

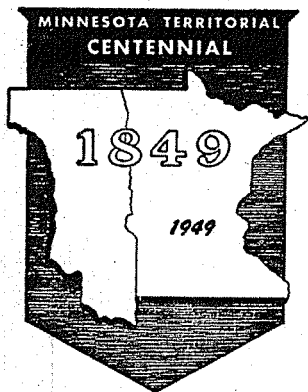
*Centennial*  
**Inaugural Address**

of

**Governor Luther W. Youngdahl**

**To the Legislature of**

**Minnesota**



**St. Paul, Minnesota,**

**Thursday, January 6, 1949**

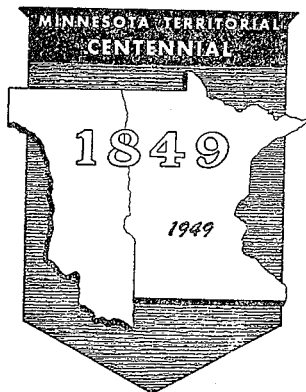
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INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF  
GOVERNOR LUTHER W. YOUNGDAHL  
DELIVERED AT A JOINT SESSION OF THE  
MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE AT 12:15 P. M.,  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1949.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Members of the Fifty-Sixth Session of the Minnesota Legislature, and Honored Guests:

This is 1949, the great Centennial year of Minnesota.

A great painter whose hand produced many a work of art was asked "Which is your greatest painting?" The artist paused a moment. "My greatest painting? The next one!"

The people of our state, in this Centennial year, look back upon a record of achievement. 1849—1949, a century of struggle and growth, a century of toil and sacrifice, a century in which a wilderness has been transformed into a great progressive commonwealth. The Centennial year marks a luminous place along our path; a year dedicated to the people who built Minnesota, to the countless unnamed pioneers who believed enough in her future to be pioneers; to the laborers in our iron mines or in the foundries of our cities; to the tillers of the soil who cleared a wilderness and brought out of it rich farms; to the vision of countless merchants and businessmen on our thousands of main streets; to the courage of the leaders of industry who launched out to new frontiers; to the men of the various professions who helped and guided and counseled their fellowmen; to the homemakers, the teachers, the political leaders, the religious leaders—to all who have built homes, schools, churches, and better communities—to all these we pay our tribute. All these were the builders of Minnesota.

The temptation at any anniversary observance is to glorify the past at the expense of the future. We honor the past, without it there would be no great present, but our eyes are fixed upon the future. The people of Minnesota, like the famous painter, are being asked to name their greatest century. Their reply must be "The next one!"

This next century depends upon the way in which we, the descendants of these great pioneers, build for the future; the way in which we, the children of those sturdy people, maintain the security, the freedom, and the democracy which we have inherited from them.

Two years ago the fighting had just officially stopped. We then faced a great challenge; we met in a critical hour of history. Today the problems are more complex and the challenge greater than ever.

Not so long ago a group of miners were entombed in one of the Kimberly Diamond Mines in South Africa. Surrounded by unlimited riches they slowly met their death. Starving for food, thirsting for water, in need of medical assistance, deprived of spiritual comfort, diamonds were worthless.

And so it is in our world today. We are discovering that accepted values must be reappraised. We are coming to understand that our claim to distinction and progress has been based on false standards.

We have been worshipping the gods of science and material advancement until now we see ourselves trapped by the monstrous weapons we have devised. Our ability to create has surpassed our ability to utilize wisely the products of our invention.

We are learned in the art of war—we are ignorant in the art of peace. We are proficient in the art of killing—we are unskilled in the art of living. We probe and grasp the mystery of atomic fission—we reject the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount. We are being entombed to our death in the diamond mine of materialism.

There must be a place in our scheme of things for those great intangible human values which cannot be represented on graphs or ledgers. Our values must stem from the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. We must stop gauging our success by production of machines or dollars of income. We have got to understand that important as it is to produce efficiency in the factory, it is even more important to build character in its workers and to turn out a product that will strengthen our nation. No standard of living is high when jobs become drudgery and hours dreary; when rancor and bitter-

ness exist between management and labor; when young men and women can't afford a family; when children in slums are walled off by brick from sod and sky; where there is not equality of educational opportunity for every boy and girl; where decent health conditions are not afforded to all of our people. No standard of living is high where we do not fulfill our obligation to the needy, the aged, the crippled, the blind; the dependent and neglected children; where we fail in our duty to the individuals sick of mind; when we deny equal rights to our people because of race, creed, color, or nationality.

As we face the new century in Minnesota history we are confronted by a two-fold task: first, to mark out new horizons in human goals for which to strive. Second, to provide economic means by which these goals may be achieved.

## I. *THE GOALS FOR WHICH WE STRIVE*

### 1. MENTAL HEALTH

First in the consideration of our human goals is the mental health of our people. There are more than 10,500 individuals of good soul but sick mind in our state mental hospitals. They are but the vanguard of a vast number to follow, in which—and mark this well!—will be represented one member out of every five families. Unless modern research and preventive measures are immediately introduced, a large percentage of these people will continue to constitute a major human resource rushing down the drainpipe of social neglect.

Most persons have accepted without much questioning the idea, so widely prevalent, that there is some stigma attached to mental illness, that nothing can be done about it and that the unhappy victims must be put away somewhere in an institution to spend the rest of their days. These ridiculed, abused, and maligned members of our social family cannot speak for themselves. They are made mute by sickness, guarded walls, and the loss of their civil rights. Their heartbroken families are rendered equally silent by the cruel stigma which false social attitudes attach to the mentally ill. Casualties of the spirit, voiceless and powerless, their very personalities—yes, their very lives—are completely dependent on the concern, wisdom, and compassion of those of us who are more fortunate.

We need not detail here the disclosures of conditions which have shocked those of us who have visited our mental hospitals here in Minnesota; the rows upon rows of unattended human beings, regimented and neglected because of lack of help, living lives of grim monotony and deteriorating emptiness, deprived of human rights and necessities.

In other states, conditions are much the same. Nowhere is man's inhumanity to man more pronounced than in our care of the mentally ill. The mental hospital of today is only a superstructure built on the foundation of the old asylum, representing a social monstrosity which plagues the whole nation with shame and disgrace.

It fails to return to society that high percentage of patients for whom modern psychiatry holds out hope. It similarly denies the milk of human kindness to those patients who, under present levels of scientific knowledge, are incurable. I caution here against any consideration of this problem which confines its attention solely to those deemed curable; even the most hopeless patient in our hospitals has something so precious that it cannot be judged in values other than human and divine.

The mental hospital system is the only major American social institution which has remained fundamentally unchanged since the abolition of its moral counterpart, slavery.

Our system of caring for and treating these sick human beings is outmoded. To protect society from the so-called "dangerous", to confine the helpless, to furnish a roof to house those falsely thought to be incurable—for this we would need only brick and mortar. We would need only fortified buildings to lock the patients in and the public out.

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But the time when the mentally ill could be put away in an institution, "out of sight—out of mind", must end. I propose that we inaugurate the centennial year by pioneering to make the mental hospital in Minnesota a house of hope, rather than a habitation for the living dead. I propose that we equip our mental hospitals to give our patients the best possible care and extend to those who can be cured the fullest opportunity for rehabilitation. Many of the mentally ill in our hospitals can

be restored to health with proper treatment, we now know, and go home to live normal, useful lives.

Our human goal should be to make Minnesota the first state in the nation to reach the standards of decency as are reflected by the standards of the American Psychiatric Association.

You have in previous sessions shown your sympathies by generous appropriations for the type of system which has prevailed. At the last session you approved a comprehensive and progressive building program, much of which is now under way. This session, I trust, will take the decisive step to adopt a new approach for the care of the mentally ill. The modern therapeutic center, "the house of hope", would replace the traditional state hospital. Characterized by research and active training of personnel, it would have links with the home and community through clinics and social work services, which would in turn provide early detection, possible non-hospital treatment, post-hospital follow-up care of discharged patients, and consultative and other services to courts, schools, and welfare agencies.

The details of this program will be supplied in my budgetary message. It is based not on how cheaply we can maintain a patient for life, but on how early we can detect his illness, how actively we can treat it, and how quickly we can discharge him. It is intended to increase the number of citizens returning to enrich the lives of their communities. In time it would end the costly and vicious circle of building an ever expanding system of costly custodial building to house an ever increasing backlog of needlessly deteriorating patients.

\* \* \*

Due to low quotas, low salaries, lack of training, and shortages of trained personnel, we have a psychiatric corps large enough to serve less than 4,000 of the 10,500 patients in our seven mental hospitals. The situation in the institutions for the mentally deficient and epileptic is similar. Without trained personnel, physical facilities are of no avail.

Therefore, I recommend that we establish a quota of psychiatric workers in our mental health system which would permit us to reach the standards of the American Psychiatric Association during this biennium.



How will we obtain this personnel? First, we must go out into the open market and offer competitive salaries; second, we must train people to fill vacancies. The budget message will contain provisions to establish in the state hospitals at Hastings and Rochester the first two units of a proposed teaching service for the state, for the training of doctors and other members of the psychiatric team in short supply. Third, we must establish the 40 hour work week. Fourth, we must provide adequate housing for all employees living on the grounds.

One of the most vital posts in the psychiatric team is now held by the position, which since asylum days, has been termed "attendant". The term and function of "attendant" must be changed. The psychiatric worker for this position should be more than a mere guard and housekeeper. After additional scientific training he would be eligible for more specialized and responsible tasks.

One of the major and most justifiable criticisms against American mental hospitals pertains to the vicious caste system, typified by the double standard of diet. Unless we end the double standard of diet, we cannot expect that patients will have the feeling that the institution exists for them and not they for the institution. As a necessary step to increase the recovery rate—as a factor even more important than mere nutrition the program recommends funds, equipment, and dietitians to assure every patient a decent standard of food at least equal to that of the employees.

The program calls for adequate support of occupational, recreational, and other therapies designed to end the deteriorating idleness of state hospitals. The program calls for improved living conditions, adequate clothing, linens, and other personal necessities. Certain features deal with accelerated control of tuberculosis and other communicable diseases. The death rate from tuberculosis in our institutions is twenty times that of our general population. The program also would provide for an adequate staff of chaplains to give spiritual help and counsel to the patients.

Social systems, particularly those deeply rooted in the superstitions of our asylum past, are not changed over night. The program constitutes only the bare minimum required to start

us on the long road ahead. It calls only for those factors which can be absorbed administratively in the next biennium. Due to the inflationary costs of building today, as well as to the increased expenses of introducing this pioneering service, requests for capital expansion and equipment, except where vitally necessary or to complete the current building program, will be deferred.

I also recommend (1) changes in the archaic terminology and content in laws relating to mental illness, and (2) statutory provisions for transfer of the mental health authority from the Department of Health to a separate bureau in the Division of Public Institutions, in which would be organized all mental health activities.

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Human misery knows no geographical borders. We cannot hide behind the fact that conditions in other states are comparable to ours. We cannot hide behind the fact that no one individual is solely responsible for our "snakepits" and "bedlams." *Particeps criminis*. We have all participated in a social crime. Listen to the words of a grand jury investigating similar conditions in a mental hospital in another state:

"The grand jury condemns the whole system that today allows this unholy thing to exist in our state. The responsibility is widespread and it must be met. All must share in the guilt for this social crime against these innocent and helpless people. All must share in the responsibility for instituting redress of this long standing and terrible injustice."

The advance we are proposing in the frontier of mental health is the first and one of the most crucial of our human goals. Our mental hospitals may be no worse than the national average. But we must remember this: salvation comes to human society through vigorous minorities keeping alive a zealous protest against the deification of the average. The average is not good enough. We must not rest until Minnesota achieves the preeminent place among the states of the nation in its ministrations to those who are mentally ill.

## 2. EDUCATION

The second important human goal is education. One hundred years ago Horace Mann, one of the great pioneers in

education, affirmed that the aspirations for and the faith in the future of the human race ". . . depend upon teachers, more than upon *any*, more than upon *all* other human instrumentalities united." Almost a century later James Hilton also expressed the significance of the teacher in our society when he said: "If I had a child who wanted to be a teacher I would give him Godspeed as if he were going to a war. For indeed the war against prejudice, greed and ignorance is eternal, and those who dedicate themselves to it give their lives no less because they may live to see some fraction of the battle won. They are the commandoes of the peace, if peace is to be more than a short armistice. As in a relay race, our armed men have handed victory to those who dare not stand still to admire it, but must run with it for very life to a further and larger goal."

We have come a long way in education in this past century, but there is still much to be done. Education has lagged behind our material progress. In the next century we must stress social, civic, moral, and spiritual literacy more than the accumulation of facts and a shrewd canniness of the intellect.

In your last session you made a significant advance in the improvement of education and the people of the state have given admirable cooperation to the program.

The cost of education has increased in recent years, the enrollments have been enlarged, and there is a pressing demand for additional services. These factors require substantially greater funds to achieve this human goal. Blessed by recent years of unparalleled prosperity, we must not fail our youth.

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A sweeping accomplishment of our last session was the new State Aid Law. That law helped the schools of our state to meet increased operating costs. It provided for more efficient distribution of our school funds. That law requires some refinement. The amount of state aids should be increased. Every school district in the state will benefit from such a program. There are some school districts where the tax limitation makes it extremely difficult to provide sufficient money for schools—for example, the Range District. Because the dollar buys less and because of the large percentage of children, the \$40.00 per capita limitation now buys only \$22.40 of education.

The limitation was set in 1941 and subsequent changes in the value of the dollar make necessary a change in this limitation. I submit for your consideration a plan which would correlate the tax limit to the consumer price index.

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Another significant act of the 1947 Legislature which deserves special commendation is the one providing for school district reorganization. This act thus far has produced such astounding results toward better school district organization that I am convinced it should be continued with some amendments. Provision should be made for the question to be reconsidered in counties which formerly voted negatively on the matter of a survey. The time between filing the final report and voting upon the proposed plan should be extended beyond the present nine months' limitation. You may even wish to give the county committees legal authority to recall their reports for reconsideration. In many instances school district mergers will be accepted much more readily if a satisfactory distribution of school board members is specified in the law. It is interesting to note that in the first vote taken in any community, that of certain Ramsey County Townships, there was an overwhelming vote in favor of the reorganization plan.

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We must meet the necessity of sound preparation, adequate compensation, and retirement protection for teachers. I am of the opinion that we are already past the time when anything less than two years' preparation should be accepted for a certificate to teach in the schools of Minnesota, and that as soon as possible the requirement should be raised above that level. I still believe the law should establish minimum salary regulations below which no teacher can be employed.

During recent years we have been confronted with the grave problem of an inadequate supply of well-trained teachers. I believe that one way in which the state can help would be by making available scholarships to provide partial financial assistance to capable young men and women wishing to take college courses that will prepare them for teaching careers. The student receiving such a scholarship would fulfill his part of the bargain by agreeing to teach in the elementary schools

of the state for one year for each year's scholarship grant, or else he would repay the grant received.

An adequate supply of well-prepared teachers depends directly upon equipping, staffing, and financing the institutions in which our teachers are educated. This includes the teachers' colleges and a portion of the University. It is of prime importance that the facilities of these institutions for teachers' education be substantially financed. I recommend a careful study of the salary schedule for the faculty of the teachers' colleges to determine what adjustments are necessary. It is likewise vital to the educational, scientific, and cultural development of our state that the whole enterprise of higher education be given wholehearted support both morally and financially. Besides the need for operating funds, there are staggering needs for building, which deserve your serious consideration and support.

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Our state University is known throughout the nation and the world as one of the greatest institutions of higher education. It has become great because the people of Minnesota early recognized its worth and have been willing to pay for its continued growth. We cannot begin to accurately appraise its magnificent contribution in preparing young men and women for the responsibilities of better citizenship and service to their fellow men. Clearly, the state University has proved, and will continue to prove, that it is one of the most worthwhile investments made by the citizens of Minnesota. We must be sure that adequate finances are provided to carry on this work. We must look to salary needs in order to retain skilled teaching staffs and provide adequate buildings and the necessary equipment so that the University may continue as one of the great centers of learning in our nation.

You provided for the creation of a commission to study higher education during the present biennium, and the results of their study will be helpful to you now. That study should be continued, and there are demands for similar studies in connection with statewide library service and vocational education. I urgently recommend that you provide as fully as possible for research studies in these fields of education by

appropriating funds to the State Department of Education for these purposes.

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The funds we appropriate to achieve our second human goal should be regarded as investments rather than expenditures. A sound education is one of the essentials for a strong democracy.

### 3. YOUTH CONSERVATION

The third of the great human goals for which we strive is the conservation of our youth.

A farmer was shown a gnarled and twisted tree, and was asked for his opinion as to the cause of its distortion. His answer was, "Someone must have stepped on it when it was young." In Minnesota we place prime value on our boys and girls, our young men and young women. We are determined that they shall not be "stepped on" by an unthinking and unfeeling society. You gave tangible expression to the people's determination by your enactment of our Youth Conservation Act. The operation of this measure insures that we handle the lives of our youth as human personalities and not as depersonalized problem cases. The soul of the most reprobate child is fully worthy of salvation.

The Commission, though it has been handicapped by a lack of funds, has impressive accomplishments to its credit. We must strengthen its hands. As you know, we have had to use our present institutions for diagnostic centers. This is not an ideal situation. While the institutions have cooperated fully in helping to create and maintain these centers, the necessity of having the youth placed within an institution has brought about difficulties of administration. It has also tended to some degree to label children and youth who were held in the reception center as inmates of the institutions of which they were a part.

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To more effectively develop this diagnostic program for our youth, I believe we should establish a Youth Conservation Reception Center in the vicinity of the Twin Cities where we can get the benefit of professional assistance at the University of Minnesota.

The buildings at the Shakopee Women's Reformatory would prove ideal for such a center. With the addition of another small building, it could well furnish complete facilities for diagnostic care of our youth. Of course, in that event, some provision would have to be made for the women inmates of that institution. If this plan is not possible, some other alternative building program should provide for a separate diagnostic center for the work of the Commission.

I further recommend that the correctional institutions at Red Wing and Sauk Centre be transferred to the Commission in order to make more effective its work. Also, the probation and parole services of the Commission must be extended and improved in order to give the greatest possible help to the local agencies of our state.

In order to further individualize the treatment of juvenile offenders, I recommend that the Commission be provided with funds to convert one of the camps at St. Croix Park, now operated by the Conservation Department, into a boys' camp. Here boys would attend school half-time and work in the Park half-time. They would receive education in establishing good work habits here and would acquire the attitudes and mode of living to make them good citizens. At the same time, they would be improving our natural resources and thus preserving them for the citizens of tomorrow. This camp would afford a more humane, efficient and effective method of caring for youth who cannot immediately be returned to society.

I recommend also that the law be amended so as to provide for the appointment of a woman to the Commission.

The preventive staff of the Commission should also be expanded. This, of course, is the more important phase of the work. For every dollar we spend in prevention we shall save many more now required to be spent in adjusting the difficulties of lives already broken.

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To fortify the work of the Commission a Governor's Conference on Youth was held last October. One thousand thirty-eight leaders from all walks of life met in earnest and fruitful deliberation. These distinguished men and women pledged their support to the work which your legislation has made

possible and recommended, in the main, the suggestions I am submitting to you. They asked that the Legislature give official status to a Governor's Advisory Committee of Citizens. This Committee will serve without pay and it will give tremendous assistance in the attainment of this human goal. I recommend the adoption of this proposal. This youth program, so well begun, must be continued and expanded. To it we must bring our best thoughts, our untiring energy, and ample financial support.

#### 4. SOCIAL WELFARE

We proceed to a discussion of our fourth human goal, Social Welfare.

Today our welfare program ranks foremost in the country. But we must not stand still. We must continue to search for improvement.

For example, considerable success has been achieved in the placement of dependent children in permanent homes under existing legislation. In fact, our state has attracted national attention for its efforts to find homes for both the normal child and the child with handicaps. We are now at a point where this service could be improved by amending the law to permit welfare boards with adequate facilities and staffs to place children for adoption. The purpose of this is to speed up the finding of homes for dependent children on public support, many of whom in the past have been considered unplaceable.

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Now, with respect to the public assistance grants, our present Old Age Assistance Law establishes a \$50.00 maximum upon any individual grant, except for medical care. In giving aid to dependent children, the maximum grant is \$50.00 for a mother and one child, \$20.00 for the second child, and \$15.00 for each additional child. In the latter program, there is no special provision for medical care. In addition, local jurisdictions may supplement these payments from their own relief funds. I favor a much more workable system of granting assistance strictly in accordance with the needs of each individual.



Therefore, I recommend to this Legislature that it remove the maxima in old age assistance and aid to dependent children and provide, instead, that assistance be granted in accordance with the need determined to exist in each case. The aid to the blind program already operates on such a "no-maximum" basis.

I will urge the Legislature when I discuss appropriations in my budget message to examine carefully the prospective needs that may confront the persons depending on old age assistance, aid to dependent children, aid to the blind and the state's public relief assistance during the next two years and appropriate sufficient funds to permit the Director of Social Welfare to raise the standards of assistance for these groups, if needed, to meet further rises in living costs.

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By a few simple steps taken at this time, the state can go forward toward the elimination of tuberculosis as a major menace. First, in providing financial aid to local jurisdictions and local sanatorium commissions, it is necessary to recognize the increased cost of the new procedure in treatment of the disease.

In the second place, the state can, by passing enabling legislation, consolidate its treatment facilities into a small number of more adequately equipped sanatoria. Such legislation should also permit local sanatorium commissions, when they deem it advisable, to close their institutions and transfer their remaining patients to other sanatoria. County sanatoria so closed might then be used to considerable advantage for the care of the aged and infirm. For the state to embark on such a program of consolidation at this time will prove to be a good investment, not only from the humane point of view but also financially.

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Many county welfare boards have asked that the Legislature make plans for the care of the chronically ill and disabled aged. This matter has been carefully studied by the Legislative Research Committee, and a very fine report has been issued by them covering it. I heartily endorse their report, and I urge that this Legislature consider how more adequate facilities can

be provided to meet the needs of several thousand aged persons for whom the proper type of care is not now available.

We are all aware of the difficulties facing the American Indian. A large number of Indians are looking to government for aid because of lack of employment, cultural problems of their own, and uncertain opportunity. The problem is further entangled by federal wardships, restrictions of living on closed reservations or allotted lands, and the general lack of a program designed to bring them into the productive stream of our society. Recently federal resources have been withdrawn, and the plight of many of our Indian people has become acute. I suggest that the Legislative Research Committee or a joint committee of the Legislature be appointed to study this problem. In the meantime, adequate financial aid should be extended to counties with concentrated Indian populations to provide care for Indians in need.

Several years ago the Legislature very wisely created county welfare boards to administer the several welfare programs in each county. Several hundred responsible citizens serve as members of these boards, and they are performing their duties in an energetic and efficient manner—in some instances at considerable personal sacrifice. In twenty-two counties direct relief is still administered by townships. In the interest of better administration to the needy, more efficient operation, and the elimination of jurisdictional disputes between townships over relief cases, I strongly urge that the Legislature enact a law empowering county welfare boards to administer direct relief in all counties of the state.

In accordance with the recommendation of the State Association of District Judges, I should like to suggest that you provide for a commission to be appointed by the Governor to study the laws of Minnesota relating to divorce, particularly as they relate to children.

During recent years more and more evidence has been brought to light with respect to injuries to the eyesight of our children resulting from the careless use of the so-called "bebe

gun". On all sides, parents, teachers and police officers have been demanding legislation that will protect our society from such injury. I urge upon you the adoption of a bill that would prohibit the sale and use of the "bebe gun", or air rifle, except by way of supervised public display.

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There is a new problem of interest since the Legislature last met, that of helping the displaced persons of Europe find a new home and new hope. Minnesota has taken a role of leadership in this effort from the very outset. We have done so because we recognize our obligation, as Christians, to give aid to these suffering men, women, and children without a place of refuge as the result of war. It is essential in our state that there be a plan to take care of our quota of these unfortunate people who settle here. This, in addition to a warm welcome, will make these uprooted wanderers real assets to our communities and not objects of charity.

In order to properly coordinate the efforts of this state in behalf of displaced persons, I recommend legislation empowering the Director of Social Welfare to administer and supervise the program for displaced persons in the state, with a modest appropriation for this activity.

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Although the main outlines of our Social Welfare program in Minnesota are well accepted by the people, we must never relax our vigilance in caring for all those in need. This is one of our great human goals.

## 5. PUBLIC HEALTH

The protection of public health is another important aspect of our first objective. The last Legislature wisely provided aid to counties for the employment of public health nurses. As a result fifteen more counties have provided for nurses and twelve have added nurses to an existing program—and this despite the shortage of qualified nurses.

It has been gratifying to note the growing interest in public health problems. In recent months I have attended seven community health day programs in various sections of the state. At these meetings citizens of several counties have joined together to discuss and to develop plans to improve public health

programs. This interest indicates the willingness of the people to pay the small costs necessary for expanded community health services. I appreciate the fact, too, that many members of the Legislature contributed materially to the success of these efforts by participating as speakers and discussion leaders at these meetings. I want to stress the importance of local public health services to enable us to meet the great challenge of present health problems.

As you know, I feel strongly that there exists need for the enactment of the multiple county health bill, as proposed at the last session of the Legislature, or some suitable substitute measure, within the framework of existing health statutes.

Some recommendations will be made later for the strengthening of the inspection program for hotel and restaurants, in line with present day knowledge and advances in sanitation and public health practices.

The continuance of the dental health program to educate school children in the care of the teeth is also recommended.

We must intensify our efforts to help protect the health and safety of the industrial worker, particularly in the smaller industries.

In recent years the mass x-ray survey has given us one of the best means of screening large groups of the population in finding tuberculosis. We must give encouragement to this work and protect the health of our people.

In view of the disparity between the tremendous sum spent for curative health measures and the pittance devoted to preventive programs, our people should strongly support these expanded public health services.

## 6. HUMAN RELATIONS

No problem in modern life is of greater consequence than that involved in our sixth goal—the improvement of our human relations. In no area is there a more astounding difference between our technical knowledge and progress on the one hand, and our unwillingness to make application of that knowledge to harmonious living together, so absolutely essential to the functioning of a democracy.

The wonders of science are all about us, yet the wisdom to utilize these wonders in building the "Golden Age of Man"

is sadly lacking. Science has progressed with dazzling rapidity; the development of our human relations has crawled along at a snail's pace. Our solemn duty is to build bridges of understanding across the tragic chasms of racial, religious, and national differences. Unless these social tensions are mitigated—and that right soon—they threaten to wrench the fabric of our society and tear it into shreds.

We are still seeking the simple formulas which can bring world peace at the conference table, agreement in the factory and workshop, and bring tranquillity to the family circle. The ominous shadows of greed and passion hang over a world which lives in dark dread of atomic and bacteriological warfare. There is no pat remedy for our plight. Look for no miracles. Only enlightenment in human relations can bring in the new era of unity and peace. Chemists, biologists, and engineers are required to build the better world. There must be no vacation for them. But the greatest need for our day is for human engineers, human engineers who will take the products of science and use them with compassion and understanding, not to the hurt but the healing of men.

Two great wars have been fought and won in a single generation to preserve the cherished ideal of equal opportunity. This ideal we must now translate into the problems of our daily life.

Every worker in our free society has a right to be judged and selected for a job on the basis of his abilities, demonstrated skills and background of experience. Certainly, democracy suffers a tragic defeat every time a member of its society finds the doors of industry closed to him because of the color of his skin, his religious faith, or his particular race.

\* \* \*

Our problem is to find the proper way by which we may successfully clear away these restrictive bonds which are crippling the effective operation of our democracy. To encourage the practice of democracy in employment requires an aggressive program of education and legislation.

The Governor's Interracial Commission is admirably performing the educational task. To meet the legislative need, a fair employment practice law should be passed. Such a law will benefit employers rather than harm them, for the reason that

the labor market for employers will be increased. Employers will not lose the opportunity of selection. The law is designed to prevent prejudice. Such a law will make it possible for members of minority groups to prepare themselves, in the knowledge that they will receive a fair opportunity in employment.

A fair and carefully prepared bill was introduced at the last session. It will be presented again, and I respectfully urge you—in fact, I plead with you—to give it your support.

Suggestions by the Interracial Commission for the strengthening of our civil rights statute should also receive your support. As you know, I have indicated a desire to integrate Negroes into our National Guard. Federal regulations have prevented this. I believe that the Legislature should memorialize the President to change the regulations so as to make this possible. I further believe that our state constitution should be amended so as to include a specific provision against discrimination in our National Guard.

Here again the people of Minnesota have the opportunity, and the duty, to blaze new paths through a wilderness of ignorance and prejudice to our goal of better human relations.

## 7. HOUSING

There are few domestic problems which affect more adversely the welfare of our families and our children than the shortage of adequate housing. Its high cost and the continued existence of blighted neighborhoods impede the progress of our cities and consume their revenue. To all of us, and especially to the veteran and his family, this is far more than a prosaic problem of building materials, rent ceilings, and zoning ordinances; it affects us vitally in terms of impaired health, personality disorders, juvenile delinquency, and broken homes.

Two years ago Minnesota was one of a few states which had not provided enabling legislation by which local public bodies could obtain federal financial assistance for public low-rent housing. In 1947 you provided this legislation. This enabling Act has been adequate to permit municipalities to take advantage of any federal legislation.

The state administration has supported the enactment of adequate federal housing legislation and has made every effort

to keep the improvement of housing conditions a major objective of all civic-minded persons. In the interest of veterans and all citizens who deserve and demand decent housing, there is a need for coordinated federal and state action which will permit the maximum local participation in any national housing program. The state Legislature should take whatever steps are needed in the way of legislation to permit this maximum participation by Minnesota cities in any national housing program that may be provided by the Congress.

It is recommended that you give consideration to the improvement of provisions of the State Enabling Act dealing with the survey and other preliminary work of local housing and redevelopment agencies.

Our state constitution prohibits the state from extending its credit to any individual to carry on works of internal improvement, but, within the constitutional provisions, the state should provide enabling legislation for veterans' emergency housing. In addition veterans who undertake home ownership through veterans' cooperatives should obtain the benefits of homestead exemption.

Under a provision of the State Enabling Act, municipalities are required to hold a referendum on the question whether public low-rent housing should be undertaken. This provision sets up safeguards against inadequately considered local programs. Because the governing bodies of the communities are in substantial agreement that the referendum requirement be eliminated, I hope that you may see fit to consider this question and change the requirement by providing that a referendum shall not be applicable to any public low-rent housing project for which financial assistance is provided by the federal government.

In addition to the problem of increasing the housing supply, the Legislature should again consider the need for state emergency rent controls by extending our state emergency rent control act to take care of the rental situation if federal rent controls are not extended.

\* \* \*

I suggest also that the Legislature consider the need for appropriating funds for research and studies under the direction of the State Housing Division (1) to determine whether

improvements can be made in building codes to promote construction and (2) to suggest the best means of effecting these improvements.

\* \* \*

It is true that the housing problem is primarily one which must be met at the national level, but the state and local governments must remain acutely conscious of every opportunity to implement all federal legislation and must undertake to the full extent of their powers the attainment of this human goal.

## 8. LAW ENFORCEMENT

The people of the state have indicated in no uncertain terms their belief that our laws should be observed and enforced. The continued strengthening and support of our law enforcement program is our eighth human goal.

There still is laxity in enforcement in certain areas of the state, particularly with reference to the sale of liquor to minors. We have received a large number of letters in the Governor's office from heart-sick parents, pleading for helping in relation to this problem. We have an obligation to protect our youth from the callous consciences of some unscrupulous persons in this business. I therefore recommend uniform closing hours for beer and liquor establishments throughout the state, with a twelve o'clock closing on week days and one o'clock on Saturdays. Because of the conflict of closing hours existing at the present time, we have migrations late at night from one community to another, from the earlier to the later closing establishments, with traffic hazards and all the other serious implications involved.

Secondly, I think the Legislature should provide the power of arrest for the Liquor Control Inspectors, just as the Highway Patrolmen and Game Wardens have the power of arrest in their respective fields. You will recall that when the question was considered at the last session, objection was raised that that was giving the Governor too much authority and that enforcement belongs with the local units of government. I heartily concur in the idea that enforcement responsibility belongs fundamentally in the local communities. But in many of the local communities the laws are *not* being enforced as they ought to



be, and the people themselves are continually asking the Governor's help in bringing about effective enforcement. I submit that there is a responsibility at the state level to guide, supervise, and lead the way to better enforcement. This is a reasonable request as long as we are called upon to help the local communities.

Third, I also believe that the Liquor Control Department needs some additional personnel if it is to provide the assistance that the people expect us to give in this important field of action.

Fourth, it is also my conviction that the Liquor Control Commissioner should have the right to approve retail on-sale alcoholic beverage licenses the same as he has the supervision of off-sale liquor licenses at the present time.

The fundamental concerns which motivate me in this matter of law enforcement are now, as they always have been, twofold: first, a deep conviction as to the necessity of protecting our boys and girls; and, second, a profound respect for the sanctity of law as being the very foundation of democratic government.

## 9. LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

The ninth of our human goals lies in the field of labor-management relations. In my first inaugural message I said:

"I do not believe that stability will be achieved by punitive methods against labor. I do not believe that the great mass of employers want to see restrictive methods used against our workers, nor do I believe that the rank and file of working men and women want to see unfair methods used against employers. Both groups, in the main, prefer to adjust their differences peacefully—through negotiation rather than through conflict—and we should continue to keep the emphasis on conciliation, with a minimum of restriction."

After two years of experience in the settling of labor disputes in the Governor's Office I am confirmed in the conviction there stated.

The well-being of our economy is directly dependent upon the ability and willingness of labor and management to work

together. The Minnesota Labor Relations Act, which was enacted in 1939, has helped make possible a decade of good labor relations. I believe that the record since its passage indicates its adequacy. It contains a minimum of compulsion and regulation. It wisely places its reliance upon a maximum of voluntary participation of labor and management for its success.

The time has come when we must stress the human element in management-labor relations. Labor cannot advance alone. Management cannot advance alone. We shall not advance at all unless we advance together. It is important, then, that labor shall meet its obligation to perform a full day's work for wages received. And management must fulfill its obligation to treat the laborer as a human being and not as a cog in a machine.

Teamwork must be the basic objective in labor-management relations.

\* \* \*

Related to the labor-management problem is the matter of employment and security.

I strongly recommend that the Legislature give favorable consideration to increasing the weekly amount paid as unemployment compensation to jobless workers. Present rates were established in 1943, and the higher living cost now prevailing is ample reason for authorizing an increase.

In addition, the employment security law should be amended to remove inequities in sections denying payment of benefits to persons who, through no fault of their own, are made idle as a direct result of a labor dispute.

\* \* \*

A second matter related to the labor-management goal is the matter of workmen's compensation.

There are a number of proposals in connection with it and other problems affecting workers which merit attention. Among the proposals which I feel you should consider are: (1) Establishment of rehabilitation centers where the advantages of modern therapy can be utilized to assist in the rehabilitation of injured workers, (2) provisions for increased benefits in certain types of cases under workmen's compensation, (3) pro-

vision for 48 hour work week for women workers, and (4) added protective regulations for minors employed.

\* \* \*

The state itself is an employer, though in a special category. It is recommended that you provide a forty-hour week for all of our employees, including the members of the State Highway Patrol. Most of our employees are now working under a 40-hour week and it is only fair that it be made uniform for all employees.

It is further recommended that you give careful consideration to means of liberalizing and strengthening the employees' retirement benefit program.

\* \* \*

Through cooperation between the legislative and executive branches of our government, and supported by the great mass of the people of our state, these human goals represent a program, the achievement of which will constitute a worthy monument in this our centennial year.

We recognize the fact that the mere presentation of these goals is not enough. Hard logic and common sense dictate that we undergird our social and humanitarian programs with a solid bedrock of material resources.

Therefore, in support of the human goals for which we strive we proceed to the second major portion of our message, which has to do with the providing of economic means by which these goals may be attained.

## II. *THE ECONOMIC MEANS OF ATTAINING OUR GOALS*

### 1. CONSERVATION

The first of these economic means is the conservation of our natural resources. This is one of the gravest problems that confronts the Legislature. All of our aims for better living will fail if we fall short in protecting our heritage of natural resources—from which, directly or indirectly, we draw all income, all tax revenue, and all the means of our existence. We rob the future by wasting today.

Marvelous Minnesota! A land blessed by Providence, a land which has been given fertile soil, vast virgin forests, sparkling

waters, immense deposits of iron ore, teeming wild life, scenic beauties, and all the bountiful gifts of nature. From these natural gifts has come the wealth and the progress of our first one hundred years. Have we been faithful stewards of these gifts which God has given? Have we lived on the fat of the land? To put it bluntly: we have made mistakes; there has been selfish and foolish exploitation; there is danger that unless we mend our ways those who follow in the next century will be left to pick the bones. As we take stock today, we find that large sections of nature's once well-filled storehouse are becoming ominously bare.

Many of our lakes and streams, the pride of Minnesota, are being filled with silt deposits or contaminated by pollution. Depletion of our forests from cutting, fires, and other losses is going on over the years faster than the current growth. Game and fish are hard pressed by a greatly increasing demand for them in the face of steady shrinkage of their habitat. Another record year of production has cut deeper into our diminishing stock of high-grade iron ore. Any way we turn, we face an inevitable shortage of the means of survival at no distant date unless we act vigorously to stop the depletion that is now going on.

\* \* \*

No single natural resource is more crucial to the continued prosperity of our state than the fertility of its soil.

I especially call your attention to the importance of appropriating \$100,000 to the state soil conservation committee so that we may intensify our efforts to carry out good soil management. This program is essential to the conservation not only of the soil, but also of lakes and streams, forest, and wildlife.

\* \* \*

Our forests, the chief support of a large section of northern Minnesota and one of the mainstays in our state's economy, also deserve your attention.

The field of water conservation and water-pollution control also require action.

Special consideration is due to our valuable iron ore resources, which constitute the chief support of many mining communi-

ties, a major factor in the economy of the state, and a prime essential for national defense.

\* \* \*

Another problem of conservation is the maintenance of our state park system. Our system of parks compares favorably with any in the country.

Our state parks provide opportunities for all our people to enjoy the out-of-doors. Medical men tell us that outdoor recreation is not a luxury but a necessity for health and welfare. It is a potent antidote for juvenile delinquency and an important factor in our youth conservation program. I therefore recommend increased appropriations to meet this urgent need.

\* \* \*

There are signs that our people throughout the state are awakening to the need for action on conservation problems. Last summer I attended eight regional meetings with officers of sportsmen's clubs and other conservation groups all over the state. At these meetings and in answers to a subsequent questionnaire, the members of these organizations, who form a representative cross-section of the entire state, overwhelmingly endorsed a greatly expanded program for game and fish, and, in addition, they pledged their support to full-scale conservation of our basic resources—soil, water, and forests—as well as adequate maintenance of our state parks.

All these endorsements were given with full knowledge that the game and fish program will require substantial increases in the fees for hunting and fishing licenses, with no additional burden on the taxpayers. The Governor's Conservation Advisory Committee has given emphatic approval to this entire program. This expanded program merits your careful consideration.

To promote understanding of and public cooperation in conservation work, it is essential to carry on a systematic program of education through our schools and through other interested agencies. This matter merits your attention.

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Thus, briefly we have sketched the first bulwark of our human goals, the conservation of our natural resources. It is for us in the present to redeem the losses of the past and to

guarantee the gains of the future. Thus we will prove ourselves good stewards of what God has given us and assure for ourselves and our children the means for a more abundant life.

## 2. AGRICULTURE

No foundation for the attainment of our human goals is more fundamental than the continued prosperity of agriculture.

Through the investment in research we can provide new opportunities for wise utilization of our farm resources. It will pay us, as it has in the past, to provide our university scientists with funds to carry on projects seeking to improve the quality and the quantity of farm produce.

The 1947 Legislature provided a great new field of research at the Rosemount project. Although this work has been underway only a few months, it has already shown the wisdom of the investment.

I know that you will also want to provide for the continued development of the new school for veterinary medicine, thus meeting a need long felt in this great live-stock producing state.

\* \* \*

At present only a small percentage of our farms are included in soil conservation districts in which sound soil conservation management is practiced. The additional appropriation of \$100,000 as previously recommended would be used to carry out the organization of new soil conservation districts through the employment of several additional field men and the expansion of soil conservation education by the use of movie films, exhibits, bulletins and other publicity. Our goal should be the inclusion of all our farms in soil conservation districts.

\* \* \*

We must do all that we can, at the state level, to encourage good sanitation, electrical service, good roads to market and other means which will make for better living on the farm, and thus equalize opportunities for farm and rural areas.

Our support must also be continued and extended for the activities of the 4-H clubs and Future Farmers of America, as worthy efforts to help develop the youth of the rural communities, and, indirectly, all the people of the state.

### 3. TRANSPORTATION

The economic base which is to support our human goals depends in large measure in this mechanized age upon rapid and efficient transportation.

#### a. HIGHWAYS

The constant increase in motor traffic has accentuated the inadequacy of our road systems to serve the public needs. This is true of both primary highways and secondary roads. It is true of both rural roads and urban streets. The secondary road has taken on added importance because of the need of improved roads to transport our boys and girls of the districts reorganized under the School District Reorganization Act.

Various proposals to meet our road difficulties have been made in the past few years. All these proposals should be carefully considered. It is clear that if the demands for road improvements are to be met we must provide additional funds.

In considering any proposal aimed to give relief to our immediate road needs, care should be taken that no changes are made which cannot be altered to fit future developments. Motor vehicle and gas taxes can be changed at any session of the Legislature. This, however, cannot be said of proposals to enlarge the trunk highway system. Once roads are added to the state system, it is highly improbable that any bill can be passed to abandon them.

The decision as to how much the citizens of our state can soundly and economically invest each year to secure the benefits of better roads warrants most careful consideration by our Legislature.

#### b. AERONAUTICS

Four years ago we began the development of a system of primary and secondary airports. Today, with fifty-four municipal airports improved or constructed, the basic pattern of this system is in existence. Only two of the larger airports remain to be developed, and one of these will be ready for construction this spring. In the secondary system of smaller airports, a number of new landing areas are necessary, but these will be of the low-cost type.

Four years ago scheduled airlines provided service to only the Twin Cities, Rochester and Duluth. Today we have airline

service to several other communities and by this fall we anticipate additional feeder or trunkline service.

These strides have been accomplished without placing a tax burden upon the general taxpayer. The system of user taxes established by the 1945 Legislature is amortizing the state's investment in airport aids to municipalities. Over \$600,000 of the state's expenditure has been returned in form of user taxes on the airplane and on aviation gasoline, and this has not placed an excessive burden on the user of the aircraft or its services. The total indebtedness for airport improvements represented by actual cash outlay is less than one million dollars as of today.

We are becoming increasingly dependent upon our aeronautical services. We must continue to develop our aeronautical resources, make all of the state accessible by air, and thus give the benefit of air transportation to all our citizens.

#### 4. BUSINESS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

As we expand our social and humanitarian programs, we are fully conscious that this expansion must be accompanied by a corresponding growth in our business activity.

To accomplish this the 1947 Legislature established the Department of Business Research and Development. In part, it was a consolidation of previous state agencies concerned with economic affairs. More effectively, it was a conscious effort to use the vigor and power of the state government to create in Minnesota a business climate in which there could be nurtured and sustained that degree of social progress to which we properly aspire.

This new department has served well in the performance of the functions assigned to it. It has presented essential data not otherwise available. A dozen of the nation's more important periodicals are carrying its advertisements proclaiming Minnesota's advantages for industrial location. Our appeal to the vacation and travel trade has been more favorably presented than ever before. New processing plants sponsored by it have already been established in a number of our communities. Retail trade has been encouraged to apply fair trade practices to its own advantage and that of its customers. The department has earned the good-will of the state by the application of its facilities to emergency problems in relation to chemicals, fuel



oil, cement, steel, and other commodities in short supply. Most important of all, it has sold Minnesota to Minnesotans so that our enterprising youth and our venture capital are now more inclined than before to accept this as a land of opportunity.

What this branch of the state government has already accomplished clearly demonstrates the extent of our economic horizons. In the fast-changing panorama of economic events now unfolding, Minnesota has the opportunity of attaining her proper place in industrial expansion, in the vacation and travel trade, and in the hometown employment of our people in the processing of our natural resources. In light of what has been done and the much larger accomplishment we know is within our grasp, a reasonable expansion of the Department of Business Research and Development is now warranted.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Economic Development Council, I recommend that \$25,000 a year be appropriated to the University of Minnesota to establish a Bureau of Economic Research to aid business development.

Thus we have placed before you certain concrete proposals for the development of our economic resources.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

There are a number of other matters requiring legislative action to which I should like briefly to call your attention.

My opinion remains unchanged that it would be a good thing to have party designation for members of the Legislature.

Once again I call your attention to the necessity for redistricting legislation. Two years ago I pointed out that though the state Constitution requires reapportionment after each decennial census, Minnesota's Legislative districts have not been revised since 1913.

The Legislative Research Council has done an outstanding job, and I believe you should consider means to strengthen and continue it. At your direction, a Constitutional Interim Commission on the study of the Constitution was set up immediately after the close of the last legislative session. This Commission has made an exhaustive study of our Constitution and has performed a significant piece of work in pointing out the necessity for changing the basic structure of our government. The recommendations of this Commission for amendments, I be-

lieve, merit your most serious consideration, as well as the matter of whether steps should be taken to call a constitutional convention.

It is my opinion that there should be some amendment to the Iron Range Rehabilitation law to strengthen and safeguard the control and expenditure of the funds and to give wider participation in the administration of the act.

A committee of citizens from the Range has been appointed and has made constructive suggestions. This committee has worked in cooperation with the Economic Development Council. I sincerely urge your careful consideration of their recommendations toward the strengthening of this act so that we may be sure that public funds are expended wisely and appropriately for the purpose intended.

## REVENUE

One of the most difficult problems of the session, of course, will be that of providing the necessary revenue to meet imperative needs. The message which will be presented to you in a few days will give the details of the balanced budget.

Never has the demand and the need for services been so great and the sources of additional revenue so few. We must recognize that in order to have the services we must be willing to pay for them through the only avenue open to us, namely, taxation.

Appreciating the need for services to our people, with the resulting requirement for new sources of revenues, we have studied thoroughly all possibilities for additional revenue that would distribute the tax burden in as fair a way as possible. Recommendations for the additional revenue will be made in the budget message.

We pledge our continuing efforts to the scrutinizing of every expenditure of our state government. We are cognizant of our obligation to the taxpayers to exercise the utmost care in the administration of all public funds, so that they will be administered honestly and economically.

We have a responsibility to endeavor to provide for the local units of government, by enabling legislation, some sources of taxation with which to meet their local needs. Our primary responsibility, of course, is to meet the needs of the state. But

I again urge you, as I did two years ago, to give consideration to the plight of local governments.

The more authority that is given to the local government to raise revenue, the closer government is brought home to the people and the more cautiously will the revenue be expended. It is my conviction that the cities are entitled to continue to receive the present distribution of the cigarette and liquor taxes and that you should carefully consider their financial circumstances with a view to providing additional help.

I feel further that an interim commission should be provided to study the entire matter of state and local financial policies so that we may determine what our policy shall be in the future.

A splendid start was made at the last session in providing for county supervisors of assessments and I believe we should continue our efforts in improving our valuation procedure so as to secure as fair and as uniform assessments as possible, which will as well bring increased tax revenues.

## VETERANS

The people of Minnesota have indicated in the referendum submitted at the last election that they favor a bonus to veterans. The Legislature, therefore, has a clear mandate from the people to pass some kind of a bonus law.

After you have fulfilled your responsibility by providing the necessary funds to those who are mentally ill, to our boys and girls for equal educational opportunities, to the dependent children, the aged and to all those who are in need, you will then have before you the problem as to what type of a bonus to provide and how to finance it.

I feel sure that there is no veteran who would want you to neglect the care of those in the mental institutions, or the boys and girls in our schools, or any of our people in need because of the demands of the bonus. To care for our people in need and our schools is our primary and basic responsibility. If we do not discharge that obligation soon there will be nothing left of freedom, which those veterans fought so valiantly to protect.

I believe that the legislation providing for payment of a bonus should specify the method of financing to be used and

authorize the taxes that will be needed to pay the cost. Being an unusual and extraordinary expenditure, the bonus should be financed separately from the usual, recurring items of our budget. As you will see from my budget message, our present revenues will have to be augmented substantially even to pay for our present services during the next two years.

\* \* \*

I want to say in closing this message that I shall endeavor to work with all of you during this important session in a spirit of understanding and an appreciation of the difficult problems facing us.

We cannot afford to permit political differences to interfere with our common obligation to meet the needs of our people and build a stronger state. There is too much at stake.

In conclusion I should like to quote the words of a famous statesman:

“I would advise, therefore, that your legislation should be such—as will guard equally, the rights of labor and the rights of property, without running into ultrasims on either hand—as will recognize no social distinctions, except those which merit and knowledge, religion and morals, unavoidably create—as will repress crime, encourage virtue, give free scope to enterprise and industry—as will promptly, and without delay, administer to and supply all the legitimate wants of the people—laws, in a word, in the formation of which will be kept steadily in view the truth, that this Territory is destined to be a great State, rivalling in population, wealth and energy, her sisters of the Union; and that, consequently, all laws not merely local in their objects, should be framed for the future as well as the present. . . .”

Timely though they be, these words are not those of a living stateman. They are the words of Governor Alexander Ramsey as he spoke to the first Minnesota Legislative Assembly in 1849. The setting for the address of the first Governor was quite different from ours today. He spoke in no great edifice of marble, his address was delivered in a temporary capitol in the Central House, a small wooden hotel on the St. Paul river

front. The hotel dining room was used for the joint session of the two legislative bodies, a flag was hoisted on the staff in front of the hotel, an Indian sat on a nearby rocky bluff and watched the proceedings.

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Though outward circumstances are utterly changed, we need to emulate, as we face our next century, the courage, the vision, and the spirit of sacrifice which animated the founders of our state. The road before us today, as it was one hundred years ago, is rocky and fraught with peril. Too many of us fail to appreciate the hazards and are like the young American who arrived in Zermatt, Switzerland, and seeing the towering peak of the Matterhorn, asked, "What's the name of that big rock?" When told it was one of the most famous of the Alpine summits he said, "Do you think I could get up there this afternoon?" Little did he know the story of the peak's costly conquest, of the lives it had taken, of the hazards still involved in the ascent. So is liberty, a decent society, a lasting peace, each a majestic mountain peak. How much do we really want them? Do we appreciate their cost? Are we willing to pay the price for them and sacrifice for them?

The pioneers of 100 years ago did not hesitate to pay the price for a strong society. They did not allow their spiritual values to be smothered beneath the false riches of material possessions. May the high idealism, the courage, the selflessness, and the implicit faith in God which characterized the founders of Minnesota inspire us. In the same spirit of consecration may we also move ahead to our next and even greater century of advancement, building together a nobler Minnesota.

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