

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
ARCHITECTS-ENGINEERS PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

Washington, D.C.

March 16, 1976

I am very pleased to be here with you today.

Seldom have architects and engineers had so much at stake in Washington as in this Bicentennial year. More and more the problems facing the legislative branch are those which have a direct impact on your profession.

There is a direct connection between orderly and purposeful development and the use of technology and the skills reflected by design professionals. This is because the basic issue that we all must address is the quality of life we want for ourselves and our children.

In our first hundred years as a nation, we did not have to think about priorities. As a fledgling democracy, with no place to go but up, we could afford to open the floodgates of technology. We were heirs to a great fortune in land, natural resources, skill and humanity. No one saw the need to review our progress every now and then to see if it all fit together into the design we wanted.

Now we find ourselves in an awesome web of technical know-how, tripping over our humanity along the way. Will we be gobbled up by our own creations or will we make them work for us?

We have to decide today whether we will design the future or resign ourselves to it.

It is essential that the consequences of technological applications be anticipated, understood, and considered in the determination of public policy on existing and emerging national problems.

You can help us.

Let's take a look at some of the problems our people face and with which we in the Congress and you as design professionals must be concerned. You'll be learning more about them during this conference. We need:

-- to continue our efforts toward achieving cleaner air, cleaner water, and safer environments;

-- to develop a transportation program for both urban and rural America;

-- to implement a housing program that replaces slums with sound, low cost, high quality housing for every family;

-- to solve the energy problems of the already-built environment by modifying existing structures to make them more energy efficient; and

-- to discover and develop alternative sources of energy which are less expensive than present ones and more abundant.

The Senate just last week passed design standards for new construction to foster energy conservation in our buildings. A companion measure will deal with over 35 million existing homes and other structures to make them more energy efficient.

Coupled with this approach, Congress is continuing to fund research to create alternative sources of energy which are abundant, less expensive and safe. This year alone Congress appropriated over \$100 million each for fusion and solar energy research.

There are some who would point the finger at technology saying that it has created many of our problems. It is polluting our air, our streams, our rivers, it's making our places of work unsafe and creating health hazards; it's making us captives of our own lifestyle.

I don't buy that argument entirely.

I know there have been unanticipated longer range effects of our great industrial growth and even of some of our recent remedial legislation. But I say we need to use our technology and our creative skill to solve these problems.

You can do it. You have in the past. It takes hard work and dedicated professionals like yourselves. But then, no one ever said it was easy.

Our legislation, rules and regulations should not be pennywise and pound foolish. We devote endless hours to the task of considering and debating and passing new laws and programs. But our duty does not end when we pass a law or launch a new program.

As you know, the Clean Air and Water Pollution and Control Acts are being reviewed by the Senate and we are finding that there have been some unanticipated effects creating economic difficulties in some industries.

This does not mean, however, that we will abandon our goal of a cleaner environment for ourselves and our children. But it does mean we will review the problems carefully and recommend ways of addressing them.

I don't accept the argument that we can't afford clean air or clean water. The net effect of environmental legislation often has been an economic stimulus, and this should continue to be the case.

New jobs are required to solve the problems of creating a better environment. New engineering and design techniques challenge our ingenuity; new equipment must be manufactured; and new capital can be generated.

More importantly, studies also show that we are beginning to succeed in cleaning up our water and our air.

We need to get away from campaign slogans on environmental issues, and begin hard thinking. A cooperative effort to merge well-planned development and a cleaner environment, is demanded for the sake of our future.

Your presence here today acknowledges what we all know: you can't change things by standing on the outside. You've got to get involved and work. You can, and do, and will, make the difference.

Effective legislation and efficient, realistic administration of national goals is dependent on the existence of a cooperative working partnership between the government and the private sector.

In recent years, Congress has made significant progress in fostering this cooperation particularly as it relates to technology.

The Office of Technology Assessment was created in 1972 to help us understand the interrelationship between proposed legislation and technology. At that time it was estimated that 40 to 60 percent of all legislation considered by Congress contained a technological component crucial to the bill's intent and execution. Today that percentage is probably higher. OTA's job is to advise us not only of the technological problems that could be caused by legislation but also to provide positive alternatives.

You also need to focus your attention on the various Congressional committees and the legislation before them. Both Houses of Congress have taken action to make Congressional committee meetings open to the public on most business. Legislation has passed the Senate and is now pending in the House which would provide that, except under certain specified circumstances, all meetings of multiheaded Government agencies would be open to the public.

You and the organizations representing you need to know the issues and know which are likely to be addressed by legislation. You need to stay in touch with your own elected representatives and tell them how you feel on these issues so that your views and technical expertise can be considered in light of other debate.

As you define these issues and develop plans to see them translated into effective, realistic public policy, I want you to remember two important points.

One. This government is not perfect. It is not perfect because it's run by 215 million people, none of whom are perfect.

That's right. Representative democracy is not -- it cannot be -- perfect, and I, for one, don't think it has to be perfect to be successful.

Winston Churchill once said, "Many forms of government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe...no one pretends that democracy is perfect or allwise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time."

The word "efficiency" is not found in any of our national documents. But you will find these words: equality, liberty, justice.

The second thing I want you to remember is that you have a right to be here.

The word "lobby" conjures up a bad image in the minds of many of our people. Contrary to the view which exists in some quarters, lobbyists are not back-room heavies who dangle politicians on a puppet string. There are some, of course, who seek to wield undue influence, but they are in the minority, and much of this kind of activity has been exposed and stopped.

No, the vast majority of those who belong to special interest groups are citizens like you and me with special needs, with subjective concerns, and a spokesman to voice these concerns before the Congress, in the White House, and before the Federal agencies.

This not only is acceptable; it is required if this government is to be responsive to the needs of all its people.

The Founders, in their great wisdom, created what Daniel Webster called, "The people's government, made for the people, made by the people, and answerable to the people."

The Framers of the Constitution left no doubt where the concentration of power was to be in our government.

"We the People," they wrote.

Vast power is concentrated in this phrase, "We the People." In it lies an enormous gift, a monumental challenge, and a charge to the citizens of this great land to make their government what it ought to be.

And, my friends, whether you like it or not, the name of the game is politics. Dirty word though it has become to some people, politics is the way to get things done in our system of government.

It is the life-blood of representative democracy.

It is the vehicle of change.

It is the means by which conflicts and competing interests can be resolved peacefully.

But politics goes beyond this. And it goes beyond your professional interest and technical skills. Politics and the democratic system are the means by which we can choose leaders who will represent us and protect our rights and interests. Through politics we can remove them when they fail.

1976 is a very special year. Not only does it mark the 200th anniversary of this country, but it is also election year. Each and every election is a celebration of democracy. Each and every election takes us a step closer to achieving the ideals expressed by our Constitution.

Yet at a time when those ideals are most in need of rebirth we have witnessed a decline in voting and participation in our political system.

In 1972, only 55 percent of America's eligible voters went to the polls -- the lowest percentage in a quarter of a century. Some 68 million eligible citizens did not vote.

The figures were even worse in 1974. The Census Bureau found that only 45 percent of the voting age population voted in the Congressional elections of that year.

People in this country, more than anywhere else in the world, have only themselves to blame when they get sorry leadership. If you want good government, if you want responsive leadership, you will have to put something of yourself into it. If you don't, your credentials for criticism are sadly lacking.

When you elect a President this fall, remember that you are electing more than just the one person to serve in that capacity. You are also electing a Federal Reserve Board, an Environmental Protection Agency, a Department of Health, Education and Welfare, a Department of Transportation and a host of other administrators who will be implementing programs which affect your profession and your way of life.

You and you alone, can choose to retreat from the challenge of government that tries its best to solve the problems of its citizens. Or you can choose to restore the progressive tradition of a people's government designed to meet people's needs.

One of the great moral political leaders of our time was my dear and good friend Adlai Stevenson.

Adlai reminded us that democracy is not self-executing. We have to make it work through sober thought and constructive criticism. We need to reason together to see new facts in light of old principles, and evaluate old principles in the light of new facts.

Democracy's need for wisdom will remain as perennial as its need for liberty. Self-examination is the perennial price of liberty. The work of self-government never ceases.

A part of this self-examination will take place here during your conference. It's up to each and every one of you to speak out.

You have one of the biggest stakes in seeing that government faces up to the hard answers. Your voice is as vital now as it ever has been. Use it wisely. But most of all, use it.

✓ Prudent De Moll

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

- Bill Slayton -

ARCHITECTS-ENGINEERS PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

✓ Leo White - Capital Architect

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MARCH 16, 1976

Saul Amick as min
(liney banded)

no expert

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WE ALL MUST ADDRESS IS THE QUALITY OF LIFE WE WANT FOR OURSELVES
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APPLICATIONS BE ANTICIPATED, UNDERSTOOD, AND CONSIDERED IN THE

DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC POLICY ON EXISTING AND EMERGING NATIONAL

PROBLEMS.

We need your help⁻³⁻
~~YOU CAN HELP US.~~

Here in D.C.
Capitol - Westfront,
Parking lots -

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE PROBLEMS OUR PEOPLE FACE AND
WITH WHICH WE IN THE CONGRESS AND YOU AS DESIGN PROFESSIONALS MUST
BE CONCERNED. YOU'LL BE LEARNING MORE ABOUT THEM DURING THIS
CONFERENCE. WE NEED:

TO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TOWARD ACHIEVING CLEANER AIR,
CLEANER WATER, AND SAFER ENVIRONMENTS;

-- TO DEVELOP A TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR BOTH URBAN
AND RURAL AMERICA; (MUNICIPAL ROADS)
PORTS, ROADS, RAILS, WATERWAYS)

TO IMPLEMENT A HOUSING PROGRAM THAT REPLACES SLUMS
WITH SOUND, LOW COST, HIGH QUALITY HOUSING FOR EVERY FAMILY;

TO SOLVE THE ENERGY PROBLEMS OF THE ALREADY-BUILT
ENVIRONMENT BY MODIFYING EXISTING STRUCTURES TO MAKE THEM MORE
ENERGY EFFICIENT; AND

→ To Design our cities for living, working
& Recreation - (mayors)

↳ TO DISCOVER AND DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY

WHICH ARE LESS EXPENSIVE THAN PRESENT ONES AND MORE ABUNDANT.

↳ THE SENATE JUST LAST WEEK PASSED DESIGN STANDARDS FOR NEW
CONSTRUCTION TO FOSTER ENERGY CONSERVATION IN OUR BUILDINGS. / A

COMPANION MEASURE WILL DEAL WITH OVER 35 MILLION EXISTING HOMES
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↳ THERE ARE SOME WHO WOULD POINT THE FINGER AT TECHNOLOGY
SAYING THAT IT HAS CREATED MANY OF OUR PROBLEMS.

It is polluting our air, our streams, our rivers; it's making our places of work unsafe and creating health hazards; it's making us captives of our own lifestyle.

I don't buy that argument entirely.

I know there have been unanticipated longer range effects of our great industrial growth and even of some of our recent remedial legislation. But I say we need to use our technology and our creative skill to solve these problems.

You can do it; you have in the past. It takes hard work and dedicated professionals like yourselves. But then, no one ever said it was easy.

Our legislation, rules and regulations should not be pennywise and pound foolish or people foolish.

WE DEVOTE ENDLESS HOURS TO THE TASK OF CONSIDERING AND DEBATING AND
PASSING NEW LAWS AND PROGRAMS. BUT OUR DUTY DOES NOT END WHEN WE
PASS A LAW OR LAUNCH A NEW PROGRAM.

AS YOU KNOW, THE CLEAN AIR AND WATER POLLUTION AND CONTROL
ACTS ARE BEING REVIEWED BY THE SENATE AND WE ARE FINDING THAT THERE
HAVE BEEN SOME UNANTICIPATED EFFECTS CREATING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES
IN SOME INDUSTRIES.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT WE ABANDON OUR GOAL OF A
CLEANER ENVIRONMENT FOR OURSELVES AND OUR CHILDREN. BUT, IT DOES
MEAN WE WILL REVIEW THE PROBLEMS CAREFULLY AND RECOMMEND WAYS OF
ADDRESSING THEM.

I DON'T ACCEPT THE ARGUMENT THAT WE CAN'T AFFORD CLEAN AIR OR
CLEAN WATER. THE NET EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION OFTEN HAS
BEEN AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS, AND THIS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE CASE.

NEW JOBS ARE REQUIRED TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF CREATING A
BETTER ENVIRONMENT. NEW ENGINEERING AND DESIGN TECHNIQUES

CHALLENGE OUR INGENUITY; NEW EQUIPMENT MUST BE MANUFACTURED; AND

NEW CAPITAL CAN BE GENERATED.

*using Solid water
for fuel, fertilizer*

MORE IMPORTANTLY, STUDIES ALSO SHOW THAT WE ARE BEGINNING
TO SUCCEED IN CLEANING UP OUR WATER AND OUR AIR.

WE NEED TO GET AWAY FROM CAMPAIGN SLOGANS ON ENVIRONMENTAL
ISSUES, AND BEGIN HARD THINKING.

A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO MERGE
WELL-PLANNED DEVELOPMENT AND A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT, IS DEMANDED

FOR THE SAKE OF OUR FUTURE.

YOUR PRESENCE HERE TODAY ACKNOWLEDGES WHAT WE ALL KNOW: YOU
CAN'T CHANGE THINGS BY STANDING ON THE OUTSIDE.

YOU'VE GOT TO GET
INVOLVED AND WORK. YOU CAN, AND DO, AND WILL, MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.

Effective legislation and efficient, realistic administration of national goals is dependent on the existence of a cooperative working partnership between the government and the private sector,

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Today that percentage is probably higher. OTA's job is to advise us not only of the technological problems that could be caused by legislation but also to provide positive alternatives.

✓ You ALSO NEED TO FOCUS YOUR ATTENTION ON THE VARIOUS
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND THE LEGISLATION BEFORE THEM. ✓ BOTH
HOUSES OF CONGRESS HAVE TAKEN ACTION TO MAKE CONGRESSIONAL
COMMITTEE MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON MOST BUSINESS.

✓ LEGISLATION HAS PASSED THE SENATE AND IS NOW PENDING IN THE
HOUSE WHICH WOULD PROVIDE THAT, EXCEPT UNDER CERTAIN SPECIFIED
CIRCUMSTANCES, ALL MEETINGS OF MULTIHEADED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
WOULD BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

✓ YOU AND THE ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING YOU NEED TO KNOW
THE ISSUES AND KNOW WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE ADDRESSED BY LEGISLATION.

✓ YOU NEED TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR OWN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES
AND TELL THEM HOW YOU FEEL ON THESE ISSUES SO THAT YOUR VIEWS AND
TECHNICAL EXPERTISE CAN BE CONSIDERED IN LIGHT OF OTHER DEBATE.

As you define these issues and develop plans to see them translated into effective, realistic public policy, I want you to remember two important points.

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Winston Churchill once said, "Many forms of government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe...no one pretends that democracy is perfect or allwise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time."

THE WORD "EFFICIENCY" IS NOT FOUND IN ANY OF OUR NATIONAL DOCUMENTS. BUT YOU WILL FIND THESE WORDS: EQUALITY, LIBERTY, JUSTICE.

#2 THE SECOND THING I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER IS THAT YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO BE HERE.

THE WORD "LOBBY" CONJURES UP A BAD IMAGE IN THE MINDS OF MANY OF OUR PEOPLE, CONTRARY TO THE VIEW WHICH EXISTS IN SOME QUARTERS, LOBBYISTS ARE NOT BACK-ROOM HEAVIES WHO DANGLE POLITICIANS ON A PUPPET STRING. THERE ARE SOME, OF COURSE, WHO SEEK TO WIELD UNDUE INFLUENCE, BUT THEY ARE IN THE MINORITY, AND MUCH OF THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY HAS BEEN EXPOSED AND STOPPED.

NO, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO BELONG TO SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ARE CITIZENS LIKE YOU AND ME WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, WITH SUBJECTIVE CONCERNS, AND ^{needs} A SPOKESMAN TO VOICE THESE CONCERNS BEFORE THE CONGRESS, IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL AGENCIES.

L THIS NOT ONLY IS ACCEPTABLE; IT IS REQUIRED IF THIS GOVERNMENT
IS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF ALL ITS PEOPLE.

{ THE FOUNDERS, IN THEIR GREAT WISDOM, CREATED WHAT DANIEL
WEBSTER CALLED, "THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT, MADE FOR THE PEOPLE,
MADE BY THE PEOPLE, AND ANSWERABLE TO THE PEOPLE."

L THE FRAMERS OF THE CONSTITUTION LEFT NO DOUBT WHERE THE
CONCENTRATION OF POWER WAS TO BE IN OUR GOVERNMENT.

L "WE THE PEOPLE," THEY WROTE.

L VAST POWER IS CONCENTRATED IN THIS PHRASE, "WE THE PEOPLE."

L IN IT LIES AN ENORMOUS GIFT, A MONUMENTAL CHALLENGE, AND A CHARGE
TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS GREAT LAND TO MAKE THEIR GOVERNMENT WHAT IT
OUGHT TO BE.

h AND, MY FRIENDS, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT, THE NAME
OF THE GAME IS POLITICS. h DIRTY WORD THOUGH IT HAS BECOME
TO SOME PEOPLE, POLITICS IS THE WAY TO GET THINGS DONE IN OUR
SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

h IT IS THE LIFE-BLOOD OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY.

h IT IS THE VEHICLE OF CHANGE.

h IT IS THE MEANS BY WHICH CONFLICTS AND COMPETING INTERESTS
CAN BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY.

h BUT POLITICS GOES BEYOND THIS. h AND IT GOES BEYOND YOUR
PROFESSIONAL INTEREST AND TECHNICAL SKILLS. h POLITICS AND THE
~~DEMOCRATIC~~ SYSTEM ARE THE MEANS BY WHICH WE CAN CHOOSE LEADERS
WHO WILL REPRESENT US AND PROTECT OUR RIGHTS AND INTERESTS. and,

h THROUGH POLITICS WE CAN REMOVE THEM WHEN THEY FAIL.

h 1976 IS A VERY SPECIAL YEAR, (NOT ONLY DOES IT MARK THE

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS COUNTRY, BUT IT IS ALSO ELECTION YEAR.

h EACH AND EVERY ELECTION IS A CELEBRATION OF DEMOCRACY. (EACH

AND EVERY ELECTION TAKES US A STEP CLOSER TO ACHIEVING THE

IDEALS EXPRESSED BY OUR CONSTITUTION.

h YET AT A TIME WHEN THOSE IDEALS ARE MOST IN NEED OF

REBIRTH WE HAVE WITNESSED A DECLINE IN VOTING AND PARTICIPATION

IN OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM.

h IN 1972, ONLY 55 PERCENT OF AMERICA'S ELIGIBLE VOTERS

WENT TO THE POLLS -- THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE IN A QUARTER OF A

CENTURY. h SOME 68 MILLION ELIGIBLE CITIZENS DID NOT VOTE.

h THE FIGURES WERE EVEN WORSE IN 1974. h THE CENSUS BUREAU

FOUND THAT ONLY 45 PERCENT OF THE VOTING AGE POPULATION VOTED

IN THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS OF THAT YEAR.

PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTY, MORE THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD,
HAVE ONLY THEMSELVES TO BLAME WHEN THEY GET SORRY LEADERSHIP. If

YOU WANT GOOD GOVERNMENT, IF YOU WANT RESPONSIVE LEADERSHIP, YOU
WILL HAVE TO PUT SOMETHING OF YOURSELF INTO IT. If YOU DON'T, YOUR

CREDENTIALS FOR CRITICISM ARE SADLY LACKING.

WHEN YOU ELECT A PRESIDENT THIS FALL, REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE
ELECTING MORE THAN JUST THE ONE PERSON TO SERVE IN THAT CAPACITY.

a court
YOU ARE ALSO ELECTING A FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, AN ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY, A DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE,

A DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND A HOST OF OTHER ADMINISTRATORS

and agencies
WHO WILL BE IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS WHICH AFFECT YOUR PROFESSION

AND YOUR WAY OF LIFE.

h- You AND YOU ALONE, CAN CHOOSE TO RETREAT FROM THE CHALLENGE
OF GOVERNMENT THAT TRIES ITS BEST TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF ITS
CITIZENS. Or YOU CAN CHOOSE TO RESTORE THE PROGRESSIVE TRADITION
OF A PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT DESIGNED TO MEET PEOPLE'S NEEDS.

h ONE OF THE GREAT MORAL POLITICAL LEADERS OF OUR TIME WAS
MY DEAR AND GOOD FRIEND ADLAI STEVENSON.

h ADLAI REMINDED US THAT DEMOCRACY IS NOT SELF-EXECUTING. WE
HAVE TO MAKE IT WORK THROUGH SOBER THOUGHT AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.

h WE NEED TO REASON TOGETHER TO SEE NEW FACTS IN LIGHT OF OLD
PRINCIPLES, AND EVALUATE OLD PRINCIPLES IN THE LIGHT OF NEW FACTS.

h DEMOCRACY'S NEED FOR WISDOM WILL REMAIN AS PERENNIAL AS ITS
NEED FOR LIBERTY. and SELF-EXAMINATION IS THE PERENNIAL PRICE OF
LIBERTY. THE WORK OF SELF-GOVERNMENT NEVER CEASES.

A PART OF THIS SELF-EXAMINATION WILL TAKE PLACE HERE
DURING YOUR CONFERENCE. It's UP TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU
TO SPEAK OUT.

YOU HAVE ONE OF THE BIGGEST STAKES IN SEEING THAT
GOVERNMENT FACES UP TO THE HARD ANSWERS. YOUR VOICE IS AS
VITAL NOW AS IT EVER HAS BEEN. USE IT WISELY. BUT MOST OF

ALL, USE IT.

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