

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

79TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

Minneapolis, Minnesota

July 29, 1977

What a privilege it is to be among my friends and fellow members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and to share in your annual celebration of peace, prosperity, gladness and hope.

I can't think of a better motto, nor one that is more typically American. Since its founding almost 80 years ago, the Order has undertaken a wide range of civic and benevolent works and programs in communities throughout this nation.

Many charters of government have spoken in solemn tones of peace and prosperity, of life and liberty. But happiness and gladness and hope bespeak an optimism that is distinctly American.

Civic responsibility is another American tradition. In America's frontier experience, communities preceded governments, and created their own rules to meet public needs and to enforce public duties. The new world fostered a continuing creative tension between individualism and the urge to join and to organize, a legacy still very much alive.

A third thread that recurs in the fabric of our culture is activism. We demand much from our government because we elect it and direct it.

If the American people want strong government, they want it to be competent, fair and compassionate as well.

Today I want to mention several areas in which government has provided successful leadership.

One of our great social advances was passage of the Social Security Act. Eagles can recall with particular pride their instrumental role in this move to increase the security, dignity and well being of older Americans. The great system they helped establish underpins our economic stability. Its role grows more crucial in the context of dramatic social and demographic changes.

These changes include the weakening of the close, extended family. Together with an unprecedented mobility, this trend has left many elderly Americans stranded in isolation and poverty without the aid and comfort of relatives.

At the same time, the number of older Americans is rising. Life expectancy moved from an average of 47 years in 1900 to 76 today. In 1900, one in every 25 Americans was 65 years of age or older. Today, that number is one in 18. Yet society remains geared to the needs and desires of the young.

Social and demographic changes are intensified by inflation that erodes the small, fixed income of the elderly. As a group, they are the poorest Americans. Nearly 60 percent receive less than \$3,000 a year in income, and at least three million live in dire poverty. Yet their health needs are the greatest.

The Social Security Act, with all its limitations, is a basic social policy that affects the life of virtually every American family. Thirty-three million persons receive benefits under Social Security. One hundred seven million people pay taxes to support the trust funds.

It has become one of the nation's most important and enduring institutions, outstripping the expectations of even its most visionary supporters.

To continue to perform its vital function, the Social Security system must keep pace with changing realities.

Almost every Congress has seen improvements in benefits and coverage. Now there is a good case for reexamining some of the premises and restrictions which made sense when the Social Security Act was created but have less validity in a new social and economic climate.

Social Security was conceived as an insurance program to replace wages lost by retirement and disability. An outgrowth of the depression, it was designed not only to replace lost earnings, but also to encourage older workers to leave their jobs and make room for the unemployed. It reassured an infant labor union movement that wages would not be depressed by the willingness of the elderly to work for low pay.

But today our goals should be an economy dynamic enough to create jobs for all Americans who wish to work, from teenagers to the aged.

To permit those elderly persons who wish to work to remain in the labor force would increase our gross national product and decrease public assistance payments. I believe it would do a great deal for the mental and physical health of Americans who prefer productive labor to idleness, who want earned wages instead of poverty, and who want to work with others rather than exist in isolation.

I consistently have supported legislation to liberalize the so-called retirement test, or limitation on earnings, to permit older Americans to achieve a better standard of living.

But a major overhaul in benefits requires that we act now to address weaknesses in the financial base. Congress is working on proposals by the Administration to prevent a shortage in trust funds created by a long period of simultaneous inflation and high unemployment, a miscalculation by Congress that over-adjusted for inflation, and the increasing proportion of elderly in the population.

We must restore a financially stable Social Security system -- this must be a priority in the 95th Congress.

As a parallel to the income security established 40 years ago by Social Security, the time has come to make health care accessible to every American.

One of my first legislative proposals as a freshman Senator in 1949 was to establish a national program of health insurance. In 1965, Congress passed Medicare as a dramatic commitment to the health of this nation's elderly. Although its value has been seriously eroded by inflation, not one of us would be willing to withdraw this basic protection from elderly Americans.

Americans spend more per capita than any other nation for health care. And health care costs double every five years. Medicare and Medicaid, which together absorb 60 percent of health spending by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, will jump 23 percent next year.

The health care cost this year is \$160 billion or almost 9 percent of our total gross national product. Yet millions of people lack adequate care. Forty million Americans are without hospital or surgical insurance and 18 million have no public or private insurance whatsoever.

Millions live in seriously underserved geographic areas.

We have more information on how to provide better care than ever before in our history. If we do not improve the health of all Americans dramatically, it is because we have not brought to the solution of this problem America's special brand of know-how, determination and pragmatism.

There are those who contend that health care is entirely the province of private enterprise. This philosophy maintains that health care should be available to those who are willing and able to pay for it, and not to those who want and need it.

I reject this viewpoint. Health care is a basic right, not the expensive privilege of a few. And government has a creative tradition of planning, regulating, financing and delivering health care for vulnerable groups, and whenever resources must be mobilized on a national scale.

At the National Institutes of Health, federal tax dollars have built the world's greatest medical research institution to stimulate and sustain a network of research by universities and individuals. I am most familiar with the work of the National Cancer Institute which directs the National Cancer Program, a systematic all-out attack on the disease most feared by the majority of Americans.

Not measured by our hopes or impatience, but by achievements alone, the National Cancer Program has made enormous strides in both basic research and improved clinical care.

In the 1930's, less than one cancer victim in five lived five years after treatment. Today, the ratio is one in three. Treatment could save 345,000 lives or half of the persons who get cancer each year.

Retinoids, a combination of natural and synthetic Vitamin A, offer new hope for cancer prevention. New methods such as combined drug treatments, blood transfusion, immuno-therapy, CAT scanning and ultrasound detection of tumors have been developed and disseminated. Modern surgery gets better results with less radical operations; radiation therapy has fewer side effects; and chemotherapy attacks some advanced cancers and prevents some tumor recurrence.

For others, the key to hope is basic research which is unlocking the mystery of the chemistry, structure and behavior of cells, and the immune defense system. We have only begun to reap the benefits of the groundwork laid by the world's most intense, professional and coordinated attack on cancer. The generous support of private organizations such as the Eagles brings us even closer to victory.

Increasingly, clues point to environmental causes and life style as mechanisms which trigger disease. Efforts to identify and eliminate environmental hazards have been expanded greatly. Although nutrition has long been recognized as essential to good health, research into the relation between nutrition and disease is in its infancy.

Physicians and medical schools have given the subject only peripheral attention and quacks and faddists too frequently have moved in to fill the void of scientific knowledge.

Neglect of nutrition reflects a bias toward acute care which permeates the health care system -- while preventive health care goes relatively unnoticed. The emphasis on sick care instead of health care means we have not even scratched the surface of preventive medicine as an element in both good health and cost control.



Better safeguards against industrial and environmental hazards, and the application of principles of good nutrition, could reduce vulnerability to cancer and other diseases. We can reduce the debilitation of illness and the side effects of treatment by careful nutrition control.

Increasingly reliable evidence suggests that diet has treatment potential as well. There is some evidence that tumor growth may be influenced by limiting the concentration of amino acids, or that special diets to reverse the loss of weight and appetite that often accompany cancer may strengthen the body's immune system.

I have spoken today of the government's role and achievements in some very basic aspects of human welfare. This role is and should be one of leadership. But in America each individual, and individuals working together in groups, ultimately decide the values their government will protect and the services it will provide.

It is fashionable to be cynical about government as an expression of the will of the people. But I'm old-fashioned. I believe that the average American still has a deep-rooted trust in government as an instrument to shape a better society and to promote those common goals of health, prosperity, peace, happiness and hope.

We are not suffering from an excess of activism. What we need is wider participation in this activism.

Ours is a huge, disparate nation with pluralistic institutions. Washington has no monopoly on knowledge. There are many functions that can be improved by an injection of common sense and a sensitivity to local needs. We need an intelligent division of responsibilities, and an active collaboration between public and private sectors and among local, state and national governments.

The climate is ideal for a new partnership between individuals and their government. Our president was elected with a mandate to streamline the federal government to make it more ethical, responsive and efficient. President Carter's town meetings and press conferences are more than symbols. They are a sincere effort to keep government close enough to the people to hear their ideas and enlist their support.

This is a clear trend in Congress as well. We have adopted a strong code of ethics. Right now, we are debating a system of mixed public and private financing for Senate elections to encourage small individual contributions and to limit attempts at influence-buying.

Citizens have new rights of access to government information and to decision-making processes. Sunset legislation now before Congress sets up a strict schedule of review to eliminate government programs that fail to perform their mission.

Regulation and paperwork are under scrutiny. We are trying to reduce delays and paperwork and to insure that regulatory agencies serve the consumer.

It is estimated that the federal government spends \$20 billion annually to print, process and store its own forms, while it costs the public another \$20 billion to fill them out. New laws and new information requirements will continue to originate paperwork. But we can do a great deal to simplify, to reduce the overlap, and to drop requirements that are obsolete or unnecessary.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles has demonstrated its high sense of personal and community responsibility.

It has played an active role in communities across America as a proven friend of youth, of the elderly, of veterans and of our needy neighbors. It has mounted campaigns against cancer, heart disease and catastrophic childhood disease. It has been in the vanguard of major social legislation at the state and national level.

My purpose today has been to endorse and praise this civic eagerness and stress its important role in national priorities and programs. The community concern and participation fostered by civic organizations at the local level is the lifeblood of representative and decent government.

You have done a great job, and we will count on you to continue.

# # # # #

General in Bratislava at the time of the Communist putsch of February 25, 1948. Through the years since then, I have sought to visit Czechoslovakia as often as I could and to stay in touch with conditions in that country. I was there just prior to and just following the Soviet invasion of 1968. I observed at the time that the fact that the Soviet Union did not have to use force directly to make Czechoslovakia a Communist country but had to employ a major military force 20 years later in order to keep it Communist says something dramatic about the appeal of communism after two decades of exposure to it.

Mr. President, on August 1, 1975, the 35 participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe signed a final act in Helsinki relating to security in Europe, and economic and humanitarian cooperation. I was encouraged at the time by the fact that among the principles to which the participants, including the Soviet Union, subscribed, was one which stated that "no consideration may be invoked to serve to warrant resort to the threat or use of force" against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. My colleagues may recall that in 1968, the Soviets justified their invasion in the name of "proletarian internationalism"—also known as the Brezhnev doctrine.

The fact remains, however, that some 50,000 to 70,000 Soviet forces remain in Czechoslovakia with the principal mission of insuring that no more Prague springs occur. Until the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia ends, there is no realistic prospect for the Czechs and Slovaks to exercise their sovereign rights as set forth in the U.N. Charter and reiterated in the Helsinki Final Act.

The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe was set up by an act of Congress in June of 1976 and signed by President Ford, to monitor compliance with the Helsinki Final Act. That Commission, of which I am proud to serve as co-chairman along with Congressman DANTE FASCELL of Florida, will play an important role in the U.S. Government's effort to insure that the principles agreed to at Helsinki—including the nonuse or threat of force—will mean something to the peoples of both East and West.

While there is hope—and it is only that for now—that Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe may be a thing of the past, we must not forget what happened in 1968 nor allow the Soviet Union to forget that its invasion and continued occupation of a neighboring country is in contravention of solemn obligations.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a statement prepared by the Czechoslovak National Council of America and issued each year beginning in 1971 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### FREEDOM IS INDIVISIBLE

On this sad occasion of the Ninth anniversary of the Brutal Soviet-led invasion and occupation of peaceful and freedom-loving Czechoslovakia, we American citizens of

Czech, Slovak and Subcarpatho-Ruthenian descent, again remind the entire world of this Soviet violation of key principles of international law incorporated into the Charter of the United Nations:

The brutal Soviet aggression and occupation:

(1) violated the sovereignty of a member state of the United Nations (Article 2, Section 1);

(2) was carried out in violation of Article 2, Section 4, which prohibits the use of military force in the relations between individual members of the United Nations;

(3) violated the principle of self-determination of peoples (Article 1, Section 2);

(4) was in conflict with Article 2, Section 7, which prohibits outside intervention in matters essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state;

(5) was in conflict with a number of resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, particularly with Resolution 2131 (XXI) adopted at the meeting of December 21, 1965, upon the Soviet Union's own motion, prohibiting any intervention in the domestic affairs of any state and guaranteeing its independence and sovereignty.

The continued Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia is another crime against the right of a small country to determine its own destiny and aspirations. The invasion was an intervention by the forces of reactionary communism to prevent the Czechs and Slovaks from establishing their own social order that did not endanger anyone and sought to contribute to the building of bridges across the discords of a divided world and to lend aid to a better understanding and cooperation among all nations on the basis of true progress and humanity.

The people of Czechoslovakia have not resigned themselves to these aggressive plans of Moscow. The day of August 21, is being commemorated in Czechoslovakia as a "Day of Soviet Shame" in a mighty and disciplined resistance against Soviet pressure. We are joining our friends in Czechoslovakia in asking the entire civilized world to support the people of Czechoslovakia in their effort to achieve "The withdrawal of Soviet Troops from Czechoslovakia."

#### IN PRAISE OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

Mr. HUMPHREY. Mr. President, on Friday, July 29, I was invited to address my fellow members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at their 79th annual international convention in Minneapolis.

Each of you is probably familiar with some aspect of the work of this remarkable organization that has made important contributions to communities throughout America.

Founded in 1898 by vaudeville troupers to promote peace, prosperity, gladness and hope, the order has flourished and expanded to the great benefit of the communities and countries it serves.

Although dubbed the Fraternity of the Common Man, Eagle history is a record of outstanding members and uncommon achievements. Six Presidents of the United States have been Eagles: Theodore Roosevelt, Warren G. Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy, and Jimmy Carter. A typical cross-section of America, Eagles include the famous and obscure, mighty and humble, great and small.

The Eagles won the nickname, "the Fighting Fraternity," through vigorous support of social legislation. From 1910

to 1940, the order was in the vanguard of social legislative progress.

Here are a few highlights from the history of this order since its founding in 1898:

In 1911, in Missouri, the order sponsored the first Mother's Pension Act and, a year later, was instrumental in enacting in Wisconsin the first Women's Compensation Act.

A few years later, the Eagles began to demand elimination of the poorhouse. In 1923, the Montana Legislature passed the first old age pension law of the Nation, sponsored by a prominent Eagle legislator. Eagles continued the campaign for social legislation at the State level, while campaigning for a national Social Security Act.

At the signing ceremony for the Social Security Act, President Roosevelt presented a pen to the order as a symbol of his approval of the "Fraternity's vision and courage."

Eagle civic and benevolent contributions have been generous in meeting community service and program needs.

In the decade of the 1950's, the Eagles raised over \$1 million for the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund; in the 1960's, the Eagles founded the Max Bear Heart Fund, which has donated over \$2 million for heart research. The Eagles have now founded the Eagles Cancer Fund, which has raised over \$2 million in addition to the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund. Most recently, the Jimmy Durante Children's Fund was founded to support research into the catastrophic diseases of childhood.

Now, the Eagles are leading spokesmen for the welfare of older Americans.

They support legislation which permits the aged to live in dignity and self-respect, including legislation to prohibit discrimination against the over-40 worker. They have created within 3,200 local Eagles units retired Eagles activities clubs and a Golden Eagle Fund to raise and distribute funds for gerontological research.

I was proud to have the opportunity to praise and encourage this public-spirited organization, and to discuss with them the continued need for enlightened social policy. I ask unanimous consent that my remarks be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the remarks were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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tradition. In America's frontier experience, communities preceded governments, and created their own rules to meet public needs and to enforce public duties. The new world fostered a continuing creative tension between individualism and the urge to join and to organize, a legacy still very much alive.

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If the American people want strong government, they want it to be competent, fair and compassionate as well.

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One of our great social advances was passage of the Social Security Act. Eagles can recall with particular pride their instrumental role in this move to increase the security, dignity and well being of older Americans. The great system they helped establish underpins our economic stability. Its role grows more crucial in the context of dramatic social and demographic changes.

These changes include the weakening of the close, extended family. Together with an unprecedented mobility, this trend has left many elderly Americans stranded in isolation and poverty without the aid and comfort of relatives.

At the same time, the number of older Americans is rising. Life expectancy moved from an average of 47 years in 1900 to 76 today. In 1900, one in every 25 Americans was 65 years of age or older. Today, that number is one in 18. Yet society remains geared to the needs and desires of the young.

Social and demographic changes are intensified by inflation that erodes the small, fixed income of the elderly. As a group, they are the poorest Americans. Nearly 60 percent receive less than \$3,000 a year in income, and at least three million live in dire poverty. Yet their health needs are the greatest.

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Social Security was conceived as an insurance program to replace wages lost by retirement and disability. An outgrowth of the depression, it was designed not only to replace lost earnings, but also to encourage older workers to leave their jobs and make room for the unemployed. It reassured an infant labor union movement that wages would not be depressed by the willingness of the elderly to work for low pay.

But today our goals should be an economy dynamic enough to create jobs for all Americans who wish to work, from teenagers to the aged.

To permit those elderly persons who wish to work to remain in the labor force would increase our gross national product and decrease public assistance payments.

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to liberalize the so-called retirement test, or limitation on earnings, to permit older Americans to achieve a better standard of living.

But a major overhaul in benefits requires that we act now to address weaknesses in the financial base. Congress is working on proposals by the Administration to prevent a shortage in trust funds created by a long period of simultaneous inflation and high unemployment, a miscalculation by Congress that over-adjusted for inflation, and the increasing proportion of elderly in the population.

We must restore a financially stable Social Security system—this must be a priority in the 95th Congress.

As a parallel to the income security established 40 years ago by Social Security, the time has come to make health care accessible to every American.

One of my first legislative proposals as a freshman Senator in 1949 was to establish a national program of health insurance. In 1965, Congress passed Medicare as a dramatic commitment to the health of this nation's elderly. Although its value has been seriously eroded by inflation, not one of us would be willing to withdraw this basic protection from elderly Americans.

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Today, the ratio is one in three. Treatment could save 345,000 lives or half of the persons who get cancer each year.

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Physicians and medical schools have given the subject only peripheral attention and quacks and faddists too frequently have moved in to fill the void of scientific knowledge.

Neglect of nutrition reflects a bias toward acute care which permeates the health care system—while preventive health care goes relatively unnoticed. The emphasis on sick care instead of health care means we have not even scratched the surface of preventive medicine as an element in both good health and cost control.

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You have done a great job, and we will count on you to continue.

#### WALTER "SALTY" BRINE—A MAN WHO CARES BOTH ON AND OFF THE AIR

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, Walter "Salty" Brine, during more than 30 years as morning man at WPRO—radio has become a Rhode Island institution. His sincerity and the knowledge that he cares about them, both in and off the air, has swelled the ranks of his listeners to the point where he has established himself as the premier morning man of Rhode Island radio.

Many police and motorists report that when "Salty," as he is known to his listeners, warns of an accident on the road ahead of them, the traffic slows down as soon as he warns his listeners.

In his private life, he also cares deeply about helping others and has devoted years to community work. He has been actively involved in fund raising efforts for handicapped and retarded children since 1959 and has helped with numerous additional charitable causes.

Two Rhode Island newspapers have published articles about Walter "Salty" Brine this year. One is in the Rhode Islander magazine in the Providence Sunday Journal of July 31. The other is in the April 14 issue of the East Side newspaper.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the two articles be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the East Side, Apr. 14, 1977]

#### SALTY BRINE JUST KEEPS ROLLING ALONG

(By Joyce Holdsworth Warrick)

He has been the morning man at WPRO for 35 years and is still number one in the ratings. What is the secret of Salty Brine's success?

"He's always new, fresh and unpredictable," says newsman Bud Toevs who has worked with Brine for 22 years.

According to Sherm Strickhouser, "he's a habit . . . no, it's more than that—Salty's got . . . class!"

Brine, himself, doesn't know the answer but he does have a philosophy about announcers and radio personalities.

"You can't just be a nine-to-five man. You must want to be something to yourself and to feel you're doing something for the community," says Brine seriously.

An example of his own beliefs, Brine has devoted years to community work. Since 1959 he has been consistently and actively involved in fundraising efforts for handicapped and retarded children.

The seed idea of helping the handicapped generated from a "noon meeting" at Galilee one summer in the late 50's. The four men involved were Brine, former Congressman John Fogarty, the late Arthur Trudeau and Roger (Cap) Wheeler who died in 1969 and for whom Sand Hill Cove has been renamed.

From this meeting came the Salty Brine Fund Days, an effort that would lead, ultimately, to the founding and construction of the Trudeau Memorial Center in Warwick.

"The retarded would not be where they are, in this state, if it hadn't been for Trudeau. He literally gave his life for them," Brine recalled.

Brine has recently participated in the Meeting Street School benefit on Channel 12 and will appear again, in September, on the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon.

There is no fund raising involved in the Salty Brine Trips but these excursions, begun as a station promotion, have turned into yearly economical group vacations for many New Englanders. For Brine these trips have been a source of "deep and lasting" friendships.

Perhaps the least publicized yet most self-gratifying of Brine's community work stems from a tragic childhood experience.

At ten he lost his leg in an attempt to hop a freight train.

"Whenever I hear about someone who has lost a leg, I immediately go to see him because of what I went through. Nobody came to see me when it happened and told me I would be able to walk again. It never is easy when you lose a leg but I walk for them. . . I show them my leg and tell them they will be able to get on their feet and walk," says Brine, adding "their gratitude is enough reward for me."

Walter (Salty) Brine, the son of a carpenter, was born in Boston in 1918. He graduated from Staley College in Brookline in 1941 with a bachelor of arts in Oratory. His first job, a part-time one, was at WNAC in Boston where he was nicknamed "Salty."

"We did the news in dramatic form in what you might call first person with Francis Cronin at the organ. It was for Sunshine Crispy Crackers . . . my first sponsor," Brine recalled with a nostalgic smile.

He came to Rhode Island and WPRO in 1942.

His morning show was called the TNT review. "It was Time, News and Temperature but the war was on so we changed the last T to Tunes." He hummed a few bars of the theme song. "That's a tune I'll never forget," he laughed.

Television arrived in the 1950's and Brine, while continuing with his radio shift, became the first live personality on Channel 12.

His TV show, "Salty's Shack," ran for almost 12 years with Brine and coles Jeff (Jeff I died and was replaced by Jeff II) as hosts, featuring an assortment of guests, cartoons and children's films.

Brine and his wife live in Narragansett. Their seaside home has become a landmark, pointed out by guides on sightseeing tours. They have one son, Wally, 28, who beamed Brine proudly "is the top man at WJBQ in Portland, Maine. Boy, he's really something!"

Time has been kind to the tall, still handsome announcer. His hair is silver now but his unlined face and bright brown eyes radiate vitality and enthusiasm.

Admittedly he is "himself" on the air and he's sincere, genteel and refreshing. It may be that those qualities are reminiscent of an era when life was a little less complex and seemingly gentler to us.

[From the Providence Sunday Journal, July 31, 1977]

#### WHY IS SALTY BRINE?

(By Anthony L. DiBisio)

Why is Salty Brine?

Wait a minute. Everyone knows who Salty Brine is—unless you've been dead for the past three decades. But why he is is another matter.

Starting with biographical facts doesn't help much. Born in Boston in 1918 to a working class family, Salty, or rather, Walter Brine, was graduated from Staley College in 1941 with a BA in "Oratory." He picked up his first job (and the nickname Salty) at what is now WNAC, Boston. His first show in Rhode Island was in 1942, a program called the TNT Review (Time, News and Temperature). He and his wife lived in Cranston for many years and now make their home in Narragansett (where his seaside domicile is often pointed out to the tourists) and are communicants of St. Mary's Church there, where Salty sings and plays the organ on Sundays. ("It's usually a full crowd when people know Salty will be in attendance," says one parishioner.) His son Walter is a DJ in Portland, Maine.

Doesn't help much, does it? Okay, more to come.

For more than 30 years Salty Brine has been the morning man (as radio folks call it) at WPRO and nobody, and I mean nobody, on any of the other stations has been able to top him over the stretch in ratings.

Oh, there are other radio personalities who are more professional, and some who are wittier, and some who are more sophisticated, and more intellectual, and have better voices and deliveries, and, well, better everything. Salty Brine is not tops in any of those requisites normally attributed to radio stars. So, why is Salty Brine a Rhode Island institution? First, words from the friendly side:

Dick Rakovan, general manager for WPRO, says he can sum up Brine in one word: "Believable." Said Rakovan, "He's truly a unique human being." But the manager did not always think so. When Rakovan first came to Rhode Island and to WPRO his first reaction on hearing Salty's show was: "My God, what have I been saddled with?" If Brine were to take a tape recording of his show out of town, said Rakovan, "he would be laughed at." Then Rakovan went on to say that what Salty has is "an indefinable unique quality." Back to square one. Why is Salty Brine?

"Well," said Rakovan, "for one thing you don't have to be hip to listen to him." He has even heard people say they could not stomach the star of morning radio (yes, there are heretics amongst us) and some who say Salty is trite. "So, okay," said Rakovan, "it might not be chic to listen to Salty, but obviously thousands of people listen to him anyway but many won't admit it." Closet Salty freaks?



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Senator Cliff Hansen - 3229 Aljksen Senate Bldg.

# An Eagle Looks at The Eagles

By Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

(Excerpts from his address at the 1977 Grand Aerie Convention)



Senator Humphrey was given the Eagles' World Fellowship Award at convention.

THE FRATERNAL Order of Eagles is a fraternity of Americans.

It's the fraternity of people of high places, and people who are struggling to make a go of it. As somebody put it, it is the fraternity of the famous and the obscure.

It's the fraternity of the high-ranking and the humble.

It's the fraternity of the great, and also of the small.

But above all, it is the fraternity of our country.

No fraternal organization has been more dedicated to the principles of this country. No fraternal organization has demonstrated any more patriotism.

No fraternal organization is known more for its charity . . . for its concern for the living conditions of our citizens than the fraternity to which you and I belong, the Fraternal Order of Eagles. And I'm proud to be a member and to be here.

It was the Fraternal Order of Eagles long ago that fought for old age pensions, first out there in the state of Montana.

When the Social Security Act was signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, a member of this great fraternity, he

turned around and presented the pen with which he signed that law to the grand worthy president of our organization.

Social Security . . . pensions . . . health research . . . care of the elderly . . . youth programs for our youngsters who need so much help these days . . . all sorts of things . . . this organization has been in the forefront of all of them.

Let me say to those who try to run us down, "You are dead wrong."

This country doesn't need Bicentennials to remind us what we stand for.

I'll tell you what we stand for—a chance for every man, woman and child.

We stand for a better life. We know that it can't be perfect in our time, but we seek to ease the pain and suffering . . . to help the widow and the orphan . . . to see that those who are in the twilight of their lives can have some comfort and some security.

We seek to break through in our society so that we can cure diseases, can wrest and rescue our young people from the troubles that seem to beset so many of them. That's what it's all about.

You know what this organization

is all about. You know that you had led the way long before government ever showed concern about the elderly . . . long before government got into cancer research, you were there. You have pointed the way.

You've helped the veterans.

You've helped the sick.

You've helped the needy.

You've helped the old.

You've helped the young.

You've helped the children.

Why?

Because we are just people, all of us. We come from all walks of life. This is not a "blue blood" organization. We are red-blooded Americans—that's what we are.

My friends, great decisions are seldom made by majorities. Great decisions are made by people of conscience who may band together like we do in this organization, to do things that need to be done.

Wherever you go in this land there are places of beauty, and there are wonderful people. So, no matter what pain or suffering—and no matter what disappointments we have, when you are blessed with the chance to live in America, all I can say is that you're a lucky person. ■

*from Max Ball Heart Fund -  
\$25,000 - Harry L. Truman  
Heart Research Fund K.C. Mo.*  
Heart Research Fund, Kansas City,  
Mo.;

\$25,000 to St. Anthony Community  
Hospital, Warwick, N.Y.;

\$25,000 to Eisenhower Medical  
Center, Coachella Valley, Calif.;

\$25,000 to Cedars-Sinai Hospital,  
Los Angeles, Calif.;

\$25,000 to St. Francis Hospital,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.; and

\$25,000 to the Sutter Hospital Med-  
ical Research Fund, Sacramento, Calif.

**From the Jimmy Durante's Chil-  
dren's Fund:**

\$25,000 to Home on the Range for  
Boys, Sentinel Butte, N.D.;

\$12,000 to the Sugar Ray Youth  
Foundation, Los Angeles, Calif.;

\$10,000 to The Villages, Topeka,  
Kan.; and

\$5,000 to the Herbert Hoover Boys



**Tony Angelo, with Senator Hubert Humphrey,  
who delivered great Eagle speech on Friday.**

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

79TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JULY 29, 1977



WHAT A PRIVILEGE IT IS TO BE AMONG MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES AND TO SHARE IN YOUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF PEACE, PROSPERITY, GLADNESS AND HOPE,

I CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER MOTTO, NOR ONE THAT IS MORE TYPICALLY AMERICAN. SINCE ITS FOUNDING ALMOST 80 YEARS AGO, THE ORDER HAS UNDERTAKEN A WIDE RANGE OF CIVIC AND BENEVOLENT WORKS AND PROGRAMS IN COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THIS NATION.

MANY CHARTERS OF GOVERNMENT HAVE SPOKEN IN SOLEMN TONES OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY, OF LIFE AND LIBERTY. BUT HAPPINESS AND GLADNESS AND HOPE BESPEAK AN OPTIMISM THAT IS DISTINCTLY AMERICAN.

CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY IS ANOTHER AMERICAN TRADITION.

IN AMERICA'S FRONTIER EXPERIENCE, COMMUNITIES PRECEDED GOVERNMENTS, AND CREATED THEIR OWN RULES TO MEET PUBLIC NEEDS AND TO ENFORCE PUBLIC DUTIES. THE NEW WORLD FOSTERED A CONTINUING CREATIVE TENSION BETWEEN INDIVIDUALISM AND THE URGE TO JOIN AND TO ORGANIZE, A LEGACY STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE.

A THIRD THREAD THAT RECURS IN THE FABRIC OF OUR CULTURE IS ACTIVISM. WE DEMAND MUCH FROM OUR GOVERNMENT BECAUSE WE ELECT IT AND DIRECT IT.

IF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT STRONG GOVERNMENT, THEY WANT IT TO BE COMPETENT, FAIR AND COMPASSIONATE AS WELL.

TODAY I WANT TO MENTION SEVERAL AREAS IN WHICH GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED SUCCESSFUL LEADERSHIP.

ONE OF OUR GREAT SOCIAL ADVANCES WAS PASSAGE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT. EAGLES CAN RECALL WITH PARTICULAR PRIDE THEIR INSTRUMENTAL ROLE IN THIS MOVE TO INCREASE THE SECURITY, DIGNITY AND WELL BEING OF OLDER AMERICANS. THE GREAT SYSTEM THEY HELPED ESTABLISH UNDERPINS OUR ECONOMIC STABILITY. ITS ROLE GROWS MORE CRUCIAL IN THE CONTEXT OF DRAMATIC SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES.

THESE CHANGES INCLUDE THE WEAKENING OF THE CLOSE, EXTENDED FAMILY. TOGETHER WITH AN UNPRECEDENTED MOBILITY, THIS TREND HAS LEFT MANY ELDERLY AMERICANS STRANDED IN ISOLATION AND POVERTY WITHOUT THE AID AND COMFORT OF RELATIVES.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE NUMBER OF OLDER AMERICANS IS RISING.



LIFE EXPECTANCY MOVED FROM AN AVERAGE OF 47 YEARS <sup>IN</sup> ~~TO~~ 1900  
TO 76 TODAY. IN 1900, ONE IN EVERY 25 AMERICANS WAS 65 YEARS  
OF AGE OR OLDER. TODAY, THAT NUMBER IS ONE IN 18. YET  
SOCIETY REMAINS GEARED TO THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF THE YOUNG.

SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES ARE INTENSIFIED BY  
INFLATION THAT ERODES THE SMALL, FIXED INCOME OF THE  
ELDERLY. AS A GROUP, THEY ARE THE POOREST AMERICANS.  
NEARLY 60 PERCENT RECEIVE LESS THAN \$3,000 A YEAR IN INCOME,  
AND AT LEAST THREE MILLION LIVE IN DIRE POVERTY. YET THEIR  
HEALTH NEEDS ARE THE GREATEST.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, WITH ALL ITS LIMITATIONS, IS  
A BASIC SOCIAL POLICY THAT AFFECTS THE LIFE OF VIRTUALLY  
EVERY AMERICAN FAMILY.

THIRTY-THREE MILLION PERSONS RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER SOCIAL SECURITY. ONE HUNDRED SEVEN MILLION PEOPLE PAY TAXES TO SUPPORT THE TRUST FUNDS. IT HAS BECOME ONE OF THE NATION'S MOST IMPORTANT AND ENDURING INSTITUTIONS, OUTSTRIPPING THE EXPECTATIONS OF EVEN ITS MOST VISIONARY SUPPORTERS.

TO CONTINUE TO PERFORM ITS VITAL FUNCTION, THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM MUST KEEP PACE WITH CHANGING REALITIES.

ALMOST EVERY CONGRESS HAS SEEN IMPROVEMENTS IN BENEFITS AND COVERAGE. NOW THERE IS A GOOD CASE FOR REEXAMINING SOME OF THE PREMISES AND RESTRICTIONS WHICH MADE SENSE WHEN THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT WAS CREATED BUT HAVE LESS VALIDITY IN A NEW SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CLIMATE.

SOCIAL SECURITY WAS CONCEIVED AS AN INSURANCE PROGRAM TO REPLACE WAGES LOST BY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY. AN OUTGROWTH OF THE DEPRESSION, IT WAS DESIGNED NOT ONLY TO REPLACE LOST EARNINGS, BUT ALSO TO ENCOURAGE OLDER WORKERS TO LEAVE THEIR JOBS AND MAKE ROOM FOR THE UNEMPLOYED. IT REASSURED AN INFANT LABOR UNION MOVEMENT THAT WAGES WOULD NOT BE DEPRESSED BY THE WILLINGNESS OF THE ELDERLY TO WORK FOR LOW PAY.

BUT TODAY OUR GOALS SHOULD BE AN ECONOMY DYNAMIC ENOUGH TO CREATE JOBS FOR ALL AMERICANS WHO WISH TO WORK, FROM TEENAGERS TO THE AGED.

TO PERMIT THOSE ELDERLY PERSONS WHO WISH TO WORK TO REMAIN IN THE LABOR FORCE WOULD INCREASE OUR GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT AND DECREASE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.



I BELIEVE IT WOULD DO A GREAT DEAL FOR THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF AMERICANS WHO PREFER PRODUCTIVE LABOR TO IDLENESS, WHO WANT EARNED WAGES INSTEAD OF POVERTY, AND WHO WANT TO WORK WITH OTHERS RATHER THAN EXIST IN ISOLATION.

I CONSISTENTLY HAVE SUPPORTED LEGISLATION TO LIBERALIZE THE SO-CALLED RETIREMENT TEST, OR LIMITATION ON EARNINGS, TO PERMIT OLDER AMERICANS TO ACHIEVE A BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING.

BUT A MAJOR OVERHAUL IN BENEFITS REQUIRES THAT WE ACT NOW TO ADDRESS WEAKNESSES IN THE FINANCIAL BASE. CONGRESS IS WORKING ON PROPOSALS BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO PREVENT A SHORTAGE IN TRUST FUNDS CREATED BY A LONG PERIOD OF SIMULTANEOUS INFLATION AND HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT, A MISCALCULATION BY CONGRESS THAT OVER-ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION, AND THE INCREASING PROPORTION OF ELDERLY IN THE POPULATION.

WE MUST RESTORE A FINANCIALLY STABLE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM -- THIS MUST BE A PRIORITY IN THE 95TH CONGRESS.

AS A PARALLEL TO THE INCOME SECURITY ESTABLISHED 40 YEARS AGO BY SOCIAL SECURITY, THE TIME HAS COME TO MAKE HEALTH CARE ACCESSIBLE TO EVERY AMERICAN.

ONE OF MY FIRST LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS AS A FRESHMAN SENATOR IN 1949 WAS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL PROGRAM OF HEALTH INSURANCE. IN 1965, CONGRESS PASSED MEDICARE AS A DRAMATIC COMMITMENT TO THE HEALTH OF THIS NATION'S ELDERLY. ALTHOUGH ITS VALUE HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY ERODED BY INFLATION, NOT ONE OF US WOULD BE WILLING TO WITHDRAW THIS BASIC PROTECTION FROM ELDERLY AMERICANS.

AMERICANS SPEND MORE PER CAPITA THAN ANY OTHER NATION FOR HEALTH CARE. AND HEALTH CARE COSTS DOUBLE EVERY FIVE YEARS. MEDICARE AND MEDICAID, WHICH TOGETHER ABSORB 60 PERCENT OF HEALTH SPENDING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE, WILL JUMP 23 PERCENT NEXT YEAR.

THE HEALTH CARE COST THIS YEAR IS \$160 BILLION OR ALMOST 9 PERCENT OF OUR TOTAL GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT. YET MILLIONS OF PEOPLE LACK ADEQUATE CARE. FORTY MILLION AMERICANS ARE WITHOUT HOSPITAL OR SURGICAL INSURANCE AND 18 MILLION HAVE NO PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSURANCE WHATSOEVER. MILLIONS LIVE IN SERIOUSLY UNDERSERVED GEOGRAPHIC AREAS.

WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO PROVIDE BETTER CARE THAN EVER BEFORE IN OUR HISTORY.

IF WE DO NOT IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ALL AMERICANS DRAMATICALLY,  
IT IS BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BROUGHT TO THE SOLUTION OF THIS  
PROBLEM AMERICA'S SPECIAL BRAND OF KNOW-HOW, DETERMINATION  
AND PRAGMATISM.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO CONTEND THAT HEALTH CARE IS ENTIRELY  
THE PROVINCE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. THIS PHILOSOPHY MAINTAINS  
THAT HEALTH CARE SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO ARE WILLING  
AND ABLE TO PAY FOR IT, AND NOT <sup>NECESSARILY</sup> TO THOSE WHO WANT AND NEED IT.

I REJECT THIS VIEWPOINT. HEALTH CARE IS A BASIC RIGHT,  
NOT THE EXPENSIVE PRIVILEGE OF A FEW. AND GOVERNMENT HAS  
A CREATIVE TRADITION OF PLANNING, REGULATING, FINANCING  
AND DELIVERING HEALTH CARE FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS, AND  
WHENEVER RESOURCES MUST BE MOBILIZED ON A NATIONAL SCALE.

AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, FEDERAL TAX DOLLARS  
HAVE BUILT THE WORLD'S GREATEST MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTION  
TO STIMULATE AND SUSTAIN A NETWORK OF RESEARCH BY UNIVERSITIES  
AND INDIVIDUALS. I AM MOST FAMILIAR WITH THE WORK OF THE  
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE WHICH DIRECTS THE NATIONAL CANCER  
PROGRAM, A SYSTEMATIC ALL-OUT ATTACK ON THE DISEASE MOST  
FEARED BY THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS.

NOT MEASURED BY OUR HOPES OR IMPATIENCE, BUT BY  
ACHIEVEMENTS ALONE, THE NATIONAL CANCER PROGRAM HAS MADE  
ENORMOUS STRIDES IN BOTH BASIC RESEARCH AND IMPROVED  
CLINICAL CARE.

IN THE 1930'S, LESS THAN ONE CANCER VICTIM IN FIVE LIVED  
FIVE YEARS AFTER TREATMENT.



TODAY, THE RATIO IS ONE IN THREE. TREATMENT COULD SAVE  
345,000 LIVES OR HALF OF THE PERSONS WHO GET CANCER EACH YEAR.

RETINOIDS, A COMBINATION OF NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC VITAMIN A,  
OFFER NEW HOPE FOR CANCER PREVENTION. NEW METHODS SUCH AS  
COMBINED DRUG TREATMENTS, BLOOD TRANSFUSION, IMMUNO-THERAPY,  
CAT SCANNING AND ULTRASOUND DETECTION OF TUMORS HAVE BEEN  
DEVELOPED AND DISSEMINATED. MODERN SURGERY GETS BETTER RESULTS  
WITH LESS RADICAL OPERATIONS; RADIATION THERAPY HAS FEWER SIDE  
EFFECTS; AND CHEMOTHERAPY ATTACKS SOME ADVANCED CANCERS AND  
PREVENTS SOME TUMOR RECURRENCE.

FOR OTHERS, THE KEY TO HOPE IS BASIC RESEARCH WHICH IS  
UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE CHEMISTRY, STRUCTURE AND BEHAVIOR  
OF CELLS, AND THE IMMUNE DEFENSE SYSTEM.

WE HAVE ONLY BEGUN TO REAP THE BENEFITS OF THE GROUNDWORK LAID BY THE WORLD'S MOST INTENSE, PROFESSIONAL AND COORDINATED ATTACK ON CANCER. THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE EAGLES BRINGS US EVEN CLOSER TO VICTORY.

INCREASINGLY, CLUES POINT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSES AND LIFE STYLE AS MECHANISMS WHICH TRIGGER DISEASE. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY AND ELIMINATE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS HAVE BEEN EXPANDED GREATLY. ALTHOUGH NUTRITION HAS LONG BEEN RECOGNIZED AS ESSENTIAL TO GOOD HEALTH, RESEARCH INTO THE RELATION BETWEEN NUTRITION AND DISEASE IS IN ITS INFANCY.

PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS HAVE GIVEN THE SUBJECT ONLY PERIPHERAL ATTENTION AND QUACKS AND FADDISTS TOO FREQUENTLY HAVE MOVED IN TO FILL THE VOID OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE.

NEGLECT OF NUTRITION REFLECTS A BIAS TOWARD ACUTE CARE WHICH PERMEATES THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM -- WHILE PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE GOES RELATIVELY UNNOTICED. THE EMPHASIS ON SICK CARE INSTEAD OF HEALTH CARE MEANS WE HAVE NOT EVEN SCRATCHED THE SURFACE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE AS AN ELEMENT IN BOTH GOOD HEALTH AND COST CONTROL.

BETTER SAFEGUARDS AGAINST INDUSTRIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS, AND THE APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES OF GOOD NUTRITION, COULD REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES. WE CAN REDUCE THE DEBILITATION OF ILLNESS AND THE SIDE EFFECTS OF TREATMENT BY CAREFUL NUTRITION CONTROL.

INCREASINGLY RELIABLE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT DIET HAS TREATMENT POTENTIAL AS WELL.

THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT TUMOR GROWTH MAY BE INFLUENCED BY LIMITING THE CONCENTRATION OF AMINO ACIDS, OR THAT SPECIAL DIETS TO REVERSE THE LOSS OF WEIGHT AND APPETITE THAT OFTEN ACCOMPANY CANCER MAY STRENGTHEN THE BODY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM.

I HAVE SPOKEN TODAY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN SOME VERY BASIC ASPECTS OF HUMAN WELFARE.

THIS ROLE IS AND SHOULD BE ONE OF LEADERSHIP, BUT IN AMERICA EACH INDIVIDUAL, AND INDIVIDUALS WORKING TOGETHER IN GROUPS, ULTIMATELY DECIDE THE VALUES THEIR GOVERNMENT WILL PROTECT AND THE SERVICES IT WILL PROVIDE.

IT IS FASHIONABLE TO BE CYNICAL ABOUT GOVERNMENT AS AN EXPRESSION OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. BUT I'M OLD-FASHIONED.

I BELIEVE THAT THE AVERAGE AMERICAN STILL HAS A DEEP-ROOTED TRUST IN GOVERNMENT AS AN INSTRUMENT TO SHAPE A BETTER SOCIETY AND TO PROMOTE THOSE COMMON GOALS OF HEALTH, PROSPERITY, PEACE, HAPPINESS AND HOPE.

WE ARE NOT SUFFERING FROM AN EXCESS OF ACTIVISM. WHAT WE NEED IS WIDER PARTICIPATION IN THIS ACTIVISM.

OURS IS A HUGE, DISPARATE NATION WITH PLURALISTIC INSTITUTIONS. WASHINGTON HAS NO MONOPOLY ON KNOWLEDGE. THERE ARE MANY FUNCTIONS THAT CAN BE IMPROVED BY AN INJECTION OF COMMON SENSE AND A SENSITIVITY TO LOCAL NEEDS. WE NEED AN INTELLIGENT DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES, AND AN ACTIVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS AND AMONG LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS.



THE CLIMATE IS IDEAL FOR A NEW PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT. OUR PRESIDENT WAS ELECTED WITH A MANDATE TO STREAMLINE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO MAKE IT MORE ETHICAL, RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT. PRESIDENT CARTER'S TOWN MEETINGS AND PRESS CONFERENCES ARE MORE THAN SYMBOLS. THEY ARE A SINCERE EFFORT TO KEEP GOVERNMENT CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE PEOPLE TO HEAR THEIR IDEAS AND ENLIST THEIR SUPPORT.

THIS IS A CLEAR TREND IN CONGRESS AS WELL. WE HAVE ADOPTED A STRONG CODE OF ETHICS. RIGHT NOW, WE ARE DEBATING A SYSTEM OF MIXED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCING FOR SENATE ELECTIONS TO ENCOURAGE SMALL INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO LIMIT ATTEMPTS AT INFLUENCE-BUYING.

CITIZENS HAVE NEW RIGHTS OF ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND TO DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES. SUNSET LEGISLATION NOW BEFORE CONGRESS SETS UP A STRICT SCHEDULE OF REVIEW TO ELIMINATE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS THAT FAIL TO PERFORM THEIR MISSION.

REGULATION AND PAPERWORK ARE UNDER SCRUTINY. WE ARE TRYING TO REDUCE DELAYS AND PAPERWORK AND TO INSURE THAT REGULATORY AGENCIES SERVE THE CONSUMER.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPENDS \$20 BILLION ANNUALLY TO PRINT, PROCESS AND STORE ITS OWN FORMS, WHILE IT COSTS THE PUBLIC ANOTHER \$20 BILLION TO FILL THEM OUT. NEW LAWS AND NEW INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO ORIGINATE PAPERWORK. BUT WE CAN DO A GREAT DEAL TO SIMPLIFY, TO REDUCE THE OVERLAP, AND TO DROP REQUIREMENTS THAT ARE OBSOLETE OR UNNECESSARY.

THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES HAS DEMONSTRATED ITS HIGH SENSE OF PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY. IT HAS PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS AMERICA AS A PROVEN FRIEND OF YOUTH, OF THE ELDERLY, OF VETERANS AND OF OUR NEEDY NEIGHBORS. IT HAS MOUNTED CAMPAIGNS AGAINST CANCER, HEART DISEASE AND CATASTROPHIC CHILDHOOD DISEASE. IT HAS BEEN IN THE VANGUARD OF MAJOR SOCIAL LEGISLATION AT THE STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL.

MY PURPOSE TODAY HAS BEEN TO ENDORSE AND PRAISE THIS CIVIC EAGERNESS AND STRESS ITS IMPORTANT ROLE IN NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND PROGRAMS. THE COMMUNITY CONCERN AND PARTICIPATION FOSTERED BY CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL IS THE LIFEblood OF REPRESENTATIVE AND DECENT GOVERNMENT.

YOU HAVE DONE A GREAT JOB, AND WE WILL COUNT ON YOU TO CONTINUE.

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