

The original documents are located in Box D18, folder “Blodgett Hospital School of Nursing, Grand Rapids, MI, September 2, 1965” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Commencement Exercises

BLODGETT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Fountain Street Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Thursday, September 2, 1965, 8 P.M.



Presiding George Richel
President, Board of Trustees

Prelude — "Water Music Suite" G. F. Handel

Processional — "Pomp and Circumstance No. 1 in D" Elgar

Invocation Reverend George Weeber
Reformed Church of America

"Eternal Life" Olive Dungan
Carlos Florido, Soloist

Address —
"Balance In Government" Representative Gerald R. Ford
Minority Leader, House of Representatives, U. S. Congress

Presentation of Diplomas and Pins
Associate Director, Blodgett Memorial Hospital William Downer
Assistant Director, Blodgett Memorial Hospital, and
Director, School of Nursing and Nursing Service Mary E. Scott
Assistant Director, School of Nursing Sybil E. Hole

Presentation of Honor Citations Mrs. Larmon R. Abbott
Chairman, School of Nursing Advisory Committee

Benediction Doctor Peter Y. De Jong
Doctor of Theology, Calvin College Seminary

Recessional — "Trumpet Tune in D" Purcell

Postlude — "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" G. F. Handel
Mr. Eric Weaver, Musical Director
Mr. Charles Bertsch, Organist

Flowers and Ushering by Courtesy of
Marion Louise Withey Guild, Blodgett Memorial Hospital
Alumnae Association, Class of 1965, Reception Hostesses

You are cordially invited to attend a reception
in the Church Dining Room, 9 to 11 P.M.



GRADUATING CLASS OF 1965

CHANCEL

Miss Mary E. Scott, Mrs. Sybil E. Hole, Mrs. Larmon R. Abbott,
Dr. Robert Puite, Mr. William Downer, Dean John Vanden Berg,
Dean Francis McCarthy, Reverend George Weeber, Doctor
Peter Y. De Jong, Representative Gerald R. Ford, Mr. George
W. Richel.

ORDER OF PROCESSIONAL

Graduating Class
Board of Trustees
Representatives of School of Nursing Advisory Committee
Representatives of the Medical Staff
Faculty of the School of Nursing

ORDER OF RECESSIONAL

Graduating Class
Board of Trustees
Representatives of School of Nursing Advisory Committee
Representatives of the Medical Staff
Faculty of the School of Nursing

FAITH ANN BAJEMA
537 West Leonard Street
Grand Rapids, Michigan

LINDA MAE GOODALE
4419 Magnolia Street
Wyoming, Michigan

JÉSSIE D. PAUSMA
607 Morse Street
Waupun, Wisconsin

SUSANNE GRETCHEN BENSEMA
845 Aberdeen Street, N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

JOANNE RUTH HEYS
908 Iroquois Drive
Grand Rapids, Michigan

BEVERLY ARTHURHULTZ
PLESCHER
8877 Stebbins Street
Montague, Michigan

HARRIETT ANN BIERI
1226 Hope Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

MARILYN RUTH HOEKENGA
1911 Plymouth Terrace, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

PHYLLIS GRAYCE ROZEMA
2359 Baldwin Drive
Jenison, Michigan

JUDITH LOUISE DAVIS
116 Sweet Street, N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

BARBARA LYNN HOEKSEMA
715 College Avenue
Holland, Michigan

MARY JOY SCHEPERS
110 Park Avenue
Falmouth, Michigan

DEANNE ELIZABETH DE JONG
2709 Burton Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

JANICE FAITH HOPKINS
5740 Elm Avenue
Hudsonville, Michigan

SHIRLEY J. SCHREUDER
4727 Lakepointe
Detroit, Michigan

MARCIA JOAN DE JONG
1518 Margaret Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

SUSAN JOAN KINGMA
935 Calvin Avenue, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

CAROLYN MASSELINK STAAT
72 West 17th Street
Holland, Michigan

ELIZABETH ANDRÉ DE JONGE
1300 Calvin Avenue, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

MARCIA JEAN LANE
8643 Beachler Drive, N.E.
Greenville, Michigan

CAROLE ANN STEINER
2128 Emerald Street, N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

CAROL E. DE VRIES
4088 Heron Street, S.W.
Wyoming, Michigan

MARSHA KATHRYN MATTHEWS
1404 Sigsbee Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

ALICE TOLSMA
1326 Whitmore Street, N.W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

JOAN LIEFFERS DE VRIES
654 Lovett Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

SHEILA LYNNE MEEUWSEN
664 Winchell Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

BARBARA ANN VERDUIN
1025 Edna Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

CAROL JOYCE DE WENT
845 Maple Lane
Zeeland, Michigan

JEANETTE MARIE NEVINS
1344 Carman Street, N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

NANCY JO WALDYKE
19 East Lincoln Avenue
Zeeland, Michigan

SUSAN SHACKELTON EMMONS
642 Cherry Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

MARCIA RUTH OOSTERHOUSE
1849 Chamberlain Avenue, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

KATHLEEN ALLYN WEBER
1580 - 68th Street, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

JANICE RAE FEENSTRA
12461 - 68th Avenue
Allendale, Michigan

MARLENE JEAN OOSTRA
7576 - 12th Avenue
Jenison, Michigan

BARBARA ESTHER WEEBER
1219 Portland Street, N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

MARJORY ANN FILBY
1826 Eastern Avenue, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

JANICE KAY PARTAK
R.F.D. #1
Belding, Michigan

CAROLE ANN WINDEMULLER
790 College Avenue
Holland, Michigan

Address by Rep. Gerald R. Ford
Blodgett Hospital School of Nursing
Grand Rapids, Michigan Sept. 2, 1965

39

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READING TEXT

The test of a society is found in the quality of its common life----
the level of violence, the awareness of its responsibilities, the
depth and scope of its human vibrancy.

How does society 1965 meet the tests?.... It fails some. It passes
others.

The tragic, terrifying events in Los Angeles, Chicago and elsewhere
during the waning days of a long, hot summer are reminders that
today's society fails in some areas.

Death and destruction, violence and fear, turmoil and silent hate
all bear witness to our failure in solving deeply-rooted social
problems of our time.

more



We are failing in other areas of the Nation's common life.

Large metropolitan centers lie smothered under machine-generated smog. The air is an obnoxious mixture of fumes and smoke.

Rivers that once ran clean and pure are polluted. Lakes--once blue and clear---become contaminated with chemical waste.

In many areas the natural beauty of the wilderness is buried under a welter of flamboyant signboards and marred by a jungle of neon.

Yes, our society is failing to improve some physical qualities of its common life.

What of the quality of humanity in our society?

Certainly, a civilized society should educate its children. A civilized society should protect the right of all its citizens to vote. A civilized society should care for its aged in need who are ill. With their cooperation the poor should be helped to escape the agony of the slums.



The New York Times recently commented on these qualities in saying:

"These actions are essential for a good society; they do not create a great society."

The 89th Congress of the United States has taken some steps toward

strengthening a good society. However, *there maybe a tendency* much of the legislation *to rely ^{to much} on legislators - not enough on what good men, good* adopted this year is politically-oriented. Much of it is long *citizens can do.* on quantity and short on quality.

It has been said that the paradox of this Congress is the adoption of measures which are the heritage of yesterday's failures and quarrels.

The Congress needs to take sounder steps toward helping to build a good society of tomorrow. Somehow, someway in a bi-partisan manner we must insure that America is a place where a person can reach higher, seek farther, and grow greater than anywhere else on earth.



To accomplish this, we must give more of ourselves than we receive.

We must put humanity and humanitarianism first. We must consider the God-given qualities of man above all.

Recall the wisdom of Arnold Toynbee, scholar and historian, who said: "Our age will be well remembered...not for its horrifying crimes nor its astonishing inventions, but because it is the first generation since the dawn of history in which mankind dared to believe it practical to make the benefits of civilization available to the whole human race."

Unfortunately, tragic developments in recent months could make this prediction untrue.

While large segments of our society believe in making the benefits of civilization available to the entire human race, an alarming number of others devote their energies to creating havoc...to making life miserable for others...to pitting man against man...to disturbing the tranquility of a free nation.



I believe we need an aroused public conscience. The growth and prosperity, the state and strength of our Nation are the result of free citizens conducting their personal lives within the constituted framework of authority, law and order. This process is part of the effect of an aroused public conscience.

Today, the ~~strong~~ strong needs for an aroused public conscience are, unfortunately, to be found in many places.

A large section of an American city is burned and looted. College students riot in protesting an alleged breach of freedom of speech. Hoodlums invade a quiet village bringing a wave of fear and violence. Carrying placards demanding peace at any price, pickets march on the Nation's Capitol threatening to invade Congress. Others shout "freedom now" as they troop in front of the White House.

-more-



Compare these irresponsible actions with the effects of an aroused public conscience that approves school bond issues and more parks....that elects responsible public officials....that rebuilds cities... that clears slums..... that builds new highways... that supports hospitals and other civic institutions... that insists on individual expression.

Despite some gloomy signs of dangerous cracks in the Nation's foundation of good citizenship, there are many bright omens of hope.

There is evidence
The scales are being heavily weighted for the good. The balance of good and poor citizenship is being tilted for the better.

Let's look first at the immediate scene...here...tonight...in this room.

Your dedication to the service of mankind, your power of knowledge, your proved willingness to sacrifice, your strong desire to help others are the individual qualities needed by our Nation.



You have chosen a noble and demanding profession. You will save broken bodies and help mend broken minds. You will assist others to regain their strength through your own strength of purpose and skill.

I salute you for your determination, endurance, courage and achievements.

Despite the strife and trouble, the heartbreak and frustrations, we live in one of history's most exciting times. Each day brings a new chapter in the march of progress.

It is highly encouraging to see examples of man's determination to strive for a new relationship with a crowded and ominous world.

Recently, a 47-year-old Cleveland newspaperman landed in England to a hero's welcome after a perilous, 78-day solo voyage across the Atlantic.



Robert Manry made the trip in his now famous Tinkerbelle---the smallest vessel known to have traveled the turbulent, 3,200-mile stretch of water wilderness.

His fete was none for the timid. It was hardly an accomplishment for schoolboys to imitate. But it was one to inspire a renewed faith in the capacity of individual man.

History may not give him the recognition of Columbus or Magellan.

But, Manry captured for himself the joy of striving against huge obstacles and winning. His life has been enriched. To a degree so have the lives of those who followed his journey into the realm of courage.

This is a kind of faith we need more than ever as our small planet is swept by ominous forces bent on generating turmoil and stilling human drive.



The long voyage of one person challenging the sea is an example of what courage and skill can achieve.

There are many other examples to inspire faith in the capacity of individual man, whose personal efforts lead to advancements in the fields of medicine, engineering, science and human relations.

I have described both the gloomy and the optimistic profiles of our age to help show a sharp contrast in the way things are going in the world.

After assessing the good and the bad, the successes and failures, I am highly optimistic.

This is neither a time to stumble, nor to falter, nor to fear in accepting the responsibilities of citizenship. The task is to lead the way toward strengthening moral, esthetic, cultural and scientific values.



I have great faith in you.

Your presence here and the documents you receive for achievement
strongly reflect your desire to accept responsibilities in a
turbulent, demanding and changing world.

Congratulations. The Nation and the world are better because of you.

And may God bless you all.
#



Address by Rep. Gerald R. Ford
Blodgett Hospital School of Nursing
Grand Rapids, Michigan Sept. 2, 1965

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The New York Times recently commented on these qualities in saying:

"These actions are essential for a good society; they do not create a great society."

The 89th Congress of the United States has taken some steps toward strengthening a good society. However, much of the legislation adopted this year is politically-oriented. Much of it is long on quantity and short on quality.

It has been said that the paradox of this Congress is the adoption of measures which are the heritage of yesterday's failures and quarrels.

The Congress needs to take sounder steps toward helping to build a good society of tomorrow. Somehow, somehow in a bi-partisan manner we must insure that America is a place where a person can reach higher, seek farther, and grow greater than anywhere else on earth.



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Address by
Rep. Gerald R. Ford, House Republican Leader
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Blodgett Hospital School of Nursing

*OK
with corrections*

FOR RELEASE UPON DELIVERY
OF ADDRESS Sept. 2, 1965

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More -



7
The adoption of a new voting rights bill, the widely publicised war on ~~poverty~~ poverty, the establishment of work programs for the economically-distressed young people of our country, federal aid for depressed areas have purpose.

Yet, widespread rioting, killing, wounding, looting in our major cities broke out in the face of a federally-orientated social-aid programs.

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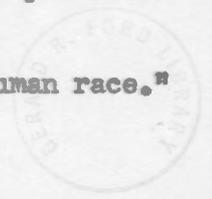
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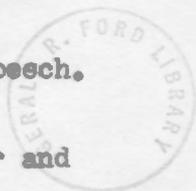
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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
HARRISBURG

ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR WILLIAM W. SCRANTON
AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
BALLROOM, HOTEL FONTAINBLEAU, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA
8:30 P.M., AUGUST 12, 1965

American jurisprudence and American government share a common dependence on the adversary system.

In our courts the search for civil justice is conducted under the prodding of opposing advocates, and the system rests on the supposition that both advocates be strong and able and aggressive.

In our government the quest for civic excellence is pursued under the prodding of opposing political parties, and rests on the supposition that there be two great parties, each strong and able and aggressive.

It is a rare lawsuit, of course, in which the adversaries are absolutely equal in ability, experience or verve. Nor does the system require absolute equality. We expect and we understand that so long as lawyers are human and lawsuits are lawsuits there will be differences in ability and differences in the fundamental merits of cases. But what we do demand in our jurisprudence are basic competitive qualifications for the advocates and that no influence be allowed to destroy their role as adversaries.

And if circumstances suddenly endangered this adversary system--- if suddenly it were proposed that justice be dispensed in American courts without competent advocacy on both sides of the question--- then promptly and properly this distinguished assembly would become extremely alarmed.

I propose to you tonight that this is precisely what is happening in the forum of American government: that the two-party system has come upon an hour of peril and paralysis.

And I submit, too, that this is particularly hazardous because it comes at a time when basic decisions are being made about the very fabric of our federal system, and, thus, about the liberty of our people and the goodness of our society.

Specifically, the national Republican Party today is not, for the most part, serving as an effective instrument of the two-party system, and though as a Republican I may find that uncomfortable, as an American I find it alarming.

• All of us, Democrats and Republicans alike, must be concerned when the condition of either party becomes such that it endangers the system itself.

So let me, as a Republican and as a practicing politician, but mostly as an American, talk to you without partisanship about my party and about our Nation.

It is a tribute to the art of cartooning that when we think of the Republican Party, we think of elephants.

I grew up in a household where both the substance and symbols of the Republican Party were treated with more than indifferent interest. My mother particularly spent her working hours electing good Republicans, and her off-hours collecting model elephants, elephants in stone, steel, ebony, ivory, crystal or glass--- any way in which human ingenuity fashioned them.

There was but one criteria: From whatever material the elephant was carved, he had to have his trunk raised high in a bellow of victory. Elephants were considered unfit and useless if their trunks drooped--- however gracefully--- in the whimper of defeat--- or worse yet, in the posture of not having tried hard enough.

But accepting the symbol of the elephant is one thing, and believing the many myths that go with elephants is quite another.

Particularly, there are two commonly accepted legends which we would do well to realize are fictitious.

First is the legend that elephants live many hundreds of years. Modern science has knocked that into a cocked hat. The real lifespan of an elephant is no more than that of man--- a 70-year-old elephant is an old elephant.

A political party, like an elephant or like a man, cannot claim extra years or extra life as a matter of right. A political party, however, unlike man and elephant, can rejuvenate itself.

If the Republican Party wants to continue to live, it is going to have to earn the privilege through self-rejuvenation, not by expecting it to happen automatically.

The second elephant myth has also been shot down by modern science. Contrary to folklore, elephants don't gather up each other's trunks and tails, marching off to a common dignified graveyard. Elephants die like the rest of us. They drop one by one in their tracks, wherever disease or longevity or mortal injury dictate.

So, too, the Republican Party is unlikely to join tails and trunks today or tomorrow and fall dead before our eyes in a sacred graveyard. Instead, it's a matter of one elephant after another dropping along the way.

And the Gallup Poll has been counting the remaining Republican elephants. That poll---which, incidentally, through some peculiar perverseness the Republican Party's power structure believed in 1948 when it was wrong, but not since, when it has been right---reveals that today but one-quarter of the American electorate considers itself to be Republican. Under these circumstances only a stupid elephant would fail to realize that he's running short of trunks and tails to grab hold of as he takes that last majestic and mythical walk through the jungle.

The one part of elephant folklore that modern science has not been able to destroy completely is the matter of memory and intelligence. It turns out that the elephant is a bit brighter and more able to learn from experience than most of the animal kingdom.

One would hope that the Republican Party might take a lesson from the elephant, learning from the past, without succumbing to the temptation to confuse memory with nostalgia.

The Republican Party was a long time being born. It can trace its roots back into American soil first turned by the Federalists. The Federalists fought for a strong national government and played a prominent role in forging a nation with the political strength to be unified and the spiritual strength to be diversified. The Federalists remained a power in American government until they became too small, too exclusive and too exclusionary. Then the Party died. The heirs of the Federalists were the Whigs, who in their turn remained a major political party until they became so enamoured of the back lash theory that they succumbed by compromising their anti-slavery sentiments.

Thus came the Republican Party and Abraham Lincoln. The American nation has never since seen quite so a remarkable combination of idealism and pragmatism as he fashioned into a political philosophy.

He took the Federalists' sense of nation, the Whigs' spirit of frontier, and he added a belief in the common man that could have come from nowhere except the heart of Thomas Jefferson.

So armed, Lincoln's Party was able to preserve the union, inaugurate the land grant colleges, open up the West to homesteaders, tie the continent together with railroads, and generally conduct itself as though it believed the United States was a going concern with a future and not a museum piece.

In fact, as the 20th century broke across the American continent, the Republican Party was the natural home of a Theodore Roosevelt who was talking Orthodox Republicanism when he said:

"Be progressive. A great democracy has got to be progressive, or it will soon cease to be either great or a democracy."

And the Gallup Poll has been counting the remaining Republican elephants. That poll---which, incidentally, through some peculiar perverseness the Republican Party's power structure believed in 1948 when it was wrong, but not since, when it has been right---reveals that today but one-quarter of the American electorate considers itself to be Republican. Under these circumstances only a stupid elephant would fail to realize that he's running short of trunks and tails to grab hold of as he takes that last majestic and mythical walk through the jungle.

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"Be progressive. A great democracy has got to be progressive, or it will soon cease to be either great or a democracy."

Now all of this is of obvious importance to the Republican Party, but why do I say all of it here before this distinguished and bipartisan audience? I do so because the awesome domestic challenges which face our nation in the immediate future will best be met if they are subjected to the best efforts of two strong parties. It is partisan nonsense to believe that all wisdom and all sound ideas reside in the Republican Party, but it is equally foolish to believe that they reside only in the Democratic Party.

Where do we stand today in the ongoing adventure of perfecting the American experiment?

No man, be he political friend or foe, can question the skill with which the President has been shepherding his domestic programs through the Congress. You need not be in full agreement with the substance of each program to admit that they constitute a remarkable political scoreboard. And I do not believe it partisan to point out that thinking men in both parties might justifiably be concerned that the very quantity of the program so far enacted might becloud the very substantial unfinished public business in America today. Consider but a portion of the catalogue and see if you do not agree that a strong two-party system is essential for its sound fulfillment.

The field of human rights comes to mind as most significant in the second half of the 20th century. We have seen this year and last the enactment of the most far-reaching legal protection for the rights of man ever attempted by any society. But yet, who will deny that even after the recent voting rights law much still needs to be done to protect the sanctity and equality of every man's ballot. I am thinking primarily of the big city machines, which to this day callously and deliberately prey upon the outnumbered in every election. If equal voting rights are truly to be accomplished for every American, this nation and its states are going to have to undertake massive election reforms. And I believe that this is far more likely to happen with two strong political parties rather than one.

Or consider the maze of health and welfare programs which have been created by American government during the past several decades. It is no secret that they have become cumbersome, wasteful, overlapping, and, perhaps worst of all, so uncoordinated that they reach but a fraction of those whom they were designed to assist. Here too, we shall find reform coming far more rapidly with two strong parties contributing to the subject.

Or consider the myriad and mammoth problems involved in 20th century urban life. The big cities each year, despite huge doses of tax money continue to lose ground in the fight for liveability. Clearly, existing approaches to urban problems have not been successful, and surely we shall all be better off if there are two vibrant parties at work on the problem.

But of all the important issues of our time that might be mentioned in discussing the importance of the strong two-party system, none stands out with more clarity than the questions which now need to be answered about the very structure of the Federal system itself.

In the law of property, lawyers have a term called imperceptible encroachment to describe change so gradual that it can only be seen from a distance in time. Certainly our Federal system has been undergoing imperceptible encroachment until suddenly we find that great and important changes have taken place, and even more significant, that even more important changes now need to be made.

The fundamental principle behind the Federal system, of course, is that the various levels of government ought to share separate areas of responsibility for the public business.

The problem comes in the decision of what governmental level ought to handle what responsibility and how once the responsibilities have been assigned, they can be most effectively carried out. The significance of these divisions of responsibility is that with responsibility there necessarily goes corresponding amounts of power---and power if not wisely distributed can infringe on the individual liberties of a people.

Our Federal system today has evolved into a hodgepodge of confusing and uncoordinated areas of responsibility. As an incumbent Governor, I can assure you that the list of governmental functions which are now shared on a hit and miss basis by all three levels of government is a long and disturbing one. In health, in welfare, in conservation, in education, in a score of different areas, overlap and confusion breed almost hourly.

The net effect of this hodgepodge is threefold:

First, it is terribly inefficient. Tax monies are wasted and in far too many cases the lack of coordination is so great that many persons ironically fail to receive any of the services which the three levels of government--- state, local and national--- are all involved in providing.

Second, in the face of such confusion an over-abundance of power tends to rise to the national government. As mankind should have learned many long years ago power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

The third effect--- and understandably also a contributing cause to the whole problem--- is that the tax revenues of the Nation are seriously malapportioned between the three levels of government.

The national government--- primarily through the graduated income tax--- can look forward under our present tax structure to an increase annually in its revenues of some \$7 billion dollars. And yet as the national treasury bulges, experts have estimated that within 10 years the state governments will be billions of dollars short each year from what is needed to provide their share of governmental services.

There is no more pressing business before the Nation today than to correct the disrepair into which the federal system continues to drift.

And in a problem so basic who can deny the importance today of two strong political parties each contributing ideas and solutions. Should the national government pass over to the states a share of the national income tax?

How big a share should this be?

Should there be restrictions as to its use by the states, and if so what restrictions?

Should each of the levels of government give up responsibility accumulated over the years in one field or another, and if so, what level of government should give up what responsibility?

How do you best protect the individual liberties of the American people in an evermore complex society?

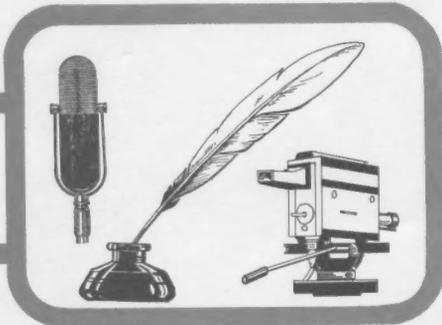
These and an endless list of other questions today stand unanswered and in fact too often unexplored in the United States.

We must find answers and I believe with all my heart the best answers will come from the give and take inherent in a strong two party system.

So, as a Republican, I say to my party, we must get about the business of strenghtening ourselves--- and as an American I say to my Nation, you have a tremendous stake in the outcome of our efforts.

The United States of America is the most unique and effective system of government ever created on the face of the earth. It was created and grew and flourished precisely because it never became captive to a one party monopoly or became proliferated into a meek, multi-party status. If it is not to flounder, to fade, to lose its genius, then it is imperative that we re-establish a strong and vibrant two-party system and with it, the federal system of government--strong and efficient on all levels-- local, state, and national.

END



CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

EXCERPTS FROM A SPEECH-Sept. 2, 1965
Blodgett Hospital School of Nursing
Grand Rapids, Michigan

RELEASE FOR AMs
Sept. 3, 1965

A civilized society should educate its children, protect the right of all citizens to vote, care for its economically-distressed aged who are ill, help its poor with their cooperation to escape the agony of the slums. These are some qualities of humanity. They are essential for a good society. They do not create a great society.

The 89th Congress has taken some steps toward strengthening a good society. However, much of the legislation adopted this year is politically oriented. Much of it is long on quantity and short on quality.

The paradox of this Congress is the adoption of measures which are a heritage of yesterday's mistakes and quarrels.

Congress needs to take sounder steps toward helping to build a good society of tomorrow. Somehow, some way, in a bi-partisan manner we must insure that America is a place where a person can reach higher, seek farther, and grow greater.

To accomplish this, we must give more of ourselves than we receive. We must put humanity and humanitarianism first. We must consider the God-given qualities of man above all.

* * *

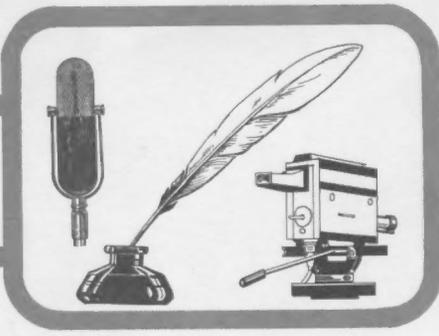
While large segments of our society believe in making the benefits of civilization available to the entire human race, an alarming number of others devote their energies to creating havoc, making life miserable for others, pitting man against man, disturbing the tranquility of a nation.

The growth and prosperity, the state and strength of our Nation depend on an aroused public conscience, which results in free citizens conducting their personal lives within the constituted framework of authority.

This is neither a time to stumble, nor to falter, nor to fear in accepting the responsibilities of citizenship. The task is to lead the way toward strengthening moral, esthetic, cultural and scientific values.

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