

SPEECH FOR ADA KIWANIS CLUB, March 31, 1975

Bicentennial Memorial Planting

Temptation to reminisce with friends over past,
but TODAY WE HAVE OUR FUTURE TO THINK ABOUT.

AN editor is a person who has an opinion on every
subject, and I have strong opinions about future.
& I feel impelled to unload few of them here today.

When first started in journalism on East Central
Journal and Ada News (1931), I read description of
editorial writer's job, which I would like to
dust off and use as theme for today.

Somebody said an editorial writer should

Point with Pride

View with Alarm

Wave the Flag

& Take a strong stand for

Motherhood and Apple Pie

That way he could avoid trouble. Well, today, we
are in trouble and that policy could help us out.

Benjamin Franklin said he would like to come back
in 200 years and see if Americans still value their
freedom. If he comes back next year, when we are
celebrating our BICENTENNIAL, he surely will be
amazed at what we have done with electricity and
he will be astounded at what we have done to
our country.

Franklin would find that many Americans disregard
the rights of others, as well as THE BILL OF RIGHTS
that many show disrespect for our country's flag,
& many are apathetic about HERITAGE OF FREEDOM.

Franklin would find people dissatisfied in the midst of abundance & millions supported by the government.

He would find a country whose enemies are honored, which is morally dissolute, and near spiritual bankruptcy, and which has a national debt beyond comprehension.

Franklin also would find many good things about our country that would amaze and please him. To those things, we may POINT WITH PRIDE

We still are among the freest people on earth. We may go where we please, work at jobs we choose, live in places we prefer.

We may stand up and sing THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER and MY COUNTRY TIS OF THEE. We may worship as we believe, and speak our minds on any subject.

We may vote for candidates and issues as we see them. We may give our children opportunities to obtain education and opportunities for choice of careers.

The backbone of our nation still is the character of the majority of the people who have faith in God, who uphold moral principles, who support freedom of enterprise, who practice honesty in business, and vote for integrity in government.

The true seat of our government still is in the hearts of the people, rather than in stone buildings in Washington, D.C., even tho many would have us believe otherwise.

Those are things we may point to with pride and satisfaction.

When we turn to VIEW WITH ALARM, it is difficult to know what alarms us most. I'll mention a few of our perils and hazards. You add your own.

I am alarmed at the centralization of government in Washington, resulting in the people having less and less to say about governmental affairs.

Congress continually is passing federal laws to supersede state laws. Often they include delegation of authority to bureaucrats to issue regulations that have the full force and effect of law. Then the Supreme Court makes more laws by its strange interpretations of the Constitution and statutes.

Washington is trying to establish national policies on everything---energy, water, land use, environmental pollution, highway speeds, time of day, working conditions, employment practices and business.

A few days ago they even got involved in telling us when we can go to the bathroom, by cracking down on the sale and use of laxatives!

We have a national policy on how to build cars. We have EPA, OSHA, EEOC, CIA, FBI and IRS, all trying to execute national policies. You just have to change one letter in NATIONAL POLICY and you have NATIONAL POLICE.

The more of our affairs we turn over to government to run, the less independence we have left.

The govt. messes up whatever it tries to run, and we keep turning over more things to fed. bureaus.

Take a look at the govt's. record of success. The Post Office, the Farm Program, Energy supply, The Budget, The Airlines. The Railroads & Amtrak. The automobile industry with non-polluting cars.

Look how well govt. has managed SocialSecu t. All Big Deals and Big busts! Profits has become a bad word among the socializers and refo mers.

PROFITS is still the name of the game in free enterprise. Profits or a chance for profits is the reason people go into business or hire out to work.

It takes PROFITS to accumulate private capital to invest in more business/industry to make more jobs. Can't borrow it. The govt. has borrowed 60% of all the country's available investment capital to finance operating expenses and govt. handouts.

The govt. doesn't produce wealth and it doesn't make jobs. The govt. can only provide controls and collect taxes from the producers and profit makers to hand out to the non-producers.

I am alarmed, too by inflation, mainly because it is primarily caused by wild government spending.

In 1950, Natl. budget was \$39 billion, \$260 per cap
In 1974, Budget was over \$300 billion, \$1,500 per ca
Next fiscal year, it will be almost \$1 billion day,
with a deficit larger than the 1950 total budget.

Congress is to blame for inflation. Inflation is not an act of God. It is an act of Congress. If Congress would just go home and stay for two or three years, we'd be a lot better off.

As govt. takes more control of business and our individual lives, we have less of capitalism and less freedom left, and more socialism, and more taxes and more debt.

Yet inflation is not our No. 1 problem. Our No. 1 problem is crime, Crime, CRIME! Uncontrolled crime marks the crumbling of a civilized society because it means there is no longer any way to protect the rights of the people.

We must view with alarm the terrorism that stalks our streets, robbery that begins in grade schools, burglary and shoplifting, rape and murder, drugs, promiscuous sex, blatant obscenity, corruption in govt. and dishonesty in business.

Crime is increasing because the criminals are not afraid of the government, the law or punishment. They've got rights! What have we got?

Well, anyway, we can WAVE THE FLAG! Let's do it.

The flag stands for our country, our government and our freedom, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, national defense, patriotism and pride in America.

The radicals, the leftists, the Commies and the Whatsits have just about run patriotism underground. They say it is corny to wave the flag or salute it. It's an infringement of rights, they claim to teach kids to say prayers or the pledge of allegiance.

It's highly fashionable to denounce democracy and patriotism on university campuses, though. It's also highly profitable.

OU students paid \$2,685 out of their fees to have Communist Angela Davis come to Norman and deliver a speech of treason against our country.

Court rulings make it possible. Our enemies not only are allowed to spout anti-American propaganda but through foundations and govt. grants, they may be subsidized to do it. They also spout anti-business ideas and encourage young people to go on dope, live off welfare and shirk responsibilities.

These anti-American elements have gained considerable control of newspapers, magazines, TV network news and other communications facilities.

They've even had their immoral propaganda printed in textbooks in some states, which is only one of the reasons education has deteriorated, discipline has evaporated, young people are dropping out of high school and graduating from college, unprepared for life, unable and unwilling to earn a living.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, what are we doing? Well, we are waving the flag WEAKLY, We are teaching patriotism MILDLY, and we are thinking that somebody ANYBODY ought to do something about this mess.

So, let's take a strong stand for MOTHERHOOD!

Not everybody is in favor of motherhood and all that it represents. Motherhood is the symbol of the home, the first institution God created on earth.

When the first home was created, Adam and Eve lived in a nice neighborhood, the best, but they had to move out and neighborhoods have been getting worse ever since.

More than that, subversive forces in the U.S.A. are trying to destroy the neighborhood concept entirely, because it helps to maintain the home, marriage, morality, culture and civilization.

Millions of youngsters are being brought into the world without homes, with none of the cherished teachings mothers have traditionally given. They might not even learn who their fathers are.

They are given no taste of culture, no spiritual instruction, no moral teachings, and no ambition to achieve, nor means to make it themselves.

Millions of kids have not been taught that there are right ways and wrong ways. They have never heard of the Ten Commandments or the Sermon on the Mount.

Motherhood and all of the institutions and values that it symbolizes is needed today, as much as ever. But they are being attacked and are in danger of being totally destroyed in our country.

Finally, we come to APPLE PIE. A-m-p-l-e P-i-e
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Apple pie symbolizes the good things of life, the material comforts and pleasures, good living.

For greatest satisfaction, apple pie should be eaten as dessert, after a good meal, all earned by hard work. Lots of people want it without work.

Apple pie represents productivity and productivity is the key to prosperity. It means doing a good job, producing more at less cost, or turning out better quality at the same cost.

Productivity means good craftsmanship and pride in worthwhile achievements. Productivity makes good workers, because free enterprise rewards workers for doing something to help make profits.

Somewhere we have gotten our priorities mixed up. because politics now rewards people for doing nothing. We have always had some people around who consumed more than they produced, but KIWANIANs the non-producing consumers are becoming a majority

Considering non-producers who eat without working, bureaucrats who work without producing, and Congress which spends without limitation, we producers have a steep hill to climb!

So we have done more VIEWING WITH ALARM than anything else; and that's the way the situation is.

We should know by now that there is no political solution to this problem, which is a serious ailment of decaying morality and rotting morale.

The solutino depends upon Americans like you and me who still have faith in God and in our country, who still hold to ideals of right and freedom, and who have a sincere desire to perpetuate those worthwhile values and extend them to more people.

If the U.S.A. is to survive another 100 years, or even 10, we are going to have to get up and get going. We must show the courage of our convictions. Trouble is, too many who have courage don't have convictions and a lot of those who have convictions don't have much courage.

We need to put them all together and make this
country again an example of freedom
for the confused, hungry world around us.

We must Point with Pride,
View with Alarm,
Wave the Flag,
and Stand up for
Motherhood and Apple Pie!