

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

NATIONAL COLLABORATION FOR YOUTH

Washington, D. C.

March 31, 1977

Thank you very much for inviting me to be a part of your Consultation on Youth Employment.

The organizations which make up the National Collaboration for Youth have an outstanding record of service to our nation's young people. The fact that you have taken time to hold this conference on youth unemployment demonstrates your willingness to take a leadership role in solving this tragic problem.

The young people of this country are fortunate to have such proven friends. The service to youth provided by organizations such as yours is the major reason why the Comprehensive Youth Employment Act of 1977, which I introduced in January, depends very heavily on nonprofit youth agencies as a prime source of job creation, job training and job counseling programs. You have had an outstanding record in the past, and that gives me great confidence that you will continue your outstanding performance in the future.

Now, more than ever, the youth of our nation need your help. All across the country, unemployment has dealt a devastating blow to the hopes and aspirations of our young people.

In February, the unemployment rate among teenagers 16 to 19 years old was 18.5 percent, compared to 5.2 percent among adults 25 years old and over. Among black teenagers, the unemployment rate was 37.2 percent and, in many of our central cities, disadvantaged youths experience an unemployment rate that exceeds 60 percent.

There are 3.3 million young Americans under the age of 25 who want to work today, who are knocking on doors that remain closed to them. Ready, willing and able to work, they have no jobs.

And, let me add that there are hundreds of thousands of youths who have become so discouraged by the lack of jobs that they have just given up looking. Of course, these young people don't even show up in the "official" statistics.

This is a national tragedy and unconscionable waste of one of our nation's most valuable resources. Almost every teenager and young adult I've met wants desperately to work and to be accepted as a productive and useful member of our society. They want jobs, they want to be productive, they want to earn their way, they want to be given a fighting chance.

Unemployment cheats them out of all this. Joblessness tells our young people that there is no productive role for them. It tells them that they will have to wait -- often for years -- before we will admit them to adulthood, years before they can earn their own income and become contributors to our national economic life. I'm sure each of you has had daily experiences with the personal burdens of unemployed youth -- the feelings of alienation, apathy and anger that accompany their deep frustrations.

The costs of this are enormous. Almost half a million of our unemployed young people are household heads, many with dependent children, but without the savings or unemployment benefits that many older workers can depend on until they find a new job.

How do you face your wife, your children and yourself when confronted with such a personal and economic calamity?

The economic loss is staggering -- youth unemployment is now costing America, \$10 billion each year in lost income and production.

But by far the largest cost to our youth is that joblessness denies them the opportunity to develop the basic work skills and work habits needed for employment while they are adults.

In an economic situation which provides too few teenage jobs, how are our young people going to get the experience needed to perform adult jobs, or even the chance to break into the entry-level jobs that begin the career ladder in our nation's businesses and in government?

If we do not move swiftly to provide jobs for our youth, we may well end up in the 1980's and 1990's not only with a youth unemployment problem, but with a whole generation of middle-age Americans who have little or no job skills and who will need total rehabilitation to become productive and self-supporting workers.

In addition, youth unemployment is a major source of crime. In 1973, the last year for which we have comprehensive figures, 55 percent of all those arrested for crimes were under the age of 25. Seventy-five percent of arrests for serious crime involved youths under the age of 25. Youth made up 60 percent of those arrested for rape, 75 percent of those arrested for arson and robbery, and 85 percent of those arrested for vandalism, burglary and auto theft.

Most often, these crimes are committed by young people who have nothing valuable or productive to do and who have been totally alienated from the mainstream of our society and our economy. Young people who don't have productive jobs turn to the "shadow economy" of the dark streets and the back alleys in order to get by. They get into trouble. They destroy their own lives, and become a lethal social cancer. There is no way that we can reduce or eliminate crime in this country until we solve the problem of youth unemployment.

The most direct and rapid way of alleviating youth unemployment is through specially targetted youth employment programs. Economic recovery alone will not be sufficient.

Too many young people live in decaying central cities or in rural areas where there are just no jobs to be had by youths or adults.

Many youth have failed in, or been failed by, our educational institutions, and have no marketable job skills and no way of obtaining skills.

The decline in small business, and the use by employers of artificial educational or experience requirements for jobs, also have worked to eliminate youth jobs.

Even if new employment opportunities open up as the economy improves, these structural problems will continue to plague our youth and deny them the jobs and work they need and deserve.

Only by creating useful and productive jobs that are specifically targetted at unemployed youth can we break the vicious cycle that denies jobs to young people because they are inexperienced or have poor skills.

The people of this country know that youth unemployment has become a major problem and needs a major solution. One of the most popular actions Congress could take this year would be to enact a youth employment program.

A Gallup poll taken in January showed that 85 percent of those interviewed favored a youth employment program -- one of the highest favorable ratings on any issue ever tested by the Gallup poll. Among youth, 95 percent were in favor. Clearly, our young people are eager to go to work.

I think Congress and the President have gotten the message. A number of major youth employment bills have been introduced in this Congress, and almost half the members of the Senate -- Republicans and Democrats alike -- have sponsored or co-sponsored youth employment legislation. The Senate Human Resources Committee has shown its commitment to youth by unanimously voting to recommend \$2.5 billion in fiscal 1978 budget for a new youth employment program.

The President also is fully aware of the serious extent of unemployment among youth. During February and March, I and a number of other Senators worked closely with President Carter and Labor Secretary Ray Marshall to develop a comprehensive youth employment program.

On March 9, as a result of our meetings, President Carter sent Congress a message outlining his proposals for the youth employment bill. We expect to have the bill any day now, and the Human Resources Committee will begin hearings on it right away.

The President's proposals contained in his message should make for a very effective program.

First, we will have a National Youth Conservation Corps that will employ young Americans in conservation programs in public parks, forest and recreation areas.

Second, we will have a program of youth community improvement projects that will employ young people to improve neighborhoods and communities and to maintain and restore natural resources on publicly owned land.

Third, we will have a major new comprehensive youth employment and training initiative which will provide a broad range of job creation, job training, and job counseling programs for our nation's unemployed youth.

This is an outstanding package and a great credit to the President. As soon as we have his bill, I am confident that the Senate will move swiftly on it.

Many of the President's proposals reflect the general principles embodied in the Comprehensive Youth Employment Act of 1977, which I and my friends, Senator Javits, co-authored.

First, the jobs that are created by the bill, whether they are in the private or public sector, must be useful and productive. Young people don't want make-work jobs any more than you or I do. The best way of insuring this is to have special projects initiated by local organizations that are concerned with youth.

We do this now with our summer program in Minnesota. We have a Center for Community Action that has employed 7,000 disadvantaged youth since 1971. They have built trails, constructed bridges, created picnic areas, and greatly expanded the recreational facilities available.

These young people take great pride in their work, and they should, because the people of Minneapolis, St. Paul, Hennepin and Ramsey Counties value it.

These types of projects, and other programs to rehabilitate housing, repair railroad beds, provide day care for neighborhood children, and anything else that needs to be done at the local level, could provide useful work for hundreds of thousands of unemployed youth nationwide each year.

Second, the jobs must provide some useful training.

Young people need to know how to get to work on time each morning, how to follow directions, and how to work cooperatively with others. These are the most basic skills, and they can't be learned sitting at home or on a street corner.

In addition, more specific skills also should be taught -- construction skills, mechanical skills, bookkeeping skills -- but they should be taught as part of the job.

Third, we should provide both full-time and part-time jobs, in both the private and public sectors. Out-of-school youth need full-time work, and in-school youth need part-time work, often so they can stay in school. We shouldn't ignore either group.

We should expand our work-study programs to give secondary school youth a chance to include part-time work in their educational programs. We also should expand our on-the-job training programs in the private sector, since 85 percent of the young people in this country will depend on the private sector for jobs.

Finally, we must upgrade the job counseling and placement services available to our youth.

More and better trained professional counselors should be placed in our high schools and junior colleges. And a national databank on entry level jobs should be set up, connected to computer terminals in locations that are convenient to youth. We have got to bring our employers and our young people back together again.

In all of these programs, your organizations would be among the strongest focal points for leadership in your communities.

Your organizations know what is needed at the local level and what projects could provide useful work for young people. You have worked closely with young people for decades and know their needs. You can go out and use your experience and imagination to make sure that these programs work for our young people.

We need you. And our young people need you more than ever. I shall make every effort to assure that you are deeply involved in our youth employment programs.

# # # # #

Mr Wm Brucker  
Boy Clubs of America

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

NATIONAL COLLABORATION FOR YOUTH

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MARCH 31, 1977



↳ THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR INVITING ME TO BE A PART OF YOUR  
CONSULTATION ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT.

↳ THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH MAKE UP THE NATIONAL COLLABORATION  
FOR YOUTH HAVE AN OUTSTANDING RECORD OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION'S

YOUNG PEOPLE. ↳ THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN TIME TO HOLD THIS  
CONFERENCE ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT DEMONSTRATES YOUR WILLINGNESS TO  
TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN SOLVING THIS TRAGIC PROBLEM.

Private  
Section

↳ THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE  
such proven friends. ↳ THE SERVICE TO YOUTH PROVIDED BY

ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS YOURS IS THE MAJOR REASON WHY THE

COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 1977, WHICH I INTRODUCED

IN JANUARY, DEPENDS VERY HEAVILY ON NONPROFIT YOUTH AGENCIES AS

A PRIME SOURCE OF JOB CREATION, JOB TRAINING AND JOB

COUNSELING PROGRAMS.

YOU HAVE HAD AN OUTSTANDING RECORD IN THE PAST, AND THAT  
GIVES ME GREAT CONFIDENCE THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE YOUR  
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE FUTURE.

Now, MORE THAN EVER, THE YOUTH OF OUR NATION NEED  
YOUR HELP. ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY, UNEMPLOYMENT HAS  
DEALT A DEVASTATING BLOW TO THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF  
OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

IN FEBRUARY, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AMONG TEENAGERS  
16 TO 19 YEARS OLD WAS 18.5 PERCENT, COMPARED TO 5.2 PERCENT  
AMONG ADULTS 25 YEARS OLD AND OVER. AMONG BLACK TEENAGERS,  
THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 37.2 PERCENT AND, IN MANY OF OUR  
CENTRAL CITIES, DISADVANTAGED YOUTHS EXPERIENCE AN  
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE THAT EXCEEDS 60 PERCENT.

h THERE ARE 3.3 MILLION YOUNG AMERICANS UNDER THE AGE  
OF 25 WHO WANT TO WORK TODAY, WHO ARE KNOCKING ON DOORS  
THAT REMAIN CLOSED TO THEM, READY, WILLING AND ABLE TO  
WORK, THEY HAVE NO JOBS.

h AND, LET ME ADD THAT THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF  
YOUTHS WHO HAVE BECOME SO DISCOURAGED BY THE LACK OF JOBS THAT  
THEY HAVE JUST GIVEN UP LOOKING. ~~OF COURSE~~ THESE YOUNG  
PEOPLE DON'T EVEN SHOW UP IN THE "OFFICIAL" STATISTICS.

h THIS IS A NATIONAL TRAGEDY AND UNCONSCIONABLE WASTE  
OF ONE OF OUR NATION'S MOST VALUABLE RESOURCES. ALMOST  
EVERY TEENAGER AND YOUNG ADULT I'VE MET WANTS DESPERATELY  
TO WORK AND TO BE ACCEPTED AS A PRODUCTIVE AND USEFUL  
MEMBER OF OUR SOCIETY.



↳ THEY WANT JOBS, THEY WANT TO BE PRODUCTIVE, THEY WANT

TO EARN THEIR WAY, THEY WANT TO BE GIVEN A FIGHTING CHANCE.

↳ UNEMPLOYMENT CHEATS THEM OUT OF ALL THIS JOBLESSNESS

TELLS OUR YOUNG PEOPLE THAT THERE IS NO PRODUCTIVE ROLE FOR

THEM. IT TELLS THEM THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO WAIT -- OFTEN FOR

YEARS -- BEFORE WE WILL ADMIT THEM TO ADULTHOOD YEARS

BEFORE THEY CAN EARN THEIR OWN INCOME AND BECOME CONTRIBUTORS

TO OUR NATIONAL ECONOMIC LIFE. I'M SURE EACH OF YOU HAS HAD

DAILY EXPERIENCES WITH THE PERSONAL BURDENS OF UNEMPLOYED

YOUTH -- THE FEELINGS OF ALIENATION, APATHY AND ANGER THAT

ACCOMPANY THEIR DEEP FRUSTRATIONS.

THE COSTS OF THIS ARE ENORMOUS. ALMOST HALF A MILLION  
OF OUR UNEMPLOYED YOUNG PEOPLE ARE <sup>heads of</sup> HOUSEHOLDS, MANY  
WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, BUT WITHOUT THE SAVINGS OR  
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS THAT MANY OLDER WORKERS CAN DEPEND  
ON UNTIL THEY FIND A NEW JOB.

How DO YOU FACE YOUR WIFE, YOUR CHILDREN AND YOURSELF  
WHEN CONFRONTED WITH SUCH A PERSONAL AND ECONOMIC CALAMITY?

THE ECONOMIC LOSS IS STAGGERING -- YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT  
IS NOW COSTING AMERICA, <sup>#40</sup> ~~200~~ BILLION EACH YEAR IN LOST INCOME  
AND PRODUCTION.

BUT BY FAR THE LARGEST COST TO OUR YOUTH IS THAT JOBLESSNESS  
DENIES THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THE BASIC WORK SKILLS  
AND WORK HABITS NEEDED FOR EMPLOYMENT WHILE THEY ARE ADULTS.

h IN AN ECONOMIC SITUATION WHICH PROVIDES TOO FEW TEENAGE  
JOBS, HOW ARE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE GOING TO GET THE EXPERIENCE  
NEEDED TO PERFORM ADULT JOBS, OR EVEN THE CHANCE TO BREAK  
INTO THE ENTRY-LEVEL JOBS THAT BEGIN THE CAREER LADDER IN OUR  
NATION'S BUSINESSES AND IN GOVERNMENT?

h IF WE DO NOT MOVE SWIFTLY TO PROVIDE JOBS FOR OUR YOUTH,  
WE MAY WELL END UP IN THE 1980'S AND 1990'S NOT ONLY WITH A  
YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM, BUT WITH A WHOLE GENERATION OF  
MIDDLE-AGE AMERICANS WHO HAVE LITTLE OR NO JOB SKILLS AND  
WHO WILL NEED TOTAL REHABILITATION TO BECOME PRODUCTIVE  
AND SELF-SUPPORTING WORKERS.

h IN ADDITION, YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IS A MAJOR SOURCE OF CRIME.

CRIME

7  
In 1973, THE LAST YEAR FOR WHICH WE HAVE COMPREHENSIVE FIGURES,

55 PERCENT OF ALL THOSE ARRESTED FOR CRIMES WERE UNDER THE

AGE OF 25. SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ARRESTS FOR SERIOUS CRIME

INVOLVED YOUTHS UNDER THE AGE OF 25. YOUTH MADE UP 60 PERCENT

OF THOSE ARRESTED FOR RAPE, 75 PERCENT OF THOSE ARRESTED

FOR ARSON AND ROBBERY, AND 85 PERCENT OF THOSE ARRESTED FOR

VANDALISM, BURGLARY AND AUTO THEFT.

Most OFTEN, THESE CRIMES ARE COMMITTED BY YOUNG PEOPLE  
WHO HAVE NOTHING VALUABLE OR PRODUCTIVE TO DO AND WHO HAVE

BEEN TOTALLY ALIENATED FROM THE MAINSTREAM OF OUR SOCIETY AND

OUR ECONOMY. YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE PRODUCTIVE JOBS

TURN TO THE "SHADOW ECONOMY" OF THE DARK STREETS AND THE

BACK ALLEYS IN ORDER TO GET BY. THEY GET INTO TROUBLE.

THEY DESTROY THEIR OWN LIVES, AND BECOME A LETHAL SOCIAL

CANCER, THERE IS NO WAY THAT WE CAN REDUCE OR ELIMINATE

CRIME IN THIS COUNTRY UNTIL WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF YOUTH

UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE MOST DIRECT AND RAPID WAY OF ALLEVIATING YOUTH

UNEMPLOYMENT IS THROUGH SPECIALLY TARGETTED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

PROGRAMS. ECONOMIC RECOVERY ALONE WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT,

TOO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE LIVE IN DECAYING CENTRAL CITIES

OR IN RURAL AREAS WHERE THERE ARE JUST NO JOBS TO BE HAD BY

YOUTHS OR ADULTS. *and,*

MANY YOUTH HAVE FAILED IN, OR BEEN FAILED BY, OUR

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND HAVE NO MARKETABLE JOB SKILLS

AND NO WAY OF OBTAINING SKILLS.

h THE DECLINE IN SMALL BUSINESS, AND THE USE BY EMPLOYERS  
OF ARTIFICIAL EDUCATIONAL OR EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR JOBS,  
ALSO HAVE WORKED TO ELIMINATE YOUTH JOBS.

h EVEN IF NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OPEN UP AS THE  
ECONOMY IMPROVES, THESE STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS WILL CONTINUE  
TO PLAGUE OUR YOUTH AND DENY THEM THE JOBS AND WORK THEY  
NEED AND DESERVE.

h ONLY BY CREATING USEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE JOBS THAT ARE  
SPECIFICALLY TARGETTED AT UNEMPLOYED YOUTH CAN WE BREAK THE  
VICIOUS CYCLE THAT DENIES JOBS TO YOUNG PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY  
ARE INEXPERIENCED OR HAVE POOR SKILLS.

h THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY KNOW THAT YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT  
HAS BECOME A MAJOR PROBLEM AND NEEDS A MAJOR SOLUTION.



ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR ACTIONS CONGRESS COULD TAKE THIS  
YEAR WOULD BE TO ENACT A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

L A GALLUP POLL TAKEN IN JANUARY SHOWED THAT 85 PERCENT  
OF THOSE INTERVIEWED FAVORED A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM --

ONE OF THE HIGHEST FAVORABLE RATINGS ON ANY ISSUE EVER TESTED  
BY THE GALLUP POLL. L Among youth, 95 percent were in favor.

CLEARLY, OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE EAGER TO GO TO WORK.

L *at least I hope,*  
I THINK CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT HAVE GOTTEN THE

MESSAGE. L A NUMBER OF MAJOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT BILLS HAVE BEEN

INTRODUCED IN THIS CONGRESS, AND ALMOST HALF THE MEMBERS OF

THE SENATE -- REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS ALIKE -- HAVE

SPONSORED OR CO-SPONSORED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION.

L THE SENATE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE HAS SHOWN ITS COMMITMENT  
TO YOUTH BY UNANIMOUSLY VOTING TO RECOMMEND \$2.5 BILLION  
IN FISCAL 1978 BUDGET FOR A NEW YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

L THE PRESIDENT ALSO IS FULLY AWARE OF THE SERIOUS EXTENT  
OF UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG YOUTH. L DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH, I  
AND A NUMBER OF OTHER SENATORS WORKED CLOSELY WITH PRESIDENT  
CARTER AND LABOR SECRETARY RAY MARSHALL TO DEVELOP A  
COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

L ON MARCH 9, AS A RESULT OF OUR MEETINGS, PRESIDENT  
CARTER SENT CONGRESS A MESSAGE OUTLINING HIS PROPOSALS FOR THE  
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT BILL. L WE EXPECT TO HAVE THE BILL ANY DAY  
NOW, AND THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE WILL BEGIN HEARINGS  
ON IT RIGHT AWAY.

L THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN HIS MESSAGE  
SHOULD MAKE FOR A VERY EFFECTIVE PROGRAM.

L FIRST, WE WILL HAVE A NATIONAL YOUTH CONSERVATION  
CORPS THAT WILL EMPLOY YOUNG AMERICANS IN CONSERVATION  
PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC PARKS, FOREST AND RECREATION AREAS.

L SECOND, WE WILL HAVE A PROGRAM OF YOUTH COMMUNITY  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS THAT WILL EMPLOY YOUNG PEOPLE TO IMPROVE  
NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES AND TO MAINTAIN AND RESTORE  
NATURAL RESOURCES ON PUBLICLY OWNED LAND.

L THIRD, WE WILL HAVE A MAJOR NEW COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH  
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING INITIATIVE WHICH WILL PROVIDE A BROAD  
RANGE OF JOB CREATION, JOB TRAINING, AND JOB COUNSELING PROGRAMS  
FOR OUR NATION'S UNEMPLOYED YOUTH.

4th Expansion of Job Corps -  
doubling

Chair 3<sup>rd</sup> - Work-Study in School  
6th - Youth Opportunities in Private Enterprise  
-13-

THIS IS AN OUTSTANDING PACKAGE AND A GREAT CREDIT TO THE  
PRESIDENT. AS SOON AS WE HAVE HIS BILL, I AM CONFIDENT THAT  
THE SENATE WILL MOVE SWIFTLY ON IT.

MANY OF THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS REFLECT THE GENERAL  
PRINCIPLES EMBODIED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ACT  
OF 1977, WHICH I AND MY FRIENDS, SENATOR JAVITS, CO-AUTHORED.

FIRST, THE JOBS THAT ARE CREATED BY THE BILL, WHETHER THEY  
ARE IN THE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SECTOR, MUST BE USEFUL AND  
PRODUCTIVE. YOUNG PEOPLE DON'T WANT MAKE-WORK JOBS ANY MORE  
THAN YOU OR I DO. THE BEST WAY OF INSURING THIS IS TO HAVE  
SPECIAL PROJECTS INITIATED BY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE  
CONCERNED WITH YOUTH.

L WE DO THIS NOW WITH OUR SUMMER PROGRAM IN MINNESOTA. WE  
HAVE A CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ACTION THAT HAS EMPLOYED 7,000  
DISADVANTAGED YOUTH SINCE 1971. THEY HAVE BUILT TRAILS,  
CONSTRUCTED BRIDGES, CREATED PICNIC AREAS, AND GREATLY EXPANDED  
THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AVAILABLE.

L THESE YOUNG PEOPLE TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN THEIR WORK, AND  
THEY SHOULD, BECAUSE THE PEOPLE OF MINNEAPOLIS, ST. PAUL,  
HENNEPIN AND RAMSEY COUNTIES VALUE IT.

L THESE TYPES OF PROJECTS, AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO REHABILITATE  
HOUSING, REPAIR RAILROAD BEDS, PROVIDE DAY CARE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD  
CHILDREN, AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AT THE LOCAL  
LEVEL, COULD PROVIDE USEFUL WORK FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF  
UNEMPLOYED YOUTH NATIONWIDE EACH YEAR.

2 SECOND, THE JOBS MUST PROVIDE SOME USEFUL TRAINING.

↳ YOUNG PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW HOW TO GET TO WORK ON TIME

EACH MORNING, HOW TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS, AND HOW TO WORK

COOPERATIVELY WITH OTHERS ↳ THESE ARE THE MOST BASIC SKILLS, AND

THEY CAN'T BE LEARNED SITTING AT HOME OR ON A STREET CORNER.

↳ IN ADDITION, MORE SPECIFIC SKILLS ALSO SHOULD BE TAUGHT --

CONSTRUCTION SKILLS, MECHANICAL SKILLS, BOOKKEEPING SKILLS --

BUT THEY SHOULD BE TAUGHT AS PART OF THE JOB.

3 THIRD, WE SHOULD PROVIDE BOTH FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME

JOBS, IN BOTH THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS. ↳ OUT-OF-SCHOOL

YOUTH NEED FULL-TIME WORK, AND IN-SCHOOL YOUTH NEED PART-TIME

WORK, OFTEN SO THEY CAN STAY IN SCHOOL. WE SHOULDN'T IGNORE

EITHER GROUP.



h WE SHOULD EXPAND OUR WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS TO GIVE SECONDARY SCHOOL YOUTH A CHANCE TO INCLUDE PART-TIME WORK IN THEIR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS. WE ALSO SHOULD EXPAND OUR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, SINCE 85 PERCENT OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY WILL DEPEND ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR JOBS.

h FINALLY, WE MUST UPGRADE THE JOB COUNSELING AND PLACEMENT SERVICES AVAILABLE TO OUR YOUTH.

L MORE AND BETTER TRAINED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS SHOULD BE PLACED IN OUR HIGH SCHOOLS AND JUNIOR COLLEGES. AND A NATIONAL DATABANK ON ENTRY LEVEL JOBS SHOULD BE SET UP, CONNECTED TO COMPUTER TERMINALS IN LOCATIONS THAT ARE CONVENIENT TO YOUTH.

WE HAVE GOT TO BRING OUR EMPLOYERS AND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

BACK TOGETHER AGAIN.

IN ALL OF THESE PROGRAMS, YOUR ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE AMONG

THE STRONGEST FOCAL POINTS FOR LEADERSHIP IN YOUR COMMUNITIES,

YOUR ORGANIZATIONS KNOW WHAT IS NEEDED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

AND WHAT PROJECTS COULD PROVIDE USEFUL WORK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

YOU HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH YOUNG PEOPLE FOR DECADES AND KNOW

THEIR NEEDS. YOU CAN GO OUT AND USE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND

IMAGINATION TO MAKE SURE THAT THESE PROGRAMS WORK FOR OUR

YOUNG PEOPLE.

WE NEED YOU. AND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE NEED YOU MORE THAN

EVER. I SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ASSURE THAT YOU ARE

DEEPLY INVOLVED IN OUR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.



# 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](http://www.mnhs.org)