

HHH REMARKS
to

DOLAND HIGHSCHOOL REUNION - SOUTH DAKOTA

June 13 1976

Thank you very much. Thank you, Homer. Isn't it wonderful to have an old friend introduce you. One of the advantages of having a dear, old friend introduce you is that he'll lie a little for you -- make it sound real good!

One of the reasons I wanted to come here tonight, dear friends, is because I wanted to hear what Homer had to say about me, and I wasn't at all sure I ought to bring Muriel. But I got a hold of Homer outside here and I said if you don't tell on me, I won't tell on you. And we made a deal.

Truly, I'm very honored, not only because my old friend, Homer Krence (?) has presented me here to friends from Doland and Spring County and South Dakota, and ^{I see} people from all parts of the country -- but I must say that just to be back in Doland is a special delight for me and I've had already all the good time that a man could ever hope to have. Just seeing my classmates of 1929, seeing others starting with the classes of '26, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31, '32. I don't know how they got them all up here on this platform. Some of them heard I was going to speak and they got as far to the back of the room as they could in case they thought they could get out. But they knew me better than some of the rest of you.

Homer, earlier today, I was in Huron and I had hoped to see our Lt. Governor there but he knew where he ought to be and he was here. And I just want to pay my respects to Harvey Wallman (?), the Lt. Governor of the State of South Dakota. We're very proud of you, Harvey. (Applause)

And I want to thank Don Mendell (?) for his getting this meeting well underway. My, you ought to know the meetings I go to. This is the first meeting that I've been to for at least five years that started reasonably on time. And I gather that Don was responsible for it.

A group came up to Huron to pick me up. And it was really like old home week. One of my old buddies from highschool days and gradeschool days, in fact we started in the first grade together in Doland South Dakota. Desser Welch. (?) Old Desh came up there

to pick up his friend, Pinkie Humphrey. And we just had a great time. Desher was without a/^{doubt} the smartest man that ever came to Doland Highschool when he wanted to be! I want his kids to know that! Right? When he didn't want to be, that was another case. Dashler could have been valedictorian four times, but he thought it was too much effort at the time.

But ever so often he'd just sort of mow us down, just to let us know that he could do it, and then he'd relax again.

And then Gordon Twist (?) came up to see us. We're always glad to have a banker along. It was nice to have Gordon. He was with the group. Gordon had the car, Deshler and I had the conversation.

And then Leslie. Leslie Coats. Les Coats came on up, too. He left Rosalie here to do all the work. But Les was there and we started reminiscing. The last time I saw Les Coats I think was in Minneapolis in about 1929. And he came down to visit when I was a student at the University of Minnesota. He was driving a Model A, two-door sedan, and I was going to show him the bright lights and around town. And we started up town on Nicollet Avenue and so help me, we ran into a horse and the horse stuck his head right through the window. I was glad that the end that came through the window was the one that I saw there -- I mean if you know what I mean! It was the head!

And then Walt Hoffer (?) came along, too. And Walter's here tonight. Walter has been Mayor. Both Walter and I have been Mayor. We've got a non-dues paying union at having been mayor. He was Mayor of Doland and I was Mayor of Minneapolis and he told me he had more troubles than I had. I'm not sure if that's the case, But we had a great time and we looked over the country-side as we came by. Of course we saw the drought, but I must tell you in all honesty that when I remember the days of the '30s, it doesn't look anywhere near as bad now as it did then. And I think that despite the adversity that we face now and, bad weather, that we're

going to come through it all right.

We've learned how to take care of our soil a little better. I think the farmers are much better and everybody has better equipment -- and we're going to do all right. And I saw a lot of irrigation, too, and if I can put in a plug, do more of it! As long as there's water in the river, we ought to be able to get it on the ground.

Now my friend, Julian Hart, is here. Julian Hart, the son of Reverend Albert Hart. Albert Hart was ~~truly~~ ^{the} one of the great men of this community. He and my father were close friends. Albert Hart was the Pastor at the Methodist Church. And Julian and I used to attend there. We weren't always as attentive as we ought to be, because we could hardly wait for church to get out so we could get in his dad's car and I could get in my dad's car and we'd drive like mad and we'd go up and see Myrtle Drair (?) Or at least up by her place! I rememaber that we were always racing. That's before they talked about hot rods. But we were out there doing our little bit.

I met my favorite editor again tonight. And I get the TIMES RECORD every week at Waverly, Minnesota. And when I come home on the weekends I pick up the TIMES RECORD, I read all the news, I look at all the ads, and I see that Tip's doing all right, getting a lot of ad copy in that paper. And Tip Miles is my favoriate editor! If there's anyway he can get a Pulitzer Prize, I'd like to vote for it, because he really does a good job and he carries the news of this community.

And dear friends, as I came in here tonight, I saw some teacher friends of mine, too. I saw Reverend Hurther (?) and Lou Land, I saw Bernice Evans Webb, and ^{there} maybe more here that I should have seen. But I want them to stand up because they're very special. Bernice, please stand up. And Herb and Lou Land, where are you? Right back ^{the} there! I'll tell you, ~~two of the~~ prettiest I ever knew were Bernice and Lou Land. They were really good. And they look as pretty now as they did then and I just love them both. And

Irvin, we'll never forget you. No one ever did more for a school than Irvin Hurther, and for a community. He's one of the finest men I've ever known in my life and anybody that ever went to school under his teaching or ever played in his team, knew that they

had a wonderful experience and had a great teacher.

So, I just want to let them know right now how pleased and proud I am to have been one of their boys.

And, by the way, before I forget it, maybe some of you haven't met Muriel and I want my wife, Muriel, to stand up. Muriel, please stand up here, dear. Come on up here a little closer. (Applause)

I had to go to Huron, it was just a little ways away from Doland, all these Doland girls left me. And I went up to Huron and found Muriel. And we've been married since 1936. We have four children, as you know, three sons and a daughter, and nine grandchildren. Seven granddaughters and two grandsons. And I'm awfully proud of Muriel. She's had to put up with a lot, but I've been good to her as I tell her all the time anyway.

And you know, Muriel must have got a big kick out of that song up here because she thinks I'm a tightwad. When these Cordets (?) turned around and said, big spender, you know? I guess what they were thinking of is that because I'm in Congress -- we are big spending down there, you know it isn't our money. But I could just look at here and when they said "big spender" and she just whooped and hollered. I suppose I'll have to come up with something.

And my sister, Fern, is here tonight. Fern, where are you, dear. Fern, stand up. There she is in the back of the room. Fern Banes. And my sister, Francis, wanted very much to be here tonight but she couldn't make it. She's coming out to Minneapolis, however, tomorrow night, to see her grandson. So you see we have many memories.

My brother, Ralph, who is no longer with us, graduated from this highschool in the class of 1926. And I remember it full well because he went down to Dakota Wesleyan and I figured boy, is he living it up now. Going down there to those wicked colleges you know, where you can smoke and really have some fun. I used to go down to see Ralph down at Dakota Wesleyan. Mother and Dad would let me drive the old Model T sedan we had down there and momma thought it was just wonderful that a younger brother would want to go down and see the older brother. Mom never knew that the older brother told me get that car down here, I need it for the weekend! I never saw hide nor hare of him after I got down there! But it always seemed to me that Mitchell was^{just} about as far away as you

could ever get.

You know, not long ago, I had the privilege of addressing the graduating class in Washington, the Capitol Page School. We have Pages in the Senate and in the House of Representatives. And this is the second time that I'd been asked to be the commencement speaker. And I was so impressed with the ceremony. And I told him the following.

I looked out over the audience, and here were these wonderful young Pages thirty-eight of them graduated. There were only thirteen in our class of nineteen hundred and twenty-nine. I told them about that. And then they had the Marine Band there, and I said my gosh, I remember we had a band. It was the Doland Highschool band and we had to shuttle in and out from the graduating class down to toot the horn and get back up and act like we were graduates.

And there were Members of Congress, and there were members of the Cabinet, but I'll tell you that I'll never forget the graduation ceremony that night. And we had our graduation ceremony in the new gym because there was a new building constructed, as you may recall, in addition to our school here, in about 1928, '29. And the first graduation exercise was in that new gym. And I remember giving my valedictory speech and I was scared to death, despite the fact I'd made all those speeches in debate.

It was a great occasion and now, when I think of all the many times that I've addressed commencement exercises and travelled all over the world, I'm going to let you in on a secret. It's more difficult for me to talk here in Doland than it is to talk to the United Nations, than it would be to make a speech at Harvard or Yale.

I was up to Syracuse, New York, the other night. The first commencement speech I made as Vice President was at Syracuse University. Didn't bother me at all. But to talk to home-town folks, good lord, I feel nervous as all get out. Think I hadn't ever done it before. Because you know me too well! That disturbs me a little bit.

Let me just very quickly also pay my compliments to the Cordets (?). Why don't we let them know how good they really were. (Applause)

And before I forget it, the oldest alumnus of our highschool, Doland Highschool, is with us tonight. And that's Muriel Lawrence

James. And we're so happy that she's here. Muriel, where are you, dear, if you can let us know. Where's Muriel? There she is, way over there! Bless your heart. So nice --

And Burwin James is here, too. So I want to bring the whole family in. It's just wonderful. These are dear and wonderful people. They made me ^{just} feel extra good when I found that Mrs. James was here.

I want to also thank those who are responsible for getting this wonderful gathering here together. I know that Winifred Robertson and Gordon Twist (?) worked very hard. I know that Pearl Krence (?) worked very hard and Rosalie Coats, and Gordon, well I said Gordon -- I don't know whether Homer did very much about it, but they all pitched in. And imagine the number that we have here in this auditorium here tonight.

I got my first letter about this gathering on December 5th 1975. And I told my appointments secretary, Mrs. Culver, I said mark that down on my calendar. She said, well that's in June. I said, I don't care, just put it down there. And I can tell you honestly that we average about 40-50 invitations a day and sometimes as high as 75 a day. We get as many as 300 a week and over. And ever so often this day of June 12th would come up and Mrs. Culver would say, well you ought to think about that. You have to go way out to Doland and there are people in Minnesota that feel you ought to be there. And I said, never mind, we're going to go to Doland.

Finally, I had to let her in on the truth. I said do you know what Doland is? It is the intellectual, cultural capitol of the nation! (Laughter) I have explained about Doland to literally hundreds of thousands of people and I'm proud of this town. Of course I have to admit that we've been surrounded by larger communities but of lesser fame, like Redfield and Clarke, Huron, and places like that. (Applause) But we never took a back seat for anybody, you know. And we don't intend to start now.

I noticed when I came into this auditorum there was a plaque out there and it said something about the Hubert Humphrey Auditorium. Gee, I felt good! You know there haven't been many things named after me -- a few kids, a grandchild, and there are two bridges down in Florida, I got a couple of bridges put out to the space

center. And there's an old folks home, a senior citizens home up in Wadena, Minnesota, and a road out in Colorado. And that's all. And to think that you've named an auditorium after me! That's really something, and I really mean it. I'm appreciative of it. I saw the plaque on the wall. I wish I could bring a lot of Minnesotans here and let them know what they've done over here in Doland for me!

But this is a beautiful addition to this fine and wonderful school. And I'm sure you know that the school here means everything to all of us.

Doland is known for many things. To me, of course, I remember ^{basically} it/because of family and school. The school, we always had great pride in our school.

We were joking up here, those of us in the class of '29, about what part we played in "Captain Applejack" -- we were a very highly professionalized theatrical group/ ^{if} you know what I mean. We played down here in the local opera house. Now I've explained this to people in other parts of the world and the further I get away from home the more important this story seems to be!

And I remember our junior year. We had the play "Nothing But ^a The Truth" and again, we were the quality of/Gregory Peck and people of that nature. . . real professionals.

But we were proud of our school, we were proud of everything about it. And that team of 1932/ ⁻⁻ I hope I'm not mistaken in the year/ ⁻⁻ with our great athletic teams. In 1932 the Doland teams won the Northeast Conference in football and basketball and track -- went on to the state basketball tournament, the state track tournament, I believe they came in second in track and they were only knocked off by a point or two in the semi-finals. I'll never forget that game.

I remember the McNichol boys. I don't know if either Marvin or Melvin are here. But when I was Vice President I came into Tinker Air Force Base down in Oklahoma and there was won of the McNichol boys. I didn't know they were there! I thought I was, you know, just visiting another air base and here was one of my old highschool buddies. So, everyplace I go, I find people of that fame and of that quality.

Lou Terpstra was down to Washington just recently. His daughter-in-law works for a committee that I serve on and she, in fact, works for me. And Lou and his wife were there, and we had a great time. I don't think that Lou's wife had ever heard about all of our wonderful achievements quite so vividly as the way we explained them when we were together.

Now Muriel has heard me talk about Doland adinfinitem -- maybe adnauseam, as far as I know. But I have to remind her that when we opened up our new gym--I believe it was in 1928 -- we beat Huron. Boy that was a great day! I keep reminding her of that and I remember that football team in 1932, it took on Huron, and they also beat Huron. So I always consider that, you know that's the crowning glory, even though I'm proud of ^{having} lived in Huron, I never had the privilege of going through school in Huron.

I went through school in Doland. And to me, Doland was my dad, and my mom, my sisters and my brother. To me, Doland, where all the neighbors and Doc Sherwood, for example -- I never will forget that dear man. And Doc Williams. To me, Doland was the Methodist Church and it was the Catholic Church and it was the little Christian Church, as we used to call it down there. /

To me, Doland was our school, our elementary school and our highschool. To me, Doland was that little park that we had down here. I remember the park. And I remember when they built the hotel. They had to liquidate a little bit later, I don't know if they've got it back in operation now or not.

To me, Doland was just families that we knew by the dozens, and I hesitate to name them because I leave them out. But as we drove in here today, I was pointing out one house after another. I remember the Reilly family and their home there and they now have a filling station on that corner. That's where 212 intersects down there. And I went by and I said, oh yes, and there used to be Mrs. Woods. That's where she used to live.

And there was the LaBrie (?) family, that's where they used to live.

And there were the ^{Garthwate} ~~Garthweights~~ (?) and there were the Scogenhoses (?) and the Riskeys (?) and so on down the line. And over there was the Jones' family and there was the Schult family, and, oh, my goodness, I could go on and on.

And I'll tell you what was wonderful about Doland and what is still wonderful. People. People.

I've had many people ask me, what is it that really got you started in public life? What is it that inspired you? And I said, well, first of all, my father.

My dad was my teacher, my best friend. I loved him dearly. Poor mother, she had to put up with all that argument that we had. We were always talking in our family. You know it came naturally. And we were discussing things. Dad was the Mayor of this town, Walter, at one time. He was on the City Council. My dad was one of those who fought for the municipal light plant up here. I remember that. I was in the Boys Scout troop here when Albert Hart was the Scoutmaster as well as being a preacher over at the Methodist Church.

I remember so much, how much this family and this town of families meant to me. People were important in this city, in this community. And the reason I say people were important is because this community always supported its school. And I think the real test of a community is what it's willing to do for its schools, because that is the way you pay respect to yourself and to your children and your family.

And everything in my memory is about Doland, South Dakota. Amongst my pals, we had a sense of community, we knew each other, we knew each other very well. And we remember so well the many events that took place here. But the people in this city, or this community -- when I think of their intellectual attainment -- even though many of them were not formally educated, when I think of a man like Mr. Zonicky (?) who was the lawyer years ago in this town, when I think of a guy, W. Cook, who was the principal of schools, and Mr. Boss, before him.

When I think of all of our teachers, and I want to say that I've written about this, that the great influence in my life in Doland was in the Doland schools, and the teachers that we had. And those teachers, still today, are/^agreat influence in my life. And I think of the kind of community spirit that has characterized this community.

There needs to be a sense of community for people to really belong and to feel/^{that}they're a part of a society. Or to put it another way, when you feel that you are a part of a society, there is a sense of community. And one of the great tragedies of the great urban centers today is that their people don't feel that they belong. They live there, but they're not really involved. It isn't their life, it's their residence, it's a place they work or the place they sleep, or the place that they play. But it isn't their life.

Doland was like one great big family; lots of times troubles. But don't we have that in families? Sometimes bitter arguments, but we've had that in families. People very different. But that's true in families. But there was a sense of being and a sense of belonging, and a sense of caring. Everybody knew everybody. There was really no place to hide. There was always a place to be. And you had the feeling that you were wanted.

And this school above all other things, all other institutions, brought us together. Parents were brought together to see their children in these great basketball, football and track teams. Parents were brought together for the theater, for the band. They were brought together for the declamation and the oratorical contests, and for all/^{of}the community projects. The school was like the gathering room for parents and children. And it still is. And that's what has made Doland.

When we came in this door out here, we saw these cases full of trophies, full of trophies! I was looking around to see if we could find one for the class of 1929. We didn't do too good that year, class, I'm sorry to tell you.

As Lou Terpstra said, that class of '28 walloped everybody in football, and then we had to take a beating from the team's next year just to get even. We were the sacrificial lambs. We had to be sacrificed on the alter of equality of treatment.

But all around out here you see the honors that have been won, not bestowed, but won by the young people in this school system. And those of us that have been privileged to graduate from Doland Highschool, I think we have a right to stand tall and proud. This town is something, and how many times we have thought about what it has meant to us.

I went from this town to Minneapolis, Minnesota. I went to the University of Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota was just another building block in my life. A marvelous opportunity. And then I had to check out of that school because of the depression. And I came back, and then Dad and Mother had moved to Huron, South Dakota.

And that, like going to the University. . . I've had such wonderful good fortune in my life; to go to school in Doland; to live here in the formative years of my life; to go to the great University of Minnesota and receive a real inspiration for learning. And then, to have learned the hard lessons of sacrifice and trouble in the depression, going back to Huron, South Dakota and meeting Muriel and finding her, and marrying this lovely woman, and then the two of us off again to the University of Minnesota to make our life for ourselves; returning to the school in 1937.

One of the things about my life, at least is, that I've always been in a hurry. I didn't have time for four years in the University because I wanted to get my degree. And so we did it three. And Muriel worked day and night to make that possible. I had one of the first student fellowships. My wife. She worked her heart out for me. And then, later on, I went to graduate school. I came back and I taught. It was over at Macalester College, teaching for the Air Corps there, for better than a year.

And then it was my privilege to run as Mayor of Minneapolis and to lose the first time around. And then to run again and to be elected and to be given a chance to serve as Mayor of the 15th largest city in the United States.

But all of that, dear friends, all of that has memories of Doland, and that is true. My life here. When you were in a town as long as I was, from the day that I was four years old until I was nineteen years of age -- those fifteen years of my life were very important. And they taught me lessons that I've never forgotten, and they've given me friends that will never leave me.

And from that day on of going to Minneapolis, much of it has been public life. And I want you to know that while it has been public life, it has also been a chance for family life, not nearly as much as we might have wanted. But we've been blessed in our family with three fine sons and a daughter, as I said, wonderful grandchildren. We've been blessed with good fortune. I haven't had all that I aspired to and I'm sure there's good reason for that, but I've had more than most people ever had a chance to even dream of.

And therefore, I'm a happy man. I'm a fulfilled man. And at this time in my life, I must say that I feel more of a sense of peace, and yet more of a sense of fulfillment than at any time in my life. And I come back to my roots. Come back home. And when I come here, I know why I feel this way.

To see my pals of early days, to see my friends, to see some of those that were before me in school here makes me feel that I'm very much a part of the community that is called Doland.

Well, I'd like to reminisce a little bit more for you, I'd like to tell you about all the wonderful events that we thought we went through as students, but you don't have that time and I don't want to bore you. I'd just like to tell you that my life as a public official has been an exciting one in many ways. Muriel and I have travelled the world over. We've dined with kings and emperors and we have been with the poorest of the poor. We've been with people of every walk of life, every race, creed and nationality. I've been in every state of this union and 62 countries. And I've had the opportunity to see most of America, first hand.

And unlike some people today, I'm not a pessimist. I know that there is a sort of a mood that people talk about in the country, they call it cynicism and despair. I think it's somewhat in the eye of the beholder. I see hundreds of thousands of people and I spend time with people, not just see them with a kind of a glassy stare. But I like to talk with them. I like to hold their hand, to shake hands, see their children.

And I'm here to tell you that this country is filled with a boundless faith, boundless energy and great faith. It's just waiting to be released.

The young people of today are much better prepared than we ever were. These young ladies that sang here tonight, almost professional in their skills. I see thousands of young people every week in Washington. I spend hours with them because maybe that's one little contribution that I might be able to make. And while I know that there are young people that get into difficulty, what's new about that?

And while I know that there are those that disappointment their parents, what's new about that? And I know that there are those that somehow or other fall by the way. That's not new either. The real truth in what's new is that there are so many of them that are so healthy, so vibrant, so well educated, so mature, so outgoing today as compared to the days when I was a boy in Doland schools. They know more. They understand more.

I can't recall having had many great experiences in terms of worldly travel when I was eighteen. I'd been to Minneapolis once, Watertown, a few times, Aberdeen, occasionally, Sioux Falls for the basketball tournament, and Redfield, occasionally. That was about the length -- and Mitchell, South Dakota -- I think that's about how much of an urban citizen I was.

Today, the young people of this City, of this State and this County, come by the hundreds to Washington, to New York. They see the United Nations, they visit Williamsburg, they see the Nation's Capitol, they get out to see their State Capitol. They are a better informed people.

And we take better care of our people now, dear friends, and let's think about that for a moment.

I remember when I used to travel to Redfield there was what they called the poorhouse on the side of the hill. That isn't any longer. We have Social Security now and we have homes for people that we call senior citizens; not nearly enough, but we've made great breakthroughs.

I remember when there were times that we used to put away our people that were mentally disturbed and locked them up. Today we don't do that anymore, we look upon them as one of God's children, and we try to rehabilitate and to train and to educate.

And no longer do we hide the fact that someone in our family may be different. It's a very different country. It's a much more humane and decent country, believe me. In the fundamentals, it's more decent. It is more humane and it is more moral that it was in days gone by.

Today we're concerned about a person without a job. Today we are concerned that people do not have enough to eat. And we have learned that a good diet means a chance for a good life. We know more about how to care for people. And I ask you to give of your time and attention to these things.

What is America? America is another word for humanity. America? How do you define it? You define it by the word "freedom" and "people". America is not a piece of geography between two oceans and two borders. America is an idea. It's an idea about God-given rights that God Almighty gave to us in soul and spirit, of life and of liberty and of the pursuit of happiness.

These are rights that belong to us because we are the children of God. They can't be taken away from us. And that's why in the Declaration of Independence it is written that governments are established amongst men to secure and guarantee these rights.

~~I~~ I want the people of Doland to know that America's greatness is not because it produces massive weapons, even though we do. America's greatness is not because we put a man on the moon, even though we have. And America's greatness is not only because we have championed the cause of many nations and we have been generous as a victor even to the vanquished because, indeed, all of that we have.

America's greatness is because it cares about people. Maybe not as much as we could, but we're growing and we're doing better all the time.

I've been listening to the politicians this year and I'm one of them. And all too often what I hear is, are we ahead of the Russians? Are we ahead of them, and what do we mean? Do we have more missiles than they have? Are ours better than theirs? Is the Cruise missile the new weapon? Will the B-1 give us the protection that we need? Will the Trident submarine that cost a billion and a half dollars each make us invulnerable?

In other words, the candidates for the highest office of this land are arguing about who is the biggest bully in the block!

Who has the muscle?

Well, ladies and gentlemen, there's no doubt that we have the muscle, let me tell you that. I know of this country's strength. We have incredible power. We have massive military power. We are without a doubt unequalled in military power -- and don't let anybody tell you that we're not. And we will be, because we're never going to let anybody threaten our security.

But, what is it that makes for security? Not just weapons, but love of country. When people love their country, when they feel they're a part of it, when they feel that their country gives them a chance, they then are true patriots.

I've said it many times, but I repeat it to my friends in Doland. A great English philosopher once said, John Stewart Mill, his name, "Let a person have nothing to do for his country, and he shall have no love for it."

America needs to be loved. And if it's going to be loved, then it has to have people that feel they're a part of it, that they belong, that they're wanted whether they're black or white; whether they're urban or rural; whether they're rich or poor. They've got to feel that this country cares about them and that their government cares about them and they have to feel that they care about their country.

Dear friends, I find that there's a lot of that caring and feeling around America. And I'm here to give you a report on the state of the nation. And the state of the nation is this -- that our people are not satisfied with the yesterdays. That does not mean that they are bitter or embittered. It means they know that they can do better. They know that America can set its own goals, that we can have our own standards, that we can have achievements that are so meaningful to us. And there are people in America today by the hundreds of thousands that are restless to get on with the job -- not only of America in being Number 1 in military power, but, dear friends, in being Number 1 in caring for each other; ~~to~~ To be Number 1 in cleaning up our cities; ~~to~~ To be Number 1 in trying to have a community that is free of violence and crime; ~~to~~ To be Number 1

in health and health care;

to be Number 1 in education for everyone, the handicapped,
the normal, the child, the adult;

to be Number 1 in the housing of our people;

to be Number 1 in the jobs for our people.

These are the things that we ought to aspire to. And, dear friends, if we can be Number 1 in caring for one another; if we can be Number 1 in breaking down prejudice and bigotry; if we can be Number 1 in cleaning up the cities that are rotting from within; if we can be Number 1 in education for all of our people, and health care for all of our people, I'll tell you that we'll be the strongest nation that the world ever knew!

We'll be strong not only in the cutting edge of our military, but we'll be strong of body and strong of heart, and strong of mind. And the real security of a nation is not in its machines, but in its people. And that's what I meant when I talked about Doland Highschool.

Doland Highschool didn't make me rich, it didn't add a lot of big honors. Doland Highschool just gave me an understanding about people. It gave me a sense of caring. It gave me some kind of desire to do better. And the people of this community helped me.

So I come back here tonight as your neighbor, your friend, just to say thank you. And let's try from here on out to even do better than we've already done.

God bless you. Thank you very, very much.

#



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