

The original documents are located in Box 133, folder “May 26, 1974 - Speech, Dedication of the Annenberg Building, Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York, NY” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD
AT DEDICATION OF THE ANNENBERG BUILDING
MT. SINAI HOSPITAL, NEW YORK, N. Y.
SUNDAY, MAY 26, 1974, 2:30 P.M.

CHAIRMAN LEVY, DR. WESTON, DR. POMRINSE, DR. POPPER,
MR. STERN, MR. ROSE, AMBASSADOR ANNENBERG AND FAMILY, AND *my former colleagues in the Congress*
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

I DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE *great* PRIVILEGE YOU HAVE ACCORDED ME
OF PARTICIPATING IN THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES FOR THIS MOST
IMPRESSIVE STRUCTURE. I CAN WELL BELIEVE THE ANNENBERG BUILDING
IS ONE OF THE -- IF NOT THE LARGEST *+ just* OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD.

*But, I'm here not only to dedicate a
fantastic facility / but also, ^{and very importantly} to pay tribute to
a great lady, Mrs Moses Annenberg, her son, the
Ambassador, her 7 daughters and their generous
& deep concern for the betterment ~~their~~ of our
society & all mankind.*



THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT IT WILL HELP ASSURE THE
MT. SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE A MAJOR ROLE IN THE CONTINUING
DEVELOPMENT OF THIS COUNTRY'S FINE SYSTEM OF MEDICAL CARE.

THIS STRUCTURE STANDS AS A ^{great} TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN DESIRE
TO PROVIDE HELP FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT.

THAT FACT BRINGS TO MIND ONE OF MY MOST INTERESTING
EXPERIENCES -- MY VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN 1972.
A GOOD SHARE OF MY 12 DAYS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC WAS OCCUPIED
WITH VISITS TO THEIR HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL FACILITIES, WHICH
TESTIFIED TO THEIR CONCERN FOR HEALTH CARE FACILITIES.



*Congressman Hale Boggs & I saw their
new medical education program (a shortened
curriculum) and their Barefoot D.V.
program that sends thousands from the
rural areas of that vast country.*

*a
nation of 800 million, growing in population at the
rate of 2 N.Y.C.'s every 12 months.*

While there

I WAS TOLD THAT THE CHINESE PHILOSOPHY MAINTAINS THAT A CIVILIZATION IS JUDGED BY THE TREATMENT IT GIVES ITS SICK.

The Peoples' Republic is meeting this challenge their way & we ⁱⁿ our traditions.

But regardless how it is done this

~~THAT CERTAINLY~~ IS AN ADMIRABLE STANDARD. IT IS, THEREFORE,

HEARTENING TO ME TO SEE HERE SUCH IMPRESSIVE INVESTMENT DEVOTED

TO IMPROVING THE STANDARDS OF MEDICAL CARE FOR AMERICANS. IT

PROVIDES ELOQUENT TESTIMONY TO AMERICAN CONCERN FOR THOSE

AFFLICTED WITH ILLNESS.



AND I AM NOT SPEAKING SO MUCH NOW OF THE COST OF THE BUILDING AND ITS FACILITIES SUBSTANTIAL AS THOSE COSTS ARE.

THE MORE THAN 127 MILLION DOLLARS WHICH WENT INTO THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF THE ANNENBERG BUILDING IS A VAST SUM FOR ANY PRIVATE ORGANIZATION TO INVEST IN ANY SINGLE PROJECT.

BUT WHAT IMPRESSES ME MORE ABOUT THIS MAGNIFICENT STRUCTURE IS THE DETERMINATION AND DEDICATION OF THOSE WHO HAVE PLANNED IT AND ITS USES, AND THE GENEROSITY AND DEVOTION OF THE CONTRIBUTORS WHO HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE.

*I certainly congratulate ^{again} Amb. Annenberg
& his seven sisters for their wonderful
generosity and the many others who have
contributed so substantially.*



The Annenberg family

~~AMBASSADOR WALTER ANNENBERG AND HIS SEVEN SISTERS, THE~~

FOUNDING

NEARLY 200 ~~FOUNDING~~ SPONSORS, AND THE THOUSANDS OF OTHER CONTRIBUTORS REPRESENT THE WARM HUMAN SPIRIT WHICH REACHES OUT TO PROVIDE HELP NOT ONLY FOR THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED -- BUT TO PROVIDE A CONTINUING AND GROWING SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE FOR THE ILL AND AFFLICTED FOR AS LONG AS IT IS POSSIBLE TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE.

THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN TO MAKE THIS DREAM A REALITY HAVE CAUGHT THE VISION OF THOSE WHO HAVE PLANNED THIS STRUCTURE, AND WHO ARE CONTINUING TO CHART ITS USE AS A WORKING, LIVING PART OF THE GROWTH OF MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE. AND, JUST AS IMPORTANT ITS USE AS A VITAL PROVIDER OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY OF WHICH IT IS A PART.



I AM HEARTENED BY THE DETERMINATION EXPRESSED BY BOARD
CHAIRMAN LEVY AND DOCTORS CHALMERS AND POPPER THAT THIS WILL
CONTINUE TO BE ONE OF THE 10 BEST MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY.

AND THAT IT WILL PIONEER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHAT TO ME
IS THE MOST EXCITING AND PROMISING CONCEPT IN MEDICAL CARE --
COMMUNITY MEDICINE.

THIS SORT OF VISIONARY PLANNING SEEMS TO ME A GUARANTEE
THAT THE MT. SINAI MEDICAL CENTER WILL BE A MAJOR LEADER IN
IMPROVING HEALTH CARE FOR THE ENTIRE NATION.



AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, I AM ALSO
VERY PLEASED THAT THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE WAS
ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE ^{at the federal govt's quarters} ~~THE~~ FEDERAL ROLE IN HELPING COMMUNITY
AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS BUILD AND IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH FACILITIES
HAS BEEN A VITAL PART OF THE RAPID EXPANSION OF HEALTH CARE
FACILITIES WHICH HAS BENEFITED SO MANY PERSONS.

For many years we had HILL-BURTON
+ more recently loan guarantees for
hospital construction. Numerous other
federal grant-in-aid programs have
had an impact on the medical delivery
system - from expanded research, to
M.D. + nurse training, to incentives for
 Docs to practice in sparsely settled areas
of America.



BUT WITH THAT RAPID EXPANSION HAVE COME SOME PROBLEMS.

*Our population + public demand
for more & better health
care*

ONE MAJOR -- AND STILL GROWING -- PROBLEM IS THAT THE COST OF
HEALTH CARE IS SKYROCKETING. *Our government* ~~THIS ADMINISTRATION~~ IS INCREASING
ITS EFFORTS TO HOLD DOWN THE MUSHROOMING COSTS. EARLIER THIS
MONTH, H.E.W. SECRETARY CASPER WEINBERGER MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES
OF A SCORE OF MAJOR GROUPS WHICH PROVIDE HEALTH SERVICES. HE URGED
THEM TO TAKE EVERY ACTION THEY COULD TO PUT THE LID ON THE RAPID
ESCALATION OF HEALTH CARE COSTS. SECRETARY WEINBERGER WISELY
WARNED THAT UNLESS THERE IS EFFECTIVE VOLUNTARY ACTION BY THE
HEALTH CARE GROUPS IN CONTROLLING COSTS, WE WILL SEE A STRENGTHENING
MOVE IN CONGRESS TO IMPOSE DRASTIC AND MANDATORY CONTROLS. I AM
ONE WHO STRONGLY DISLIKES CONTROLS. *Therefore* ~~AND~~ IT IS MY HOPE THAT
VOLUNTARY RESTRAINTS MAY BE EFFECTIVE ENOUGH SO THAT CONGRESS
WILL NOT BE ENCOURAGED TO ENACT NEW LEGISLATION.



BUT EVEN IF THE VOLUNTARY EFFORTS SUCCEED WE STILL HAVE
THE PROBLEM OF INSUFFICIENT HEALTH CARE FOR MILLIONS OF AMERICANS.

WE HAVE FINALLY BEGUN TO MOVE TO MEET THAT PROBLEM. JUST
THIS PAST WEEK, THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE OPENED HEARINGS ON
THE VARIED PROPOSALS FOR A NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN. THE
HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE ALREADY HAS BEGUN ITS CONSIDERATIONS.

IT IS MY HOPE AND BELIEF THAT FROM THE COMMITTEE HEARINGS
WILL COME -- THIS YEAR -- A MAJOR REFORM OF OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.
A REFORM WHICH WILL PROVIDE ASSURANCE FOR THE 25 MILLION AMERICANS
WHO HAVE NO HEALTH CARE INSURANCE AT ALL, AND FOR MILLIONS OF
OTHERS WHO HAVE PROTECTION THAT IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO MEET TODAY'S
NEEDS AND COSTS.



honest & some fundamental

I AM SURE YOU KNOW THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE
COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT NIXON,
AND A NUMBER OF OTHER PLANS AUTHORED BY VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE
CONGRESS.

BUT I BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE THOSE DIFFERENCES.
I AM PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT TWO OF THE LEADING
DEMOCRATIC PROPONENTS OF HEALTH INSURANCE, SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY
AND CONGRESSMAN WILBUR MILLS, ^{*recently*} HAVE SUBMITTED A PLAN WHICH INCLUDED
MANY FEATURES OF THE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM. TWO DEMOCRATIC
SENATORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RUSSELL LONG, AND ABRAHAM RIBICOFF
HAVE PROPOSED A THIRD VERSION, WHICH ALSO HAS ~~SOME~~ POSITIVE
FEATURES IN IT.

*Of course there are other proposals -
The American Hospital Association,
" " Medical Areas - medicredit
plan which has substantial
Congressional support*



THEREFORE, IT IS MY HOPE THAT BEFORE THIS YEAR IS OVER,
A COMPROMISE CAN BE REACHED WHICH WILL BE SATISFACTORY TO ALL. A
COMPROMISE WHICH WILL BE BASED ON SOME ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES.

Fortunately There is one common thread thru ALL proposals - something must be done about catastrophic illnesses.

I THINK, FOR EXAMPLE, IT WOULD BE ESSENTIAL THAT ANY
NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN CONTINUE OUR PRESENT SYSTEM

WHICH ALLOWS A PATIENT TO CHOOSE HIS OWN PHYSICIAN. I DOUBT

THAT ANY OTHER APPROACH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE GREAT MAJORITY

or those who deliver the service
OF AMERICANS SEEKING HEALTH CARE, THE INTEGRITY OF THE PATIENT-

DOCTOR RELATIONSHIP MUST BE MAINTAINED.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ANY PLAN BE BASED ON OUR PRESENT
DELIVERY SYSTEM OF PRIVATE HEALTH CARE. TO LET A VAST NEW FEDERAL
BUREAUCRACY TAKE OVER OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM WOULD BE A BURDEN
WHICH WOULD BE UNBEARABLE IN COST. AND UNBEARABLE IN PRINCIPLE.



IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT EVERYONE INVOLVED IN A NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM BE GIVEN A DIRECT STAKE IN MAKING THE SYSTEM WORK. WITHOUT THAT INTEREST IN SUCCESSFUL OPERATION, A NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM COULD FALL INTO SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES.

ON THESE BASIC PRINCIPLES, I FEEL THE CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION CAN BUILD A PROGRAM WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR A TRULY CREATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND OUR PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. A RELATIONSHIP WHICH WOULD GIVE VALUABLE STIMULATION TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH CARE, AND WHICH WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO ALL AMERICANS THE QUALITY HEALTH CARE WHICH MILLIONS CANNOT NOW AFFORD.



IN EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CREATIVE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND OUR PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM,
I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER EXAMPLE THAN THE MT. SINAI MEDICAL CENTER
AND ITS MAGNIFICANT PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. YOU ARE GIVING THE NATION
A MOST IMPORTANT EXAMPLE OF HOW VITAL -- HOW FORWARD LOOKING -- THE
PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM CAN BE.

WE NEED THE VISION, THE DEDICATION, THE ^{glorious} UNSELFISH INTEREST
OF CONCERNED CITIZENS -- WHICH THIS MEDICAL CENTER REPRESENTS.

WE NEED THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE THAT HAS BEEN GAINED OVER
THE YEARS IN THE TREMENDOUSLY DIVERSIFIED PRIVATE SYSTEM OF HEALTH
CARE. IT IS A SYSTEM WHICH HAS BEEN FREE TO EXPLORE MANY APPROACHES
TO HEALTH NEEDS. AND WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO EXPLORE AS MANY ^{diverse}
^{+ proposals} AVENUES AS POSSIBLE.
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BUT IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO ALL / THAT WE ALSO NEED THE
RESOURCES AND OVERALL SUPPORT WHICH ONLY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
HAS AVAILABLE FOR THE PRIVATE SYSTEM.

BY TEAMING THESE IN A WORKING PARTNERSHIP UNDER A NATIONAL
HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, WE CAN REACH ^{successfully} FOR ¹ THOSE GREAT HEALTH CARE
GOALS THAT SEEM SO CLOSE, YET HAVE BEEN SO DIFFICULT TO REACH.

WE CAN MAKE QUALITY HEALTH CARE ACCESSIBLE TO EVERY
AMERICAN. WE CAN CONQUER CANCER. WE CAN CURB THOSE HEART DISEASES
WHICH AFFLICT SO MANY AMERICANS. WE CAN MAKE THIS THE HEALTHIEST
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. AND WE CAN PUT THE PROGRAM INTO BEING THIS
YEAR.



NEARLY 6 MONTHS AGO, I PLEDGED, AS THE FIRST 'INSTANT'
VICE PRESIDENT, TO DO MY BEST TO HELP BUILD A BRIDGE OF COOPERATION
AND CONCILIATION BETWEEN CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE. I BELIEVE
THAT COOPERATION AND COMPROMISE ARE THE ONLY MEANS BY WHICH OUR
FORM OF GOVERNMENT CAN MOVE AHEAD SUCCESSFULLY. I BELIEVE THAT
COMPROMISE CAN FORGE ^{an effective} ~~A SUCCESSFUL~~ NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN
FOR OUR NATION.

I PLEDGE HERE TO DO ALL I CAN TO HELP ACHIEVE SUCH A
COMPROMISE.



WE ALL CAN DRAW INSPIRATION FROM WHAT YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED
at The Mount Sinai Medical Center
~~HERE~~, WITH VISION, DEDICATION AND GENEROSITY.

IN THIS MAGNIFICENT ANNENBERG BUILDING, WE TRULY FIND THE
WONDERFUL COMBINATION OF WHICH THE BIBLE SPEAKS -- "MERCY AND
TRUTH MET TOGETHER."

MAY THIS MELDING OF COMPASSION AND KNOWLEDGE BRIGHTEN
OUR FUTURE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

THANK YOU.



MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

TO: THE VICE PRESIDENT
FROM: BILL ROBERTS
DATE: MAY 24, 1974
RE: FACT SHEET FOR ANNENBERG DEDICATION

The building is named for the late Mrs. Moses L. Annenberg, mother of Walter and 7 daughters, who have donated 12 million dollars to the building fund in honor of their mother's 86th birthday in 1965.

Building of 31 stories is believed the largest of its kind in the world. It is the hub of the Mt. Sinai Medical School, which started in 1968. The structure, with equipment, cost more than 127 million dollars. So far the Building Fund has raised 140 million dollars, with a 152 million dollar goal. (Additional funds are for endowments and for cost of preparing the building site.)

At the dedication ceremonies there will be approximately 850 persons. Almost all of them are large contributors, and their families. The Fund has 194 persons who donated at least \$100,000 each.

(MRS. PAUL AMES, MRS. MELVIN HALL, MRS. JAMES HOOKER, MRS. LITA HAZEN, & MRS. BENJAMIN LEEVÉE, FIVE)

Mr. Annenberg and his seven sisters will be at the luncheon preceding, as will the other platform speakers and guests...including Gustav Levy, *(pronounced Leevy)* Chairman of the Board of the Mt. Sinai Medical Center; the Reverend M. Moran Weston, Rector of St. Philip's Church, and a Board Member of the Center; Dr. Thomas C. Chalmers, President of the Medical Center and Dean of the School of Medicine; Dr. S. David Pomrinse, Director of the Mt. Sinai Hospital; Dr. Hans Popper, President Emeritus of the Medical Center; and Alfred Stern, Vice Chairman of the Medical Center. Each of the above will speak, in the order listed. Except that Mr. Levy will speak again just before you are introduced, paying a tribute to the Annenberg family.



TO: The Vice President

FROM: Bill Roberts

DATE: May 25, 1974

SUBJECT: FACT SHEET FOR ANNENBERG DEDICATION

The building is named for the late Mrs. Moses L. Annenberg, mother of Walter and 7 daughters, who have donated 12 million dollars to the building fund in honor of their mother's 86th birthday in 1965.

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Mr. Annenberg and Mrs. Paul Ames, Mrs. Melvin Hall, Mrs. James Hooker, Mrs. Lita Hazen, and Mrs. Benjamin Leevy, five of his seven sisters, will be at the luncheon preceding, as will the other platform speakers and guests... including Gustav Levy (pronounced Levvy), Chairman of the Board of the Mt. Sinai Medical Center; the Reverend M. Moran Weston, Rector of St. Philip's Church, and a Board Member of the Center; Dr. Thomas C. Chalmers, President of the Medical Center and Dean of the School of Medicine; Dr. S. David Pomrinse, Director of the Mt. Sinai Hospital; Dr. Hans Popper, President Emeritus of the Medical Center; and Alfred Stern, Vice Chairman of the Medical Center. Each of the above will speak, in the order listed. Except that Mr. Levy will speak again just before you are introduced, paying a tribute to the Annenberg family.



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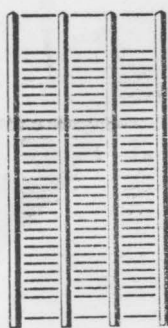
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PROGRAM



DEDICATION

THE ANNENBERG BUILDING
THE MOUNT SINAI MEDICAL CENTER

MAY 26, 1974



The late Mrs. Moses L. Annenberg bequeathed to her children a profound sense of concern for the well-being of others. The structure at Mount Sinai which now bears the name of Annenberg was given stimulus by a characteristic act of generosity by Ambassador Walter H. Annenberg and his seven sisters in honor of their mother on the occasion of her eighty-sixth birthday in 1965.

Believed to be the tallest and most modern structure of its kind in the world devoted solely to medicine, research and teaching, the Annenberg Building stands as a monument to the close partnership of private philanthropy and government in man's effort to alleviate human suffering and sickness.

Sp12

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Presiding

GUSTAVE L. LEVY

Chairman of the Board, The Mount Sinai Medical Center

Invocation

THE REVEREND M. MORAN WESTON, D.D., Ph.D.

Rector of St. Philip's Church

Board member, The Mount Sinai Medical Center

Welcome from the School and Faculty

THOMAS C. CHALMERS, M.D.

President, The Mount Sinai Medical Center

Dean, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

of the City University of New York

Welcome from the Hospital

S. DAVID POMRINSE, M.D.

Director, The Mount Sinai Hospital

Edmond A. Guggenheim Professor of Administrative Medicine

Greetings from the Founding Faculty

HANS POPPER, M.D., Ph.D.

President Emeritus, The Mount Sinai Medical Center

Dean Emeritus, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Salute to the Founding Sponsors

ALFRED R. STERN

Vice Chairman, The Mount Sinai Medical Center

Chairman, Development Committee

Greetings

FREDERICK P. ROSE

President-elect, Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York

Tribute to the Annenberg Family

GUSTAVE L. LEVY

Address

THE HONORABLE GERALD R. FORD

Vice President of the United States



PLATFORM GUESTS

MAX ABRAMOVITZ
Vice Chairman, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center

DR. PAUL J. ANDERSON
President, Academic
Council, Mount Sinai
School of Medicine

MRS. JACK R. ARON
Vice Chairman, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center

HON. HERMAN BADILLO
Board member, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center
U.S. Representative in Congress,
21st District, New York

DR. LOWELL BELLIN
Commissioner of Health,
City of New York

M. RONALD BRUKENFELD
Secretary, The Mount Sinai
Medical Center

LAWRENCE B.
BUTTENWIESER
President, Federation of
Jewish Philanthropies

DR. WILLIAM B. CASTLE
Doctor of Humane Letters,
Mount Sinai School of
Medicine

SHELDON R. COONS
Vice Chairman, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center

EDGAR M. CULIMAN
Vice Chairman, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center

DR. JOHN L. S. HOLLOMAN
President, The Health and
Hospital Corporation of
New York

SAUL HOROWITZ, JR.
Vice Chairman, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center

HON. JACOB K. JAVITS
U.S. Senator from New York

DR. ROBERT J. KIBBEE
Chancellor, City University
of New York

MRS. SEYMOUR KLEIN
President, Mount Sinai
Women's Auxiliary Board

JOSEPH KLINGENSTEIN
Chairman Emeritus, The
Mount Sinai Medical Center

DR. ISADORE KREEL
President, Association of
the Mount Sinai Attending
Staff

DR. LOUIS S. LAPID
Past President, The
Associated Alumni of
Mount Sinai

HENRY A. LOEB
Vice Chairman, The Mount
Sinai Medical Center

HARRY R. MANCHER
Associate Treasurer, The
Mount Sinai Medical Center

ERNESTO MARTINEZ
Executive Director, East
Harlem Tenants Council

DR. LUCY G. MOSES
Doctor of Humane Letters,
Mount Sinai School of
Medicine

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
U.S. Representative in Congress,
19th District, New York

ALFRED L. ROSE
Chairman Emeritus, The
Mount Sinai Medical Center

IRA A. SCHUR
Treasurer, The Mount Sinai
Medical Center

DR. JAMES A. SHANNON
Special Assistant to the
President, Rockefeller
University

DR. MARVIN STEIN
President, Mount Sinai
Medical Board

DR. ROBERT S. STONE
Director, National Institutes
of Health, Department of
Health, Education and
Welfare

HON. PERCY E. SUTTON
President, Borough of
Manhattan, New York City

WILLIAM WISHNICK
Associate Treasurer, The
Mount Sinai Medical Center

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 Klingenstein
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 Mrs. Polly Annenberg Levee

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 The Levitt Foundation
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 Mr. and Mrs. Gustave L. Levy
 Mr. and Mrs. Albert A. List
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Loeb
 George W. Loft and Julia M.
 Loft Foundation
 Joe and Emily Lowe
 Foundation
 The Mack Foundation
 Daniel and Estelle Maggin
 James E. Marcuse
 The John and Mary R. Markle
 Foundation
 Edwin I. Marks*
 The Jack Martin Fund
 Dr.* and Mrs.* Arthur M.
 Master
 Estate of Velma B. Melas
 Andrew W. Mellon
 Foundation
 The Merck Company
 Foundation
 Charles E. Merrill Trust
 Eugene Metzger
 Mr. and Mrs. André Meyer
 Milbank Memorial Fund
 Mark J. Millard
 The Ambrose Monell
 Foundation
 Estate of Marjorie V. More
 Morgan Guaranty Trust
 Company of New York
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Morse
 Dr. Lucy G. Moses
 The Herman Muehlstein
 Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Jerome A.
 Newman
 Quigg Newton
 Cornelius W. Owens
 David L. Paul
 Mr. and Mrs. Milton J. Petrie
 Carl and Lily Pforzheimer
 Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Pope
 Harold Price
 Louis and Harold Price
 Foundation
 Maximilian and Reba Richter
 Memorial Fund
 Nelson A. Rockefeller
 Mr. and Mrs. Alfred L. Rose
 Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P.
 Rose
 James M. Rosenberg
 Michael M. Rosenberg

Murray M. Rosenberg
 Samuel H. Rosenberg
 Mrs. Max Rosenfeld
 Dorothy H. and Lewis
 Rosenstiel Foundation
 Lewis S. Rosenstiel
 The Rosenstock Foundation
 Mrs. Patricia Rosenthal
 Arthur Ross
 Louis and Rachel Rudin
 Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Derald H.
 Ruttenberg
 Miss Edith Sachs
 Albert F. Saunders,
 Family Memorial Fund
 Samuel S. Schneierson
 Mr. and Mrs. Ira A. Schur
 Mr.* and Mrs. B. Davis
 Schwartz
 David and Irene Schwartz
 Mr.* and Mrs. Irving W.
 Schwartz
 Richard J. Schwartz
 Mr. and Mrs. Martin E. Segal
 The Franz W. Sichel
 Foundation
 Mrs. Leo Simon
 Mr. and Mrs. Herbert M.
 Singer
 Sidney S. Somer
 Mr.* and Mrs. Milton
 Steinbach
 Alfred R. Stern
 Bernard Stern
 H. James Stern
 Estate of Leo C. Stern
 Dr. Henry M. and Lillian
 Stratton Foundation
 Percy S. and Edith A. Straus
 Ralph I. Straus
 Mrs. Roger W. Straus
 Andrew and Theresa Tevan
 Tudor Foundation
 van Ameringen Foundation
 Carrie F. Vieth Trust
 Edwin C. Vogel*
 Mr. and Mrs. Max Wasserman
 Dr. and Mrs. Harry I.
 Weinstock
 Ernest and Mary Hayward
 Weir Foundation
 Partners of Wertheim & Co.
 Edna and Harry Winston
 Estate of Ethel H. Wise
 William Wishnick
 Jodi Ann Wollman
 Glioblastoma Fund

*Deceased

The Mount Sinai Hospital is a charter member of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and Mount Sinai School of Medicine has been endorsed by Federation as part of its Building Drive.



REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD
AT DEDICATION OF THE ANNENBERG BUILDING
MT. SINAI HOSPITAL, NEW YORK, N.Y.
SUNDAY, MAY 26, 1974, 2:30 P.M.



CHAIRMAN LEVY, Dr. Weston, Dr. Pomrinse, Dr. Popper,
~~AMBASSADOR ANNENBERG + FAMILY,~~
Mr. Stern, Mr. Rose, and distinguished guests:

I deeply appreciate the privilege you have accorded me, of participating in the dedication ceremonies for this most impressive structure. I can well believe the Annenberg Building is one of the-- if not the largest of its kind in the world.

there can be no doubt that it will help assure the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine a major role in the continuing development of this country's fine system of medical care.

This structure stands as a tribute to the American desire to provide help for those who need it.

That fact brings to mind one of my most interesting experiences--my visit to the People's Republic of China in 1972. A good share of my ¹²~~12~~ days ~~in~~ in the People's Republic was occupied with visits to their hospitals and medical facilities, which testified to their concern for health care facilities.

I was told that the Chinese philosophy maintains that a civilization is judged by the treatment it gives its sick.

That certainly is an admirable standard. It is, therefore, heartening to me to see ~~here~~ such impressive investment devoted to improving the standards of medical care for Americans. It provides ~~eloquent~~ ^{eloquent} testimony to American concern for ~~these~~ afflicted with illness.



And I am not speaking so much now of the cost of the building and its facilities substantial as those costs are.

The more than 127 million dollars which went into the construction and equipping of the Annenberg Building is a vast sum for any private organization to invest in any single project.

But what impresses me more about this magnificent structure is the determination and dedication of those who have planned it and its uses, and the generosity and devotion of the contributors who have made it possible.

Ambassador Walter Annenberg and his seven sisters, the nearly 200 funding sponsors, and the thousands of other contributors represent the warm human spirit which reaches out to provide help not only for those in immediate need--but to provide a continuing and growing source of assistance for the ill and afflicted for as long as it is possible to see into the future.

Those who have given to make this dream a reality, have caught the vision of those who have planned this structure, and who are continuing to chart its use as a working, living part of the growth of medical knowledge. And, just as important its use as a vital provider of health care services to the community of which it is a part.

I am heartened by the determination expressed by Board Chairman Levy and Doctors Chalmers and Poppers that this will continue to be one of the 10 best Medical Schools in the country.

And that it will pioneer in the development of what to me is the most exciting and promising concept in medical care---community medicine.

This sort of visionary planning seems to me a guarantee that the Mt. Sinai Medical Center will be a major leader in improving health care for the entire nation.

As a representative of the federal government, I am also very pleased that the U.S. Public Health Service was able to provide assistance. The Federal role in helping community and private institutions build and improve their health facilities has been a vital part of the rapid expansion of health care facilities which has benefited so many persons.

But with that rapid expansion have come some problems. One major--and still growing--problem is that the cost of health care is skyrocketing. This Administration is increasing its efforts to to hold down the mushrooming costs. Earlier this month, H.E.W. Secretary Casper Weinberger met with representatives of a score of major groups which provide health services. He urged them to take every action they could to put the lid on the rapid escalation of health care costs. Secretary Weinberger ^{wisely} warned that unless there is effective voluntary action by the health care groups in controlling costs, we will see a strengthening ^{strongly} move in Congress to impose drastic and mandatory controls. I am one who ^{strongly} dislikes controls. And it is my hope that voluntary restraints may be effective enough so that Congress will not be encouraged to ^{enact new legislation} ~~step in~~.

But even if the voluntary efforts succeed we still have the problem of insufficient health care for millions of Americans.

We have finally begun to move to meet that problem. Just this past week, the Senate Finance Committee opened hearings on the varied proposals for a national health insurance plan. The House Ways and Means Committee already has begun its considerations.

It is my hope and belief that from the committee hearings will come--this year--a major reform of our health care system. a reform which will provide assurance for the 25 million Americans who

~~NO~~ have health care insurance at all, and for millions of others who have protection that is not sufficient to meet today's needs and costs.

I am sure you know there are differences between the Comprehensive Health Insurance Program proposed by President Nixon, and a number of other plans authored by various members of the Congress.

But I believe it is possible to resolve those differences. I am particularly encouraged by the fact that two of the leading Democratic proponents of health insurance, Senator Edward Kennedy and Congressman Wilbur Mills, have submitted a plan which included many features of the Administration program. Two ~~other~~ Democratic Senators, Committee Chairman Russell Long, and Abraham Ribicoff have proposed a third version, which also has some positive features in it.

Therefore, it is my hope that before this year is over, a compromise can be reached which will be satisfactory to all. A compromise which will be based on some essential principles.

I think, for example, it would be essential that any national health insurance plan continue our present system which allows a patient to choose his own physician. I doubt that any other approach would be acceptable to the great majority of Americans seeking health care. *The integrity of the patient-doctor relationship must be maintained.*

definitely ~~It is~~ essential that any plan be based on our present system of private health care. To let a vast new federal bureaucracy take over our health care system would be a burden which ~~it~~ would be unbearable in cost. And unbearable in principle.

~~I think~~ ^(is) essential that everyone involved in a national health insurance program be given a direct stake in making the system work. Without that interest in successful operation, a national health insurance program could fall into serious difficulties.





8. ^β ~~But~~ On these basic principles, I feel the Congress and the Administration can build a program which would provide for a truly creative relationship between the Federal government and our private health care system. A relationship which would ~~provide~~^{give} valuable stimulation to the improvement of health care. And which would make available to all Americans the quality health care which millions cannot now afford.

In emphasizing the importance of the creative relationship between the Federal government and our private health care system, I can think of no better example than the Mt. Sinai Medical Center and its magnificent plans for the future. You are giving the nation a most important example of how vital--how forward looking--the private health care system can be.

We need the vision, the dedication, the unselfish interest of concerned citizens--which this Medical Center represents. We need the knowledge and experience that has been gained over the years in the tremendously diversified private system of health care. It is a system which has been free to explore many approaches to health needs. And we need to continue to explore as many avenues as possible.

But it should be clear to all that we also need the resources and overall support which only the federal government has available for the private system.

By teaming these in a working partnership under a national health insurance program, we can reach for those great health care goals that seem so close, yet have been so difficult to reach.

We can make quality health care accessible to every American. We can conquer cancer. We can curb those heart diseases which afflict so many Americans.

We can make this the healthiest country in the world.

And we can put the program into being this year.

Nearly 6 months ago, I pledged, as the first 'instant' Vice President, to do my best to help build a bridge of cooperation and conciliation between Congress and the White House. I believe that Cooperation and compromise are the only means by which our form of government can move ahead successfully. I believe that compromise can forge a successful National Health Insurance Plan for our nation.

I pledge here to do all I can to help achieve such a compromise.

We all can draw inspiration from what you have accomplished here, with vision, dedication and generosity.

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Thank you.

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SUNDAY, MAY 26, 1974, 2:30 P.M.



FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY SUNDAY, MAY 26

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