort, the President's Council on Youth Opportunity, of which I am chairman, held a three-day meeting in Washington this week.

3 day  
meeting

↳ Mayors and Youth Coordinators from our fifty largest cities, as well as young people and others interested in summer youth programs from all over America attended.

↳ Joe Williams, Omaha's Director of Human Resources, Lou Olsen and Wayne Putnam from Mayor Sorenson's office, and others from Omaha were there.

↳ The conference was designed as a market place in which ideas emerging from last summer's experiences could be exchanged, and those immediately responsible for youth programs could meet with the federal officials and Youth Council members who will be backstopping in the months ahead.

↳ As to the federal role in summer, 1968, let me say that there will be just about the same amount of federal money available this year as last. I wish there could be more, and so does President Johnson.

└ But I do know that federal funds are not the  
decisive ingredient in a successful youth program.

└ Nor are limitations on the federal budget an  
adequate excuse for the failure of summer youth  
programs in any community.

└ You know what makes a successful youth program --  
the same ingredients that put over 5 thousand youngsters  
to work in Omaha last year under Project Y.E. S.

Those ingredients are

-- vigorous local initiative;

-- close cooperation between the private sector and  
public agencies and youth groups, with each doing  
what it can do best;

└ Good, hard-hitting promotion that reaches both  
those who can contribute and those in need;

-- an early start;

-- and a conviction that the job can be done.

Federal financing will help -- and it is going to help this summer. But it cannot buy jobs...or creativity...or concern...or determination.

Project Y.E.S. will be getting some support this summer from the National Alliance of Businessmen headed by Henry Ford II. In addition to its general responsibilities for coordinating industry's part in eliminating hard-core unemployment, the Alliance will be responsible for finding 200 thousand productive jobs for needy youngsters this summer.

The Alliance will have a local committee here in Omaha -- I am sure many of you will serve on it -- and I urge you to use its resources to the full.

Meanwhile let me warn you that the members of the President's Council and I are spreading the word about Project Y.E.S. So is your national office in Washington. The excellent documentary film about Y.E.S. made by W.O.W. T.V. is being distributed to T.V. stations across the country.

So you are going to have to work hard this summer to keep your number one position.

There are a lot of young Americans who badly need a chance -- a chance to express themselves...to express their capabilities...to broaden their horizons...to raise their hopes.

Give them that chance and you have captured a vital source of untapped energy.

Deny it, and you deny America.

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(Plague to Chamber) McBrygg

Chance  
T. Wolfe



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