

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
FOR CORNERSTONE DEDICATION CEREMONIES
HALSTEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

HALSTEAD, KANSAS

5-25-74

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE DEDICATION CEREMONIES AND TO TAKE PART IN THIS CORNERSTONE LAYING FOR THE HALSTEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY.

AS A MASON AND A MEMBER OF THE MASONIC SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL AFFAIRS, I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD TO TAKE PART IN THESE CEREMONIES SPONSORED BY THE LODGE HERE IN HALSTEAD.

COMMUNITY EFFORT

MY REMARKS TODAY WILL BE BRIEF, BECAUSE IT IS THIS BUILDING ITSELF WHICH SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT THE LODGE, ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF HALSTEAD, ABOUT WHAT THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH WORKING TOGETHER AND ABOUT WHAT THEY PLACE A VALUE ON.

THIS LIBRARY, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, IS TO REPLACE THE OLD HALSTEAD LIBRARY, BUILT SOME SIXTY YEARS AGO THROUGH FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM ANDREW CARNEGIE. THIS TIME AROUND, IT IS A \$100,000 DOLLAR BOND ISSUE WHICH SUPPORTS THE CONSTRUCTION. IT IS THE PEOPLE OF HALSTEAD WHO SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION. AND I COMMEND YOU FOR IT.

-2-

NARROW VIEW

THOSE OF US IN CONGRESS SOMETIMES GET THE NOTION THAT ONLY WE CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS, ONLY WE CAN MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE, ONLY GOVERNMENT--AND GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON AT THAT-- HAS THE WISDOM TO UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU NEED AND TO ACT ON YOUR CONCERNS.

BUT IN MY THIRTEEN YEARS IN WASHINGTON, I HAVE LEARNED QUITE THE OPPOSITE LESSON. I HAVE LEARNED THE LIMITS OF FEDERAL POWER.

LIMITS OF GOVERNMENT

WE CAN PASS LAWS, APPROPRIATE FUNDS, AUTHORIZE RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS--WE CAN PROHIBIT CERTAIN ACTIONS AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS. BUT, IN THIRTEEN YEARS I HAVE LEARNED ONE IMPORTANT THING ABOUT THE LIMITATIONS OF US IN CONGRESS.

-3-

WE CAN'T DO THE PEOPLE'S WORK FOR THEM. AND, IN FACT, THE GREATEST MISTAKES THAT GOVERNMENT HAS MADE IN THIS CENTURY HAVE STEMMED FROM THE MISTAKEN IMPRESSION OF MEN IN GOVERNMENT THAT WE CAN.

REAL DIFFERENCE RESTS WITH YOU

SOME OF US IN CONGRESS GET LOCKED INTO THE IDEA THAT BECAUSE WE PASS LAWS TO SPEND MILLIONS, EVEN BILLIONS, OF DOLLARS ON EDUCATION, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT WE ARE REALLY MAKING THE EDUCATIONAL DIFFERENCE IN THIS COUNTRY.

THAT IS NOT TRUE. THE REAL DIFFERENCE IS MADE BY THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN EDUCATION AND THE PEOPLE WHO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND THE PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY DO THE EDUCATING IN AMERICA.

ALL THE MONEY WE VOTE TO SPEND MAKES NO DIFFERENCE, ALL THE LAWS WE PASS MAKES NO DIFFERENCE WITHOUT THESE PEOPLE. AND IT IS TRUE IN PRACTICALLY ALL FACETS OF OUR ACTIVITY AND OF

-4-

AMERICAN LIFE. WHETHER ITS EDUCATION, HEALTH, UNEMPLOYMENT, ENERGY CONSERVATION, AGRICULTURE--PRACTICALLY ALL OF THE IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES WE ARE INVOLVED IN--THE REAL DIFFERENCE IS MADE BY YOU.

THE REAL DIFFERENCE IN HALSTEAD, FOR EXAMPLE, IS BEING MADE BY YOU AND BY YOUR WILLINGNESS TO MAKE THE EFFORT NECESSARY TO SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN THIS FINE NEW STRUCTURE WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY--FOR THE YOUNG AND FOR THE OLD--A QUIET PLACE FOR LEARNING, FOR RELAXATION AND FOR ENJOYMENT. AGAIN, I COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT.