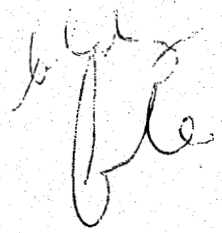


Remarks--Health Sciences Center Groundbreaking  
April 1, 1971



Regent Hughes:

Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention please.

Mr. President, Mr. Anderson, members of the Board, deans and members of the faculty, guests:

This is a very auspicious occasion, at least to the members of the Board of Regents of this University. A few years ago, the Hill Family Foundation study brought into very sharp focus the deficiencies of the health science delivery system among others in our whole Northwest. This was brought to the attention of the Board, and subsequent thereto the President appointed a committee of what we all, I believe, would concede was a very distinguished group of health science people throughout America. These men came to our campus, counselled with us, and as a result of the investigation and the study that they made, policies were established by the Board with respect to a change in direction and some change in emphasis in the whole health science field.

Essential to implementation of those policies, of course, are physical facilities. We would be derelict indeed today at this happy dedication if we did not pay our respects to the Congress of the United States, which in its wisdom appropriated generously some of the funds which will make possible the physical facilities for the Health Sciences Center on the University campus. This, however, is only part of the story and I suppose in a sense might be economically the easiest part of the story.

Supplementing the Congressional appropriations were necessary appropriations by our own Legislature. And when we look at the resources of this state, the demands which are made upon them, we would have to

concede that the persons who had the courage to take the initiative and to follow through on the appropriations at the state level in a degree adequate to make possible the fulfillment of this Health Science facility are indeed men of vision and real courage. I would like to suggest that we pay our respects to the Legislature through at least one of the members of the Legislature who is here with us and without whose insistent and persistent assistance we would not be here today. Delbert Anderson, how about taking a bow.

I noticed that Lyle French was standing next to Delbert out there. He figured that if he didn't do very well on that shovel Delbert was a little more used to that, and I think he figured he could do a little better job.

However, it is more, obviously, than bricks and mortar that we need to do this job. It is people rather than facilities which will ultimately determine whether or not we adequately discharge the responsibility which is ours. We feel, the Board feels, singularly pleased and happy that Dr. French assumed the responsibility of guiding this facility and these efforts on the part of the University. We look to Lyle to give us a sense of commitment and dedication and a disposition to do the innovative thinking in this whole area, without which I think we would only be continuing what we have had in the past. Good as it has been, I believe it is not adequate for the future.

So if the Board has a charge to the administration and to those of you who will implement this policy, it is that the Health Sciences facilities which we are here talking about today will be implemented physically by a moral and intellectual commitment to see that all people

of our state, those in the inner city and those in the outer edges of the state, without regard to the particular circumstance in which they find themselves economically, will have available to them the degree and the facilities of health care which are adequate and appropriate to the dignity which each man has as a human being.

This is a deep philosophical commitment which your Board of Regents has. This, ladies and gentlemen, is what we expect in the next decade or two to come out of this Health Sciences facility. It would not have been made possible in the first instance nor would many other things have been made possible in this institution without the guidance of the man whom I have the honor to present to you--in my judgment, one of the really great presidents of an intellectual institution in America--Mac Moos.

President Moos:

Regent Hughes, Chairman Malkerson:

I'd like to, ladies and gentlemen, express my gratitude first to the Regents, three of whom are with us today--Regent Hughes whom you have seen and heard, the chairman of the Board Lester Malkerson, and Regent George Rauenhorst. The Regents have spent many hours in the long story behind the dedication here of the groundbreaking of the Health Sciences facilities. I think this is something that is so easily a matter that sinks out of sight these days as higher education seems to be in difficulty all across the nation. But both at the committee level--and Regent Hughes heads the Regents' Committee on the Health Sciences--and through long and, I think, sometimes explosive sessions in the planning, the Regents have worked on this over a period now spanning about eight years.

I'd like also, Representative Anderson, to pay special tribute to a colleague of yours in the other chamber, Senator Gerald Mullen, who along with Al Heckman, the president of the Hill Foundation, headed up the Health Sciences Committee which was formed in 1968 to generate the kind of support and enthusiasm which eventually helped us get the funding and the physical facilities that we have come here to begin, at least in a very muscular way, this afternoon. Also, there were so many people involved in this--I think Lyle French will introduce most of these people--but I want to pay special tribute to a man who is not with us here, and that is the former dean of the Medical School, Robert Howard, and of course the contributions that were made by Dean Schaffer, Dean Weaver, Dean Isabel Harris and so many others in the Health Sciences, and to Dean Thorp in the College of Veterinary Medicine, who is also part of the committee here that orchestrated the planning and developed the eventual plan which the Regents adopted.

I think it was Aristotle who told us a long time ago that health care was not just a privilege but was an indispensable condition of society which society should be foresworn to uphold. I think all of us are aware of the breathtaking advances made in the health sciences at this great University. But I'd like to think, and I'm sure the Regents share this feeling with me and I know the Legislature is deeply committed to this, that we will become the architects of health care delivery programs that bring to every citizen of the state and, in a way, a contribution to the nation, the finest health care that society has seen.

At this time I would like to introduce our new Vice President for the Health Sciences, a man we esteem so highly, Dr. Lyle French.

Dr. Lyle French:

President Moos, friends, colleagues:

Thank you.

I have previously had the opportunity of coming on the podium shortly after President Moos, having sat in the audience prior to that time hearing him give every thought that ever ran through my head. Then I would get up here and try to think of something I could possibly say. I was very fearful of it today.

I have the privilege to introduce the various deans of the units in the Health Sciences. I'd like to first introduce Dean Isabel Harris--first so I won't get in trouble with the Women's Lib movement--she's back over here, Dean Erwin Schaffer of the School of Dentistry I think you've met. Dean Larry Weaver is here; Dean Lee Stauffer, my friend back there holding his hat; Associate Dean Mead Cavert of the School of Medicine, who is over here in the corner; Director of the Hospitals John Westerman way in the back; and a close ally and consort of the Health Sciences, Dean Bill Thorp of the College of Veterinary Medicine. There are three other individuals that I've seen in the audience to whom I'd like to pay my respects--Dr. Robert Mulhausen of the School of Medicine, Dr. Mellor Holland of the School of Dentistry, and Mr. Peter Sammond of the Hospitals, who have done so much as far as the planning of our facilities is concerned. They began with us back in the mid-60's and have followed through in a most exemplary manner.

It's sort of gratifying to me to introduce these people because we basically work as a team, and that is the real push we have. We want to work as a team to accomplish these goals, which really brings me now to

another type of team--that of the people of the state speaking through their legislators, with us in the Health Sciences trying to respond to what the people need in the area of help. The development of this building program should influence tremendously our ability to be responsive to those needs. Credit must also be given to the faculty of the various Health Sciences units who have worked so hard and helped to develop the building program to fit the changing concepts in health care delivery and education itself.

The construction of this building is a real start in a continuing, ongoing program which makes possible the implementation of the changes in mission that Regent Hughes outlined. These things that are going on are increasing the number of medical students; making possible the shortening of time spent in medical school as well as dental school and other schools in the Health Sciences; emphasizing programs in family practice and rural health and the problems of health in the urban areas; increasing the number of dentists, dental associates, and dental hygienists; developing more skilled types of specialists; continuing biomedical research programs, which are really our investment in the future; teaching changing concepts of teaching; teaching care of the ambulatory patient--hopefully to reduce the cost of health care, a real problem to not only us in the state but in the country as a whole.

Over all, I want to emphasize a team approach with its implied improvement in care, and this building program to us is a great step forward in accomplishing these objectives. Thank you.

President Moos:

Dr. French, Regent Hughes, ladies and gentlemen:

I would be sorely remiss in my duty if I didn't say a word, and I've saved this to the end, about a man who is within a few yards of us in the

intensive care unit of the Heart Hospital--Stanley Wenberg, who has contributed so much to the story and the progress of this Health Sciences complex which we believe will be the most adventurous, exciting one in the nation. I think, literally, Stanley drove himself to the heart attack that he had and was still really on the bridge when he was taken ill last week. I'm glad to report, however, that he is making very satisfactory progress. We're all deeply indebted for the work he has done over a long period.

That concludes, I think, any rhetoric that we have in mind this afternoon. We're delighted that you all turned out for this historic occasion and we hope that you'll join with us and stay as long as you can. Thank you.