

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

SHREVEPORT NEGRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Shreveport, Louisiana

January 7, 1972

I strongly applaud the efforts of the Shreveport Negro Chamber of Commerce to bring into a reality the great potential expressed in the theme, "A Strong Team for a Metropolis on the Grow."

You can literally feel the determination of all the people of this fine city to make great strides in its development. And you can sense the intelligent awareness of the citizenry that this development shall serve the spiritual as well as the physical needs of men -- that industrial and economic growth shall be combined with better schools, improved neighborhoods, expanded public services, and all that goes into providing a better living environment for people.

But this broad perception of what constitutes the genuine and beneficial growth of a city, rich both in history and in promise for the future, demands also the recognition that there must be full participation by all economic and social groups in the development and implementation of comprehensive plans for growth.

The new vision of hope and opportunity in this rich and beautiful land of the Red River Valley must be shared by all the people. Now is the time to build upon foundations of cooperative effort forged over years of increasing understanding that the barriers of economic and racial discrimination also block the road to genuine business and social development.

There is a great challenge here to forge a united effort to promote balanced and truly creative growth. The population of Shreveport has expanded more than ten-fold since only the turn of the century, in line with its increasingly important role as the wholesale and retail trade center for the "Arklatex" region. The industrial revolution associated with the discovery of oil and the exploitation of petroleum products -- the growth created by railroads and the cotton trade -- the expanding lumber, glass, metals, machinery, foods, and chemical industries -- a modern school system and the cultural and recreational opportunities reflected in a symphony orchestra, libraries, theatrical productions, a civic theatre and convention center, parks and water sports and fishing, the Louisiana State Fair and the spring festival -- all this and more demonstrate the energy, the creativity, and the dramatic evolution of the "new South."

Henry Miller Shreve could only stand in amazement at what has been created out of the forests he obtained from the Caddo Indians less than 140 years ago. And such rapid -- almost overnight -- development is all the more impressive when we consider the political conflicts and armed warfare associated with the several flags that have flown over the Louisiana region in less than one and three-quarters centuries.

But the foundation has been laid here for significant growth over the coming decades. It is expected that the population of this metropolitan area will reach over 300,000 in only four years. And the strength of the economic base is reflected in bank deposits that totalled well over \$500 million and savings and loan association capital of some \$80 million by the end of the last decade. Value-added manufactures amounted to some \$125 million, while there were over 90,000 employees on non-agricultural payrolls.

But what forecast will be made on human development?

The challenges here are made clear by certain vital statistics. Shreveport ranks behind many metropolitan areas with over 250,000 population, in terms of per capita personal income, which amounts to less than \$2,500 -- at least 15 percent below the national average -- although the comparative level of average weekly earnings is higher. And almost one-tenth of the enrolled schoolchildren and teachers in Louisiana are located here -- 4 out of 10 of these children are Negro -- but State and local expenditures for education are below the national median. Moreover, recent-year statistics showed only 7 hospital beds and one physician for every 1,000 people in the Shreveport metropolitan area -- a problem common to many cities across America.

Major accomplishments by the state and local governments in meeting these vital human needs over recent years must be given full recognition. But the fact remains that there is so much more that can and must be done if metropolitan and rural development are to be accomplished for the benefit of people.

And I firmly believe that the federal government has a vital role to play here. It is clear that our national government has a firm obligation to support the growth and development of Louisiana, for it has made a substantial investment here. Almost 4 percent of the land in this state is federally owned. Over 28,000 residents are federal civilian employees. Defense contract awards in 1969 alone totalled \$390 million, and accounted for a \$269 million payroll. And federal grants to state and local governments that year accounted for over one-fourth of revenues.

It is to fulfill this federal obligation and to help our states and cities to plan and bring to reality their own vision of dynamic and extensive growth to meet the critical needs of the future, that I have introduced a comprehensive legislative program of federal assistance for public and private development.

I am amazed that the present Administration has utterly failed to implement a national growth policy of balanced urban and rural development. Yet this is clearly demanded by a projected rise in population to over 300 million by the end of this century, and by the accelerating exodus of families from their farms in the midst of extensive rural poverty, and by the sheer congestion of masses of people in our metropolitan areas so that already more than 70 percent of our people live on less than 2 percent of the land.

For the first time in a decade, poverty in America is on the rise, with over 25 million people now leading a hand-to-mouth existence of despair. Unemployment stands at the critically high level of 6 percent -- that means that over 5.1 million people are out of work.

A number of states and cities are on the verge of fiscal bankruptcy. But having slammed shut the treasury vault door on billions of dollars in federal assistance already appropriated by Congress, the Administration continues to let applications from cities and towns for mass transit facilities, water and sewer construction, urban renewal, low-income housing, environmental protection projects, and hospitals and schools, gather dust.

How are we going to assure adequate medical care for all our people, when in the last 10 years the cost of hospital care has jumped 122 percent and doctor's fees have risen by 45 percent?

How will our economy be able to provide the 25 million new jobs that will be needed in the next nine years?

How can we pledge this nation to assuring an equal educational opportunity for all our children and youth, when local school boards already find it increasingly difficult even to meet current operating costs?

Yet the number of high school graduates each year across America will rise by 800,000 in only a decade. And institutions of higher education, already confronting financial instability, are faced with a projected rise of 3.8 million degree-credit enrolled students by 1979.

These are questions that must be answered today. No further time must be lost in our nation's battle to prepare for the future.

In establishing the foundation for a national growth policy, the federal government must carry out two immediate assignments. First, it must stimulate the economy, as well as control inflation -- it is time this Administration gave as much attention to the creation of jobs, the full utilization of presently idle industrial capacity, and the serious needs of small business, as it is giving to the control of wage and price increases.

Second, the on-again, off-again approach of the Administration to federal revenue sharing must end. That is why I have been pressing for Congressional action to give help to our states and cities now, along the lines of my legislative proposal. The revenue-sharing system I have outlined would guarantee a specific amount of federal financial assistance. And it would absolutely prohibit any discrimination or special-interest favoritism in the allocation of federal dollars, guaranteeing their pass-through to our cities and requiring their effective utilization in the improvement of public facilities and services for all the people.

But it is not enough to react to the crises of today -- we must plan and act now to provide solutions for the problems of tomorrow. We must face the startling fact, for example, that if we are to take the pressure of increasing population off our existing metropolitan areas, it will be necessary to establish two new cities of 75,000 persons every month between now and the year 2000.

The national growth policy which I have laid before Congress has three basic objectives.

First, we must assure a basic floor of services for all our citizens. We must guarantee that Americans in every part of our nation have adequate standards of education, health, and housing; and every other human need.

Second, we must make "freedom of residence" a reality for all. To live as a free people with free political institutions requires that we all be able to choose where we want to live and work.

And third, we must have a public and private financing system that is equal to the development task. The present "stop-start" system of public financing has resulted in a string of broken promises to our cities and communities.

These objectives can and will be reached under the two major bills I have introduced: The National Domestic Development Bank Act, and the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.

These bills directly attack the twin problems of rural poverty and urban congestion. They propose the creation of major new sources of financing for city, town and economic development projects across the nation -- new industrial parks, waste treatment systems, better schools and hospitals, improved police and fire departments, parklands and recreation areas, extensive and modern transportation facilities, and attractive and convenient business districts, to cite only a few examples. And they provide for decision-making and extensive technical assistance at the local as well as national levels to assure

that development truly meets the needs and desires of the people of a particular area.

Why cannot we apply the highly successful principles and systems of international development financing right here at home? I say if we can build a better Rio de Janeiro, then we can build a better Shreveport or New Orleans. I say we must also help small communities and rural parishes and counties preserve their most precious resource: People -- people who can build and revitalize their towns, and who can transform ravaged lands into productive farm acres and new centers of economic opportunity.

We have the resources and the tools to do all this. What we need is the will provided by an effective national leadership to carry the job through.

You are demonstrating here tonight your readiness to act, and we must see to it that you get the assistance you need and deserve.

We must act to assure a future of hope and opportunity for all Americans. I call upon you tonight to join me in accepting this challenge.

#

000756

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

SHREVEPORT NEGRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

JANUARY 7, 1972

Congrats -

L I STRONGLY APPLAUD THE EFFORTS OF THE SHREVEPORT AREA

000758

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO BRING INTO A REALITY THE GREAT

POTENTIAL EXPRESSED IN THE THEME, "A STRONG TEAM FOR A

METROPOLIS ON THE GROW."

May Allen

L YOU CAN LITERALLY FEEL THE DETERMINATION OF ALL THE

PEOPLE OF THIS FINE CITY TO MAKE GREAT STRIDES IN ITS

DEVELOPMENT. L AND YOU CAN SENSE THE INTELLIGENT AWARENESS

OF THE CITIZENRY THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT SHALL SERVE THE

SPIRITUAL AS WELL AS THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF MEN -- THAT

INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH SHALL BE COMBINED WITH

BETTER SCHOOLS, IMPROVED NEIGHBORHOODS, EXPANDED PUBLIC

SERVICES, AND ALL THAT GOES INTO PROVIDING A BETTER LIVING

ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE.

BUT THIS BROAD PERCEPTION OF WHAT CONSTITUTES THE

GENUINE AND BENEFICIAL GROWTH OF A CITY, RICH BOTH IN

HISTORY AND IN PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE, DEMANDS ALSO THE

RECOGNITION THAT THERE MUST BE FULL PARTICIPATION BY ALL

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GROUPS IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTA-

TION OF ~~COMPREHENSIVE~~ PLANS FOR GROWTH.

yes THE NEW VISION OF HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY IN THIS RICH AND

BEAUTIFUL LAND OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY MUST BE SHARED BY ALL

THE PEOPLE Now IS THE TIME TO BUILD UPON FOUNDATIONS OF

COOPERATIVE EFFORT FORGED OVER YEARS OF INCREASING UNDER-

STANDING THAT THE BARRIERS OF ECONOMIC AND RACIAL DISCRIM-

INATION ALSO BLOCK THE ROAD TO GENUINE BUSINESS AND SOCIAL

DEVELOPMENT.

-3-

L THERE IS A GREAT CHALLENGE HERE TO FORGE A UNITED EFFORT
TO PROMOTE BALANCED AND TRULY CREATIVE GROWTH. THE POPULATION
OF SHREVEPORT HAS EXPANDED MORE THAN TEN-FOLD SINCE ONLY THE
TURN OF THE CENTURY. IN LINE WITH ITS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT
ROLE AS THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE CENTER FOR THE "ARKLATEX"
REGION. THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISCOVERY
OF OIL AND THE ~~development~~ *development* OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS -- THE
GROWTH CREATED BY RAILROADS AND THE COTTON TRADE -- THE
EXPANDING LUMBER, GLASS, METALS, MACHINERY, FOODS, AND
CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES -- A MODERN SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE CULTURAL
AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES REFLECTED IN A SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA, LIBRARIES, THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS, A CIVIC THEATRE
AND CONVENTION CENTER, PARKS AND WATER SPORTS AND FISHING,

L THE LOUISIANA STATE FAIR AND THE SPRING FESTIVAL -- ALL THIS

AND MORE DEMONSTRATE THE ENERGY, THE CREATIVITY, AND THE

DRAMATIC EVOLUTION OF THE "NEW SOUTH."

L HENRY MILLER SHREVE COULD ONLY STAND IN AMAZEMENT AT

WHAT HAS BEEN CREATED OUT OF THE FORESTS HE OBTAINED FROM THE

Caddo

CADDO INDIANS LESS THAN 140 YEARS AGO AND SUCH RAPID --

ALMOST OVERNIGHT -- DEVELOPMENT IS ALL THE MORE IMPRESSIVE

WHEN WE CONSIDER THE POLITICAL CONFLICTS AND ARMED WARFARE

ASSOCIATED WITH THE SEVERAL FLAGS THAT HAVE FLOWN OVER THE

LOUISIANA REGION IN LESS THAN ONE AND THREE-QUARTERS CENTURIES.

000757

L BUT THE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN LAID HERE FOR SIGNIFICANT
GROWTH OVER THE COMING DECADES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE

POPULATION OF THIS METROPOLITAN AREA WILL REACH OVER 300,000

IN ONLY FOUR YEARS. L AND THE STRENGTH OF THE ECONOMIC BASE IS

REFLECTED IN BANK DEPOSITS THAT TOTALLED WELL OVER \$500

MILLION AND SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION CAPITAL OF SOME

\$80 MILLION BY THE END OF THE LAST DECADE. VALUE-ADDED

MANUFACTURES AMOUNTED TO SOME \$125 MILLION, WHILE THERE WERE

OVER 90,000 EMPLOYEES ON NON-AGRICULTURAL PAYROLLS.

"We the People" Our strength - People
L BUT WHAT FORECAST WILL BE MADE ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT?

@ America Develop, Decency | People!

- Reconciliation - Respect

- Reconstruction - Build & create!

- Reaffirmation - (Plenty & Allegiance)

*Health
educ
child*

L THE CHALLENGES HERE ARE MADE CLEAR BY CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS. SHREVEPORT RANKS BEHIND MANY METROPOLITAN AREAS WITH OVER 250,000 POPULATION, IN TERMS OF PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME, WHICH AMOUNTS TO LESS THAN \$2,500 -- AT LEAST 15 PERCENT BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE -- ALTHOUGH THE COMPARATIVE LEVEL OF AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS IS HIGHER. AND ALMOST ONE-TENTH OF THE ENROLLED SCHOOLCHILDREN AND TEACHERS IN LOUISIANA ARE LOCATED HERE -- 4 OUT OF 10 OF THESE CHILDREN ARE NEGRO -- BUT STATE AND LOCAL EXPENDITURES FOR EDUCATION ARE BELOW THE NATIONAL MEDIAN. L MOREOVER, RECENT-YEAR STATISTICS SHOWED ONLY 7 HOSPITAL BEDS AND ONE PHYSICIAN FOR EVERY 1,000 PEOPLE IN THE SHREVEPORT METROPOLITAN AREA -- A PROBLEM COMMON TO MANY CITIES ACROSS AMERICA.

-7-

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY THE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN MEETING THESE VITAL HUMAN NEEDS OVER RECENT YEARS MUST BE GIVEN FULL RECOGNITION. BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT THERE IS SO MUCH MORE THAT CAN AND MUST BE DONE IF METROPOLITAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ARE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED FOR THE BENEFIT OF PEOPLE.

AND I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS A VITAL ROLE TO PLAY HERE. IT IS CLEAR THAT OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS A FIRM OBLIGATION TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF LOUISIANA, FOR IT HAS MADE A SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT HERE. ALMOST 4 PERCENT OF THE LAND IN THIS STATE IS FEDERALLY OWNED.

-8-

OVER 28,000 RESIDENTS ARE FEDERAL CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.

DEFENSE CONTRACT AWARDS IN 1969 ALONE TOTALLED \$390 MILLION,
AND ACCOUNTED FOR A \$269 MILLION PAYROLL. AND FEDERAL GRANTS
TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT YEAR ACCOUNTED FOR OVER
ONE-FOURTH OF REVENUES.

IT IS TO FULFILL THIS FEDERAL OBLIGATION AND TO HELP OUR
STATES AND CITIES TO PLAN AND BRING TO REALITY THEIR OWN
VISION OF DYNAMIC AND EXTENSIVE GROWTH TO MEET THE CRITICAL
NEEDS OF THE FUTURE, THAT I HAVE ^{proposed} ~~introduced~~ A COMPREHENSIVE
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM ~~OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE~~ FOR PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT.

~~I AM AMAZED THAT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION HAS UTTERLY~~
~~FAILED TO IMPLEMENT~~ A NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY OF BALANCED URBAN
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. ~~YET THIS~~ IS CLEARLY DEMANDED BY A
PROJECTED RISE IN POPULATION TO OVER 300 MILLION BY THE END
OF THIS CENTURY, AND BY THE ACCELERATING ^{migrator} ~~flows~~ OF FAMILIES
FROM THEIR FARMS IN THE MIDST OF EXTENSIVE RURAL POVERTY, AND
BY THE SHEER CONGESTION OF MASSES OF PEOPLE IN OUR METROPOLITAN
AREAS. ~~BEFORE~~ ^A ALREADY MORE THAN 75 PERCENT OF OUR PEOPLE LIVE
ON LESS THAN 3 PERCENT OF THE LAND.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A DECADE, POVERTY IN AMERICA IS ON
THE RISE, WITH OVER 25 MILLION PEOPLE NOW LEADING A HAND-TO-
MOUTH EXISTENCE OF DESPAIR.

-10-

UNEMPLOYMENT STANDS AT THE CRITICALLY HIGH LEVEL OF 6 PERCENT

-- THAT MEANS THAT OVER 5.1 MILLION PEOPLE ARE OUT OF WORK.

L A NUMBER OF STATES AND CITIES ARE ON THE VERGE OF FISCAL BANKRUPTCY. BUT HAVING SLAMMED SHUT THE TREASURY VAULT DOOR ON BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN FEDERAL ASSISTANCE ALREADY APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS, THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO LET APPLICATIONS FROM CITIES AND TOWNS FOR MASS TRANSIT FACILITIES, WATER AND SEWER CONSTRUCTION, URBAN RENEWAL, LOW-INCOME HOUSING, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROJECTS, AND HOSPITALS AND SCHOOLS, GATHER DUST,

HOW ARE WE GOING TO ASSURE ADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE FOR ALL OUR PEOPLE, WHEN IN THE LAST 10 YEARS THE COST OF HOSPITAL CARE HAS JUMPED 122 PERCENT AND DOCTOR'S FEES HAVE RISEN BY 45 PERCENT?

-11-

L How WILL OUR ECONOMY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE 25 MILLION
NEW JOBS THAT WILL BE NEEDED IN THE NEXT NINE YEARS?

L How CAN WE PLEDGE THIS NATION TO ASSURING AN EQUAL
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, WHEN
LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS ALREADY FIND IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT
EVEN TO MEET CURRENT OPERATING COSTS?

L YET THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES EACH YEAR ACROSS
AMERICA WILL RISE BY 800,000 IN ONLY A DECADE. AND INSTITUTIONS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION, ALREADY CONFRONTING FINANCIAL INSTABILITY,
ARE FACED WITH A PROJECTED RISE OF 3.8 MILLION DEGREE-CREDIT
ENROLLED STUDENTS BY 1979.

-12-

THESE ARE QUESTIONS THAT MUST BE ANSWERED TODAY. No
FURTHER TIME MUST BE LOST IN OUR NATION'S BATTLE TO PREPARE
FOR THE FUTURE.

IN ESTABLISHING THE FOUNDATION FOR A NATIONAL GROWTH
POLICY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST CARRY OUT TWO IMMEDIATE
ASSIGNMENTS. FIRST, IT MUST STIMULATE THE ECONOMY, AS WELL
AS CONTROL INFLATION -- IT IS TIME THIS ADMINISTRATION GAVE
AS MUCH ATTENTION TO THE CREATION OF JOBS, THE FULL UTILIZATION
OF PRESENTLY IDLE INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY, AND THE SERIOUS NEEDS
OF SMALL BUSINESS, AS IT IS GIVING TO THE CONTROL OF WAGE
AND PRICE INCREASES.

SECOND, THE ON-AGAIN, OFF-AGAIN APPROACH OF THE
ADMINISTRATION TO FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING MUST END. THAT IS
WHY I HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO GIVE
HELP TO OUR STATES AND CITIES NOW, ALONG THE LINES OF MY
LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL. THE REVENUE-SHARING SYSTEM I HAVE OUTLINED
WOULD GUARANTEE A SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE. AND IT WOULD ABSOLUTELY PROHIBIT ANY DISCRIMINATION
OR SPECIAL-INTEREST FAVORITISM IN THE ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL
DOLLARS, GUARANTEEING THEIR PASS-THROUGH TO OUR CITIES AND
REQUIRING THEIR EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF
PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR ALL THE PEOPLE.

-14-

BUT IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO REACT TO THE CRISES OF TODAY --
WE MUST PLAN AND ACT NOW TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS FOR THE PROBLEMS
OF TOMORROW. WE MUST FACE THE STARTLING FACT, FOR EXAMPLE,
THAT IF WE ARE TO TAKE THE PRESSURE OF INCREASING POPULATION
OFF OUR EXISTING METROPOLITAN AREAS, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO
ESTABLISH TWO NEW CITIES OF 75,000 PERSONS EVERY MONTH BETWEEN
NOW AND THE YEAR 2000.

THE NATIONAL GROWTH POLICY WHICH I HAVE LAID BEFORE
CONGRESS HAS THREE BASIC OBJECTIVES.

FIRST, WE MUST ASSURE A BASIC FLOOR OF SERVICES FOR ALL
OUR CITIZENS. WE MUST GUARANTEE THAT AMERICANS IN EVERY PART
OF OUR NATION HAVE ADEQUATE STANDARDS OF EDUCATION, HEALTH,
AND HOUSING; AND EVERY OTHER HUMAN NEED.

-15-

L SECOND, WE MUST MAKE "FREEDOM OF RESIDENCE" A REALITY
FOR ALL. TO LIVE AS A FREE PEOPLE WITH FREE POLITICAL INSTI-
TUTIONS REQUIRES THAT WE ALL BE ABLE TO CHOOSE WHERE WE WANT
TO LIVE AND WORK.

L AND THIRD, WE MUST HAVE A PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCING
SYSTEM THAT IS EQUAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT TASK. THE PRESENT
"STOP-START" SYSTEM OF PUBLIC FINANCING HAS RESULTED IN A
STRING OF BROKEN PROMISES TO OUR CITIES AND COMMUNITIES.

THESE OBJECTIVES CAN AND WILL BE REACHED UNDER THE TWO
MAJOR BILLS I HAVE INTRODUCED: THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC DEVELOP-
MENT BANK ACT, AND THE CONSOLIDATED FARM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
ACT.

-16-

THESE BILLS DIRECTLY ATTACK THE TWIN PROBLEMS OF RURAL POVERTY AND URBAN CONGESTION. THEY PROPOSE THE CREATION OF MAJOR NEW SOURCES OF FINANCING FOR CITY, TOWN AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ACROSS THE NATION -- NEW INDUSTRIAL PARKS, WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEMS, BETTER SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS, IMPROVED POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS, PARKLANDS AND RECREATION AREAS, EXTENSIVE AND MODERN TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES, AND ATTRACTIVE AND CONVENIENT BUSINESS DISTRICTS, TO CITE ONLY A FEW EXAMPLES. AND THEY PROVIDE FOR DECISION-MAKING AND EXTENSIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT THE LOCAL AS WELL AS NATIONAL LEVELS TO ASSURE THAT DEVELOPMENT TRULY MEETS THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE OF A PARTICULAR AREA.

-17-

WHY CANNOT WE APPLY THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL PRINCIPLES
AND SYSTEMS OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING RIGHT
HERE AT HOME? I SAY IF WE CAN BUILD A BETTER RIO DE JANEIRO,
THEN WE CAN BUILD A BETTER SHREVEPORT OR NEW ORLEANS. I SAY
WE MUST ALSO HELP SMALL COMMUNITIES AND RURAL PARISHES AND
COUNTIES PRESERVE THEIR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE: PEOPLE --
PEOPLE WHO CAN BUILD AND REVITALIZE THEIR TOWNS, AND WHO CAN
TRANSFORM RAVAGED LANDS INTO PRODUCTIVE FARM ACRES AND NEW
CENTERS OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.

WE HAVE THE RESOURCES AND THE TOOLS TO DO ALL THIS. WHAT
WE NEED IS THE WILL PROVIDED BY AN EFFECTIVE NATIONAL LEADER-
SHIP TO CARRY THE JOB THROUGH.

000774

-18-

YOU ARE DEMONSTRATING HERE TONIGHT YOUR READINESS TO ACT,
AND WE MUST SEE TO IT THAT YOU GET THE ASSISTANCE YOU NEED AND
DESERVE.

WE MUST ACT TO ASSURE A FUTURE OF HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY
FOR ALL AMERICANS. I CALL UPON YOU TONIGHT TO JOIN ME IN
ACCEPTING THIS CHALLENGE.

#



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org