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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Successful Community Action in
Minnesota

HON. WALTER F. MONDALE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Wednesday, January 31, 1968

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, one of our great hopes for the poverty program is that it will stimulate successful citizen action to meet the needs of the poor. In my home State of Minnesota we have dramatic evidence of the way in which poor people can cooperate to make use of the services of several Government agencies in this effort.

A series of articles in the Rochester, Minn., Post-Bulletin recently described the successful housing and education efforts of the Tri-County Goodhue-Rice-Wabasha Citizen's Action Council.

Mr. President, residents of the Prairie Island Sioux Indian settlement faced the coming of winter with children literally sleeping on the bare ground. The action council mounted its effort to use the services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Public Health Service, and the Office of Economic Opportunity, initially, and later the Department of Labor. This effort included rehabilitation of a dozen homes last winter and the construction of 10 new and modern houses which have now been completed.

Again, using the principle of community involvement, the educational needs of 380 children were met in the same tri-county area. Under an Office of Economic Opportunity grant, 11 Headstart child development centers were established. Competent professional teachers, aided by community residents serving as professional assistants, worked with children who never before had had the opportunity for intellectual growth and physical development offered by the summer programs.

Mr. President, this fine effort deserves the attention of the Members of this body. I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD this series of articles by Harold Severson, town and country editor of the Rochester Post-Bulletin.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Post-Bulletin, Rochester, Minn., Aug. 23, 1967]

REPAIR PRAIRIE ISLAND HOMES—CITIZENS
ACTION UNIT HELPS INDIANS

(By Harold Severson)

RED WING.—Let it blow this winter. Let the temperatures plummet far below the zero mark. What matters it should bitter cold freeze the ground to a depth of several feet and howling blizzards pile the snow into drifts to a height of five feet or more?

Certainly not to 10 Indian families on the Prairie Island Sioux settlement about 13 miles northeast of here.

This will be the winter when these 10 families will be living in the kind of homes most of us take for granted.

Nearing completion are 10 houses about as far different from some of the Indian homes now occupied by these families as a

travails is from an automobile. Government officials describe these houses as "substandard housing." In at least one house the children were sleeping on the bare ground last year at this time. The wind whistled through cracks in the walls and the roof leaked.

Conditions were so bad and the future so bleak for these Indian families that an emergency program was started last fall after the Goodhue-Rice-Wabasha Citizens Action Council had made a survey. Spearheaded by Howard Bailey, manager of the Zumbrota office of the Northern States Power Co., a fund-raising drive was started. Money and building materials were solicited.

On December 10, Bailey and about 60 volunteers, including high school and college students, descended on Prairie Island to rehabilitate the homes. It was a bitterly cold day with a sharp wind making it difficult to work. Nevertheless, 12 homes were put in livable condition by the end of the day.

"This didn't solve the problem," Bailey admitted, "but it was a stop-gap effort that relieved the situation at least temporarily. At least, those kids no longer were sleeping on the bare ground."

This experience emphasized the need for a housing project. Spurred by the citizens group people, a unified effort was brought to bear on the problem. The Bureau of Indian Affairs said it would supply materials needed for the homes. The Public Health Service agreed to handle the water supplies and sanitation needs. The Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) was to furnish funds for labor costs.

After a number of meetings the project was taken over by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Work Programs, as an "Operation Mainstream" project.

Actual construction started July 1.

Wallace G. Christensen of Zumbrota, citizens action unit director, points out several Indians living on Prairie Island are employed on the project. In addition, a Neighborhood Youth Corps program employs several Indian youngsters. These youth corps enrollees were put to work clearing brush and repairing and painting the Community Building.

Paul Hummel, a Bureau of Indian Affairs employe who is in charge of the building program, admits some of the Indians are not entirely sold on the housing project.

"They are a proud and independent people," he says. "They bitterly resent some of the newspaper publicity in recent weeks which have emphasized their poverty. They dislike being portrayed as shiftless and indolent and some are afraid that moving into these homes will be a form of regimentation."

Christensen blames the Indians' predicament on lack of education and job training.

"These Indians lack food and other necessities simply because they are so very poor," he declares. "The majority never get further than the eighth grade. Some find jobs in Red Wing and Hastings. A few are employed in the Twin Cities, returning week-ends to their homes on Prairie Island. The remainder find jobs now and then."

The Citizens Action Council is attempting to find a project which will furnish work for many of the Indians. One proposal calls for making drums on a large scale. Another is making beadwork.

About 85 Indians and migrants make their home on Prairie Island, which is about two miles square. There are only a few trees and homes on the island, connected to the mainland by a gravel road. In the spring of 1965, the Mississippi River went over its banks and flooded the island, causing heavy damage.

The 10 new homes are being built on the highest part of the island and engineers have assured the Citizens Action Council

and Bureau of Indian Affairs there is no danger of these being flooded.

When the Indians take possession of their new homes this fall, they have lifetime occupancy.

HEAD START PROGRAM IN AREA SHOWS IN
CHILDREN'S ATTITUDE

(By Harold Severson)

ZUMBROTA.—Mary was a shy little 4-year-old girl this spring.

That was before summer 1967 Head Start Program started here June 12 under the auspices of the Goodhue-Rice-Wabasha Citizens Action Council.

Today, 10 weeks later, Mary still is shy—but there has been a noticeable improvement in the way she meets strangers and mingles with children her own age.

Mark, another pupil enrolled in a Head Start class in Wabasha County, was rejected by boys in his neighborhood. His family was one of those near the bottom in social and economic standings. Today he has several playmates.

Billy was an indolent boy who sat by himself when the first Head Start class opened. His mother scolded him for being "lazy and dumb." A medical examination by a local doctor revealed the reason for Billy's apparent stupidity and indolence—he needed eye-glasses and his hearing was so poor he had difficulty hearing others.

These were only three of the 380 children enrolled in Head Start programs in Goodhue, Wabasha and Rice counties this summer. Not all were as handicapped as Mary, Billy and Mark, but, as one mother put it, "They all benefited from the Head Start program."

Summer 1967 Head Start opened June 12 with funds furnished by the Office of Economic Opportunity. A competent teacher was selected and placed in charge of each group of 15 to 20 children.

Head Start centers were established in Zumbrota in Goodhue County, and Conception, Hammond, Mazeppa, Millville and Wabasha in Wabasha County. In addition, centers were started in Faribault, Lonsdale, Morristown, Northfield and Warsaw in Rice County. Plans had been made to include Kenyon as one of the Head Start centers but plans were not completed in time for the 1967 program.

"These child development centers are set up as a community facility," explains Wallace G. Christensen of Zumbrota, Citizens Action Council director with offices in the basement of the Carnegie Library here.

The major emphasis is placed on pre-kindergarten children, although the age group is from 3 to 6 years. A large percentage of the pupils are from families in the low income bracket.

The Head Start centers are organized around the classrooms and outdoor play area. They provide health services, parent interviews and counseling, feeding of children and other services important to the educational and social development of children.

Christensen stresses that the eight-week Head Start program is designed to improve and expand the children's mental processes.

"We want to expand the ability to think, reason and speak clearly," he explains. "We assist children to get wider and more varied experiences which will broaden their horizons, increase their ease of conversation and improve their understanding of the world in which they live."

In Zumbrota, 20 children attended Head Start classes. Conception had 30 children enrolled, Hammond 20, Mazeppa 16, Millville 25 and Wabasha 30.

John Quist of Red Wing was codirector for the center while Milton Hosking, also

of Red Wing, was social director. The nurses were Mrs. Lucille Hoffman of Red Wing and Miss Bernice Weigel of Plainview.

What did the Head Start pupils do during the three- to four-hour periods each day? Mrs. Janice Sprenger of Zumbro Falls, a Zumbrota first grade teacher who had charge of the Zumbrota Head Start center, explains the programs varied from one center to another.

"Story reading was one part of our program here," she says. "There were periods of independent play, periods for music and for physical education. Field trips were set up, too."

Christensen admits the challenge to Head Start personnel is enormous.

"It seems to be working, though," he says. "We've had reports that bear this out. That's the important thing."

Operation Head Start was made possible by a government grant of \$71,822.

Creed of the East Tennessean

HON. W. E. (BILL) BROCK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1968

Mr. BROCK. Mr. Speaker, the December 6 issue of the Monroe County Citizen-Democrat contained two very meaningful passages in a column by Dan Hicks, Jr. Because of their merit and interest, I include them in the Extensions of Remarks:

CREED OF THE EAST TENNESSEAN

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon . . . if I can. I seek opportunity—not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the State look after me.

I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fall and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole.

I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of Utopia.

I will not trade freedom for beneficence, nor my dignity for a handout. I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat.

It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations, to face the world boldly and say; "This I have done."

All this is what it means to be an American.

ODE TO THE EAST TENNESSEAN

In characteristics, individuality, habits, customs and general demeanor the East Tennessean is as unique and distinctive as the Great Smoky Mountains that tower heavenward and adorn his famed province.

Whencesoever he came none is quite sure. That his antecedents sojourned in Virginia or the lineage of another generation or so before leaps across the Atlantic to the emerald shores of Ireland and up the Highlands to Scotland, but to place your finger on the exact spot of his origin would be as difficult as explaining why an old hen crosses the road.

Anyhow when he got to East Tennessee he took full and complete charge—and thus it will ever be.

He made the red man bite the gravels; he made the British climb tall trees at Kings Mountain; he volunteered above quota for the war with Mexico; he made General Pakenham's men apologize at New Orleans; he held Old Glory for the Union and he was headed straight for Berlin when Kaiser Bill beat it for the bushes in Holland.

He wouldn't take a million dollars for what religion he has and wouldn't give a damn for any more.

An East Tennessean is akin to an ant, a doodle bug, a tumble bug, a squirrel, a goat and a jackass. Like an ant he is industrious; like a doodle bug he is alert; like a tumble bug he is resourceful; like a squirrel he stores away for a rainy day; like a goat he is frugal and like a jackass he is imbued with sagacity and internal stamina.

An East Tennessean never dies; he merely changes form as does the June Bug, the butterfly and the lightning bug.

He believes in luck, fate, the stork, Santa Claus and the Constitution.

When his neighbor is in need he is as charitable as a pigeon to her young.

He is the only person in the world who can consistently outsmart a Jew.

He is Scotch-Irish or Irish-Scotch, depending on the signs of the Zodiac in which he was born. If his birth falls in the light of the moon he is Scotch-Irish and will skin a flea for its hide and tallow. But if he is born in the dark of the moon he is Irish-Scotch and will call a Royal Flush with three Jacks or give his last dollar to get a friend out of jail.

His heart is usually as big as a pumpkin; likewise all his external features are enormous—feet, ears, nose, etc.

He likes his religion and his likker straight and expects his politics to be crooked.

He will sit all night and listen while his neighbor squeezes the juice from corn, and when the "revenuers" prow around he will advise that a very large hornets nest is in the offing—nothing disturbs his equilibrium or his philosophy.

As a trader he is a monstrosity. On county court day he starts out with one old puny mule and a barlow knife. That evening he returns with two spans of four-year olds, a 23 jewel watch, a silk dress and what is left of a quart.

He can cure hams that will make your mouth water and raise bigger potatoes than Maine or Idaho.

He is a stickler for his lodge and forever remains a loyal member.

Reformers with hifalutin' ideas, whether local or national in design, usually find deaf ears and their machinations pass over the East Tennessean like water off a duck's back.

He has his choice of coal, back logs and kilowatts, but love of heritage finds him happiest around the old open fire place.

He knows his tobacco. He is an expert in growing the leaf and using it. He can spit through a knot-hole ten yards away and is willing to let the rest of the world smoke cigarettes of his own growing.

His women folks have eyes that are like the violets drenched with honey dew.

He does not aspire to fame or glory, but every East Tennessean feels that he possesses the makings of an Andrew Jackson, a John Sevier, a William Blount, a General White, an Andrew Johnson, an Admiral Farragut, a David Crockett or a Sam Houston.

The East Tennessean is contented with his habitat—he knows there is no greener pasture over yonder.

Sixth Annual Senate Youth Program

HON. GALE W. MCGEE

OF WYOMING

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Wednesday, January 31, 1968

Mr. MCGEE. Mr. President, Senators who addressed 102 young students last week, participants in the sixth annual Senate youth program, probably share with my cochairman, the distinguished Senator from Oregon [Mr. HATFIELD], and me a most welcome feeling of refreshment and renewal of faith in American youth.

I do not mean to imply that our faith

had completely evaporated but of late publicity has not presented an altogether flattering image of the Nation's young men and women. Only hippies, protestors, draft evaders, card burners, and the like, seem to merit coverage. It gives me great pleasure to assure those who have been concerned that, happily, there are many, many more students who are not only not covered by those categories, but are, at this early age, outstanding citizens contributing to the growth of their communities and country. It would seem, rather, that the high school leaders who visited Washington and the Senate last week, under the combined auspices of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation and the U.S. Senate, are highly representative of young America everywhere. I, for one, am proud to represent them here and anticipate the time when such young people begin to take their places in the governing bodies of this country along with us.

While in the city as our guests, the students were privileged to have an interview with the President of the United States and, on an only slightly lesser plane, met with dignitaries of all facets of Government including Vice President HUBERT HUMPHREY, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Speaker of the House JOHN McCORMACK, Attorney General Ramsey Clark, Supreme Court Justice Byron White, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold Johnson, State Department Chief of Protocol James Symington, and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

As a direct result of the success of programs of preceding years, the Hearst Foundation this year decided to award to each participating student a scholarship to the college of his choice in the sum of \$1,000. The surprise announcement was made by Vice President HUMPHREY at the annual luncheon hosted by the students for Members of the Senate.

Special thanks must go to members of the Hearst family, who take time from busy lives to travel to Washington during the annual student visit to fill the roles of chaperon, friend, confidant, office aide, or in whatever other role they are needed. Present this year were Mr. and Mrs. George R. Hearst, who have never missed a program since its inception; Mr. and Mrs. Randolph A. Hearst, and their daughters, Catherine and Virginia.

Mr. Ira P. Walsh, of the Hearst Foundation, director of the program which was entirely his idea, occupies a unique slot in the framework of this combined effort too, slaving tirelessly in his aim to guide America's young people to her ultimate benefit. Others contributing of time and energies include Lt. Col. Robert E. Keener, of the OSD-PA, who supervised the assignment and functions of the escort officers of the various services, planned the briefing at the Department of Defense, and arranged for participation of the musical groups of the military services; Mr. Stephen King, briefings officer of the State Department, who scheduled the program at the Department of State; representatives of other agencies and branches of Government who kindly aided us with the agenda, and the junior officers of the armed serv-