

October 13, 1940

[Thobilization of Human Needs]

FDR Speech File

DRAFT #1

RADIO SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

THE MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

OCTOBER 13, 1940.

The Mobilization for Human Needs this year is more than ever an expression of our national community spirit. It is, as it always has been, a good cause, participated in by good Americans who represent all sections of our country, all walks of life, all shades of political opinion, all races and creeds.

(A) But in this critical moment of our history, we must be more than ever conscious of the true meaning of the "community spirit" which it expresses. It is a spirit which comes from our community of interests, our community of faith in the democratic ideal, our community of devotion to God.

Wherever men and women of good will gather together to serve their community, there is America. It was true in the first little town meetings in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, when the good folk assembled to decide measures of defense against the Indians, and how to build their first school, and how to care for their aged and sick. It is still true in this great national drive, ^{All the way} across our continent, for the Community Chest Funds.

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Even in the early days when our society centered in
~~the~~ every neighbor.
the village community, and when ~~dwellers in cities~~ knew ~~all~~

the neighbors, the care of the poor was in some measure a
public undertaking. In colonial America ~~the church-worship~~

~~was part of our system of government, and~~ money raised through
~~taxation was distributed by the~~ ^{often} ~~churches~~ among the poor.

Later the county government and the city council ~~took over~~ ^{assumed or part}

~~of these duties, operating under state law. Then the state itself~~
~~begin taking care of some of the sick,~~
~~in direct duty.~~ And finally, in our own day, the national

government was obliged to assume a definite responsibility in ^{McKee}

~~this field.~~ ^{now giving work to able bodies}
~~merely unemployed.~~

At one stage in our national history, the baskets of
bread and meat carried by ~~New England~~ housewives to the houses
down below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the
suffering of the victims of industrial depression. In those

days a group of town business men, gathered on the sidewalk
~~at the corner of Main and Commercial Street,~~ could ^{no voice} ~~speak~~

~~A~~ ^{over our} ~~that~~ ^{to the distribution of available jobs, or create them, so}

that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for
their children.

When, however, American industry went on ~~a~~ a mass
production basis, it became increasingly difficult for men

to find employment on the assembly line; it created a problem
and middle-aged men
in the unemployment of elderly men too great to be solved by
the good will of individual business men on a street corner.

When the World War caused the great plains to be plowed
up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms
that drove 200,000 members of the Joad family to California,
there was a problem of unemployment and suffering that could *no longer*
not be handled by baskets of bread and meat.

Through the industrial era there were created problems
of old age, ~~employment~~, of mass unemployment, of occupational
diseases, of industrial accidents, of child labor and sweatshops --
too great to be solved by the individual or the family, or by
friends or private charity.

These were problems which could be handled only by the
joint and common endeavors of the Government of the United
States, the governments of our states, ~~and~~ counties, ~~and~~ towns, ~~and~~
and *and* *and* *and* *and* *and* *and*
of the organized charities and social service agencies ~~and~~ *and* *and* *and* *and* *and* *and* *and*
They always have required, however, the cooperation of men
Government authorities don't always
and women banded together in organizations such as those
you represent, to bring the kindly touch of human sympathy
to the tragedies of dislocated, broken families.

Final meeting

The problems in this field of government responsibility are no different in that respect from the problems in all fields of government.

In the increasing emphasis now placed upon all agencies of government, it is necessary to remember the very intimate and human side of these problems. ^{for us} For example, in the enforcement of general laws dealing with immigration and citizenship. We find many instances in which the general regulations that are necessary to the country's protection might work injustice in individual cases. It is necessary that the administrative agency have some latitude in applying the law, to prevent the breaking up of families, or other particular injustice.

Only in a limited measure, however, can flexibility of administration temper the impersonal quality of general rules of law. Private charity is essential to personalize and humanize the task of relieving suffering. For general rules cannot cover the wide range of ever-varying human needs, because human needs are affected by a thousand matters which do not fit into pigeon-holes.

As long as there is illness in the world, as long as there is poverty, as long as families are stricken with personal misfortune, it will be necessary for the good-hearted men and women of America to mobilize for human needs.

This year as never before there is need for an intensification of our efforts. Events abroad have warned us not only of the need of planes and tanks, and ships and guns; they have also warned us of the need of grit and sacrifice, of daring and devotion, and all those intangible things which go to make up a nation's morale.

When we join together in serving our local community, we add strength to our national community, we help to fortify the structure of our whole Union. That form of fortification -- that spiritual fortification -- is not to be dismissed lightly by those in other lands who believe that nations can live by force alone. Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fibre of a free people. A ~~people~~ does not have to be cruel in order to be tough. The vigorous expression of our American community spirit is ~~more~~ ^{truly} important than the ~~mobilization of our vast military power~~.

The ancient injunction to love thy neighbor as thyself
is still the force that animates our faith -- a faith that
we are determined shall live and conquer in a world poisoned
by hatred and ravaged by war.

[REDACTED] I ask for your enlistment in the Mobilization
for Human Needs, for your whole-hearted devotion to the
American community spirit. I ask you to prove your
good faith in good works.

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

HOLD FOR RELEASE

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October 13, 1940

This address of the President, delivered in behalf of the 1940 Mobilization for Human Needs, is for release in editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 10:30 P.M., E.S.T. today, October 13, 1940. The same release of the text of the address also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CAUTION: Please safeguard against premature release.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
THE MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

OCTOBER 13, 1940.

CHAIRMAN ADAMS, COMMUNITY CHEST WORKERS, FRIENDS OF HUMAN NEEDS:

The Mobilization for Human Needs this year is more than ever an expression of our national ~~community~~ spirit. It is, as it always has been, a good cause, participated in by good Americans who represent all sections of our country, all walks of life, all shades of political opinion, all races and creeds.

But in this critical moment of our history, we must be more than ever conscious of the true meaning of the "community spirit" which it expresses. It is a spirit ~~that~~ which comes from our community of interests, our community of faith in the democratic ideal, our community of devotion to God.

Wherever men and women of good will gather together to serve their community, there is America. It was true in the first little town meetings in the Massachusetts

Bay Colony, when the good folk assembled to decide measures of defense against the Indians, ~~and~~ how to build their first school, ~~and~~ how to care for their aged and sick. It is still true in this great national drive, all the way across our continent, for the Community Chest Funds.

Even in the early days when our society centered in the village community, and when every neighbor knew all the neighbors, the care of the poor was in some measure a public undertaking. In colonial America money raised through taxation was often distributed by the churches among the poor. Later, the county government and the city council assumed a part of these duties. Then the state itself began taking care of some of the sick. And finally, in our own day, the national government was obliged to assume a definite responsibility in giving work to able-bodied needy unemployed.

At one stage in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by housewives to the houses down

below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. In those days a group of town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the chief corner of Main Street, could devise some method so that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

When, however, American industry went on a mass production basis, it became increasingly difficult for men to find employment on the assembly line; it created a problem in the unemployment of elderly men and middle-aged men too great to be solved by the good will of individual business men on a street corner.

When the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Joad family to California, there was a problem of unemployment and suffering that could no longer be handled by baskets of bread and meat.

Through the industrial era there were created problems of old age, of mass unemployment, of occupational

diseases, of industrial accidents, of child labor and
problems
sweatshops -- too great to be solved by the individual,
or the family, or by friends or private charity.

These were problems ~~which~~ ^{that} could be handled only
by the joint and common endeavors of the Government of the
United States, the governments of our states, our counties,
our towns, and of the organized charities and social service
agencies run by private ~~methods~~ ^{gifts}. Government authorities
have always ~~required~~ ^{needed} the cooperation of men and women banded
together in organizations such as those you represent, to
bring the kindly touch of human sympathy to the tragedies
of dislocated, broken families.

It is necessary for us to remember the very
intimate and human side of these problems. Only in a
limited measure, can flexibility of ^{any government} administration temper
the impersonal quality of general rules of law. Private
charity is essential to personalize ~~and~~ ^{to} humanize the task

of relieving suffering. For general rules cannot cover the wide range of ever-varying human needs, because human needs are affected by a thousand matters which do not fit into pigeon-holes.

As long as there is illness in the world, as long as there is poverty, as long as families are stricken with personal misfortune, it will be necessary for the goodhearted men and women of America to mobilize for human needs.

This year as never before there is need for an intensification of our efforts. Events abroad have warned us not ~~only~~ ^{of course} of the need of planes and tanks, ~~and~~ ships and guns; they have also warned us of the need of grit and sacrifice, of daring and devotion, and all those intangible things which go to make up a nation's morale.

When we join together in serving our local community, we add strength to our national community, we help to

fortify the structure of our whole Union. That form of fortification -- that spiritual fortification -- is not to be dismissed lightly by those in other lands who believe that nations can live by force alone.

Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fibre of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel in order to be tough. The vigorous expression of our American community spirit is truly important.

The ancient injunction to love thy neighbor as thyself is still the force that animates our faith -- a faith that we are determined shall live and conquer in a world poisoned by hatred and ravaged by war.

I ask for your enlistment in the Mobilization for Human Needs, for your whole-hearted devotion to the American community spirit. I ask you to prove your good faith in good works.

Franklin Roosevelt

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RADIO SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT

THE MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

OCTOBER 15, 1940.

The Mobilization for Human Needs this year is more than ever an expression of our national community spirit. It is, as it always has been, a good cause, participated in by good Americans who represent all sections of our country, all walks of life, all shades of political opinion, all races and creeds. But in this critical moment of our history, we must be more than ever conscious of the true meaning of the "community spirit" which it expresses. It is a spirit which comes from our community of interests, our community of faith in the democratic ideal, our community of devotion to God.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
National Defense and Relief Commission

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM E. BOYD, VICE CHAIRMAN

Henry L. Hopkins
From the Papers of

Even in the early days when our society centered in the village community, and when dwellers in cities knew all their neighbors, the care of the poor was in some measure a public undertaking. In colonial America the church vestry was part of our system of government, and money raised through taxation was distributed by the vestrymen among the poor.

Later the county government and the city council took over these duties, operating under state law. Then the state itself saw its direct duty. And finally, in our own day, the national government was obliged to assume a definite responsibility in this field.

At one state in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by New England housewives to the houses down below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. In those days a group of town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets, could attend to the distribution of available jobs, or create them, so that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
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Henry L. Stimson Library
John C. Pease Jr.
Library Director
July 1, 1947

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When the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Joad family to California, there was a problem of unemployment and suffering that could not be handled by baskets of bread and meat.

All through the industrial era there were created problems of old age, of middle age, of mass unemployment, of occupational diseases, of industrial accidents, of child labor and sweatshops -- too great to be solved by the individual or the family, or by friends or private charity.

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LIBRARIAN

From the Papers of
Harry L. Hopkins

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Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
West Park, N. Y.

From the "Papers of
Harry L. Hopkins"

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WASH. PARK, N. Y.

Trans. the Papers of
Henry L. Hopkins

DRAFT #1

-6-

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WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

From the Papers of
HARRY L. Hopkins

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
2145 C STREET NW., WASHINGTON, D.C.



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WASH. PARK, N. Y.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

October 1, 1940

My dear Mr. Bassett:

The attached draft of speech on Mobilization
for Human Needs is sent you as per your recent telephone
request. I hope this will be of some help to the
President.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. D. Bassett
WILLIAM D.
Administrator

Mr. William D. Bassett
Assistant to Mr. Eddy
The White House

*Human needs
material*

Draft of speech on the Community Mobilization for Human Needs, to be broadcast by the President over a nationwide hookup from the White House at about 10:30 P.M., E.S.T., Sunday, October 13, 1940.

CHAIRMAN ADAMS, COMMUNITY CHART WORKERS, FRIENDS OF HUMAN NEEDS:

It has been my privilege for several years to share in the National Mobilization for Human Needs. Today we know how important it is to mobilize our every resource to defend and maintain that freedom and liberty which only a democracy can afford. The dangers that face us both at home and abroad cannot be minimized. They increase hourly and to combat them calls for a strength of body, mind and heart that will not waver, that will not be defeated.

The events which have been taking place in Europe, ^{and in two other continents} have definitely affected America and its people. Each new change that comes in foreign alignments and entanglements casts an impending shadow that urges us to greater preparedness. These events were not of our wish or seeking, but there was no way for us to stand aloof and ignore them when we saw that they threatened our way of life -- our very existence as a free people. The way we meet the task that is before us in the months that are ahead will be the determining factor in the perpetuation of those ideals and institutions that we have learned to love as the heart and sinew of American democracy. We face the test of defending our loved ones and the heritage we have sought to make theirs, with all the power and resources at our command.

My hatred of war and the destruction of human beings and national resources that have taken years to build, has never changed. I would freely give everything within my power toward ending the conflict



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WHITE HOUSE, D.C.
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

From the papers of
Samuel J. Rosenman

that is raging in other lands and which has recently come closer to our own hemisphere, but I would not do it, and you would not want me to do it, if the price to be paid is one that accepts dictatorship for government by the people, slavery for the freedom which has been ours since the founding of the Republic, ruthless barbarism for the civilization which has made this nation one committed to the principles of human decency.

Let there be no mistake about it -- there is no safety from the invader whose mind is bent on world conquest even if there is a vast expense of water to be crossed. Our safety against invasion lies in the development of an impregnable defense and the strengthening of the physical, the moral, and the spiritual fibre of our citizens so that we will have a strong, healthy, free people ready to face hardships and brook no interference with the forward progress of this nation. I have abundant faith that we shall find, and those who would destroy us will also find, that we have built our house upon a rock and not upon the sands, that here in America there is a devotion of the common people to a democracy which is attempting to assure to every man, woman and child a reasonable security and hope for the future. We require total security as well as total defense.

In the Mobilization for Human Needs is enlisted the private agencies that have done and are still doing a type of work and service so vitally needed in a civilized community. Their task has not been an easy one, but it was doubly hard before your government faced with courage the job of studying the true needs of its citizens and doing something about them.



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National Archives and Records Service

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

West Park, L. I.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

We have been aiming towards a national economy that will give all of the people assurance of a job and a living wage. We have been trying to increase the worker's pay and shorten his hours and at the same time we have sought to make provisions for a better use of his leisure time and that of his children. Important steps have been taken toward the elimination of child labor and the carrying on of industrial work in the home. We have made a small beginning towards spending for better housing in order to help the families in over-crowded sections of our cities to live as American citizens have a right to live. Under our social security legislation we have provided for old age insurance, unemployment insurance, aid to the needy, the old, the blind, the crippled and dependent children and to public health. We have attempted to meet urgent present needs and at the same time have found a way to forestall future needs. You and I have in recent years witnessed this nation improve and strengthen its arrangements established for the security of its people. These gains must be preserved and broadened.

There is security and happiness ahead for all of our citizens as long as our government feels a major responsibility for the public welfare, for it alone represents all of the people acting in concert, with power to change or veto. But the government cannot, should not preempt those fields of private social service -- the hospital, the child-caring agency, the young people's agencies, and others -- which have become an integral and indispensable part of the good life in America. They are a valuable adjunct to government, to the family, to the church.



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

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West Park, N.Y.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

I like to think of these agencies whose labor of kindness and of love is supported by the funds raised in this annual campaign in their original form. I like to think in terms of the neighbor taking warm food to the sick mother and her children; in terms of neighbors pooling their funds in the hat to aid Neighbor John whose house and belongings were destroyed by fire; in terms of taking into one's home the child orphaned by the death of a parent or needing temporary shelter when illness robs the home of a mother's care. It was this sort of neighborly cooperation, coupled with the development of foresight, that was the germ of our modern insurance and people learned as they advanced in civilization, to look ahead and prepare against contingencies which might not be foreseen. ~~not~~ "not what we give but what we share, for the gift without the giver is bare."

I believe that the same spirit of neighborliness and cooperation found among the pioneers, still exists in the American people. I am sure you agree with me that you cannot build a love for freedom and liberty into a people who are suffering under the humiliation of their lot and continually facing a hunger that saps their physical, their spiritual, and their national strength.

We want to raise the nation's budget for Human Needs with an enthusiasm and speed that will say to watchful persons everywhere: "Yes we can plan for the usual defenses and share with our government and with each other in their preparation. But, we have not lost sight of our opportunity and responsibility to our neighbor who needs the helping hand and the friendly touch that may put him back on the road to normal living."



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

These are agencies which are contributing towards the building of better citizens; they too are adding to the reservoirs from which the nation's strength must be renewed. I call upon every citizen to give generously and unselfishly of his time, his energy, his means so that those who labor on behalf of the needy may also feel that sense of economic security so essential to the success of a human cause.



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National Archives and Records Service

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WIDE FIELD, N. Y.

From the Papers of
Samuel J. Rosenman

COMMUNITY CHESTS AND COUNCILS



Vol. 14

SEPTEMBER 1940

No. 1



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Military Adviser and Records Service

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY
WPA FILE, P. 1.

From the Pages of
Samuel I. Rosenbaum

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 15, 1940

My dear Mr. Adams:

As preparations for the annual Community Chest Drives are going forward, I want to assure the Community Mobilization for Human Needs of my complete support of this commendable program.

In many of our communities people are suffering, through no fault of their own, from lack of proper nourishment, lack of proper housing, and lack of medical care. Many of the problems created by economic and social maladjustment are so fundamental as to be of grave concern to the nation as a whole and to require the efforts of all of the people, acting through the machinery of democratic government, for their amelioration and solution.

Nevertheless, we must recognize that each person is a member of the community in which he lives and that the community as a group has a definite interest and a share of the responsibility for the welfare of its members. Within the limits of its available resources, there is a definite responsibility which the community must take, and a definite contribution which it can make to the alleviation of human suffering.

The annual Community Chest Campaign gives each member of the community an opportunity to contribute to the well-being of his less fortunate fellow citizens. I hope and I know that the American people will respond most generously to your appeal this year.

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable Charles Francis Adams,
Chairman,
Community Mobilization for Human Needs,
155 East 42nd Street,
New York, N. Y.



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mwh

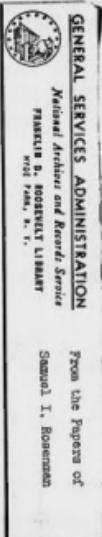
MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

135 EAST 44th STREET

NEW YORK

MURRAY HILL 6-1923

October 3, 1940



Mr. Stephen Early
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Early:

We appreciate more than ever the President's generosity in supporting the Mobilization this fall. We wouldn't have thought of imposing on him if we didn't believe that maintaining adequate welfare services is a part of maintaining the home lines of defense.

Enclosed is the time schedule for the broadcast on October 13. We have the details all worked out now and hasten to submit them.

Attached are two documents which give the gist of our plea this fall. One is "Good Neighbors Built America," by William Allen White and the other a statement by our chairman, Charles Francis Adams on the inside cover of our September news bulletin.

There is one additional fact of significance. In cities like Trenton, Tacoma, Columbia, S.C., near training camps our agencies are preparing to render extensive services both recreational and health to the boys in camps. They are also raising money to support these services. A mention of this by the President in his broadcast would be significant and also very helpful.

With gratitude for your own cooperation, I am,

Very truly yours,
Allen T. Burns
Allen T. Burns
Executive Director

ATBvd
Enclosed

Charles Francis Adams
Chairman
Boston

A. H. Gorenstein, M.D.
For-Chairman
Los Angeles

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS
Sergey Hollander
For-Chairman
Baltimore

Charles P. Taft
For-Chairman
Cincinnati

Mrs. Stanley F. Reed
For-Chairman
Washington, D. C.

Allen T. Burns
Executive Director
New York

George E. Vincent
Secretary President
Greenwich

Robert Cutler
President
Boston

John Stewart Bryan
Vice-President
Richmond

Kenneth Sturges
Vice-President
Cleveland

J. Herbert Case
Treasurer
Hawthorne, N. J.

Lynn D. Morell
Secretary
Los Angeles

COMMUNITY CREDIT AND COUNCILS, INC.

Administrative Agency

1940 COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

Sunday, October 13

10:30 - 11:00 P.M. E.S.T.

TIMING SHEET

Open at Hollywood	10:30:20
Opening Announcement - Hollywood	10:30:20 to 10:31:20
The National Anthem	10:31:20 to 10:32:35
Announcer at Hollywood introducing Mr. Charles Francis Adams, Chairman, Community Mobilization for Human Needs	10:32:35 to 10:32:50
(SWITCH TO BOSTON)	
Mr. Charles Francis Adams, presenting the President - "Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States."	10:32:50 to 10:33:05
(SWITCH TO WHITE HOUSE)	
President Roosevelt	10:33:05 to 10:40:05
Announcer at Washington, introducing Mr. Adams	10:40:05 to 10:40:20
(SWITCH TO BOSTON)	
Mr. Charles Francis Adams speaks	10:40:20 to 10:45:00
(SWITCH TO HOLLYWOOD)	
Screen Actors' Guild Show (detailed time schedule later)	10:45:10 to 10:58:35
Closing Announcement - Hollywood	10:58:35 to 10:59:40

1940 COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

10:30 - 11:00 P.M. E.S.T.

OCTOBER 13, 1940

SUNDAY

ANNOUNCER: - Hollywood

(1 MINUTE)

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This broadcast, on which the President of the United States will speak, is given under the auspices of the Community Mobilization for Human Needs. It is in behalf of the voluntary social agencies sharing in the community chest or united campaign in your own town and 500 other communities. The artists, the musicians, the speakers who are participating in this program are contributing their services. The three great broadcasting systems are contributing their time and facilities.

Ladies and gentlemen, the national anthem.

(THE NATIONAL ANTHEM) (1 MIN.-15 SEC.)

ANNOUNCER: - Hollywood

(15 SECONDS)

We now take great pleasure in introducing Mr. Charles Francis Adams of Boston, chairman of the Community Mobilization for Human Needs.

(SWITCH TO BOSTON)

MR. ADAMS: Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States. (15 SECONDS)

(SWITCH TO WASHINGTON)

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SPEAKS FROM WHITE HOUSE (7 MINUTES)

(SWITCH TO BOSTON)

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS SPEAKS FROM BOSTON (6 MIN.-40 SEC.)

(SWITCH TO HOLLYWOOD)

SCREEN ACTORS' GUILD SHOW (13 MIN.-35 SEC.)
(Details not yet available)



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WIDE WORLD, N. Y.

From the Pages of
Council I. Roosevelt

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT:
ANNOUNCER: Hollywood

(1 MIN.-5 SEC.)

The program to which you have just listened was given under the auspices of the 1940 Community Mobilization for Human Needs in behalf of your local community chest. Its purpose was to remind you of the vital necessity of providing adequate hospital, nursing, social and health services for the needs in your home community this winter. The speakers, the conductors, and the members of the orchestra, who have participated in this program, have contributed their services. The three great broadcasting companies have given their time and their facilities. When you give, as you will wish to, give through your community chest or through your established welfare organizations. Good neighbors built America. Be a good neighbor and give generously.



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From the Papers of
Samuel T. Rosenman

P.S. - Will you please let us know whether the President will broadcast from the White House. The broadcasting companies want the information as soon as possible.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

Oct 13



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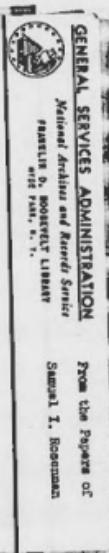
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Samuel I. Rosenman

I had occasion, some time ago, to read a newspaper published in our country during the colonial period, in the year 1769. In it I found a little item far more interesting and more significant than the article I was looking for. I wish to read it to you:

"It is really shocking to see the number of miserable people who have lost the use of their reason, that are daily wandering about, for want of a proper house to keep them confined in." (Virginia Gazette,

July 6, 1769)

That presents a picture of everyday life in America, nearly 200 years ago, vastly different from anything we learn in our histories. Visualize the condition of the insane in 1769, wandering here and there, helpless and friendless, suffering in mind and starving in body, and then compare it with the great psychiatric hospitals maintained by the forty-eight states and by private endowment, in this day in which we are living. Compare the hopeless outlook of those who were called lunatics two centuries ago, and were given up to suffer and die, with the fair prospect of recovery which modern medical science offers them today, when it has been found



that most mental confusion is a temporary illness from which men and women can be fully redeemed.

In that comparison you have a measure of the progress of America during the past two centuries in social organization as well as in scientific knowledge, not only in the care of the insane, but in the care of the aged, the poverty-stricken, the sick, the blind, the unemployed. In that comparison you have a measure of America's progress in heart as well as mind. That progress -- that progress in the effective mobilization for human needs -- is every bit as striking as the physical growth of America during that same period from 3,000,000 scattered dwellers along the Atlantic seaboard to a continental empire of 131,000,000 souls.

But let me point out that the germ of all this humanitarian progress may be found in the little newspaper item which I read you. Notice the words that were used, "It is really shocking to see the number of miserable people." The man who saw those poor sufferers did not take their unhappy condition for granted. He saw their misery, and it was shocking to him. He wanted to do something about it. He was not content to let nature take its toll. He did not fear that human kindness would weaken the steaming or soften the fibre of a free people.



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From the Papers of
Samuel L. Rosenberg

As we assemble this year in our annual Conference on the Mobilization for Human Needs, we are very conscious of the dangers from abroad which threaten our warmhearted way of life. We are conscious that out of human misery too long neglected have arisen ^{already} cruel barbaric forces which are wholly indifferent to human misery, which exalt physical strength and material power alone and which regard as decadent and inferior those who have compassion for their fellow-men.

Our meeting here is evidence of our resolve to hold fast to our humane and civilized way of life. Our meeting here is evidence of our resolve to stand firm against the resurgence of the old philosophy of tyranny which has concern for men only as Caesar's soldiers and for women only so long as they can breed Caesar's soldiers. We keep our faith in the abiding strength and the enduring value of a free and good society in which every person, high or low, rich or poor, black or white, Protestant, Catholic or Jew, has a stake for which he is freely willing to give his talent, and his treasure and if need be his life.



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From the Pages of
Samuel I. Rosenman

We propose therefore to continue to cherish the old-fashioned idea that there is virtue in caring for those unable to care for themselves. We are not going to shirk our duty as individuals to be good neighbors, because we have found that we could better and more adequately perform some part of our duty through our government.

The care of the unfortunate is not a task for government alone. Nor is it, as it is sometimes thoughtlessly suggested, a task from which government should withdraw.

Sometimes we are prone to forget that even in the days when our society centered in the village community, and when dwellers in cities knew all their neighbors, the care of the poor was still in large measure a public undertaking. In colonial America the church vestry was part of our system of government, and money raised through taxation was distributed by the vestrymen among the poor. Later the county government and the city council took over these duties, operating under state law. Then the state itself saw its direct duty, and finally the national government was obliged to assume responsibility.



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From the Pages of
Samuel I. Rosenman

This development has come about because of the growing complexity of our social system, and the rise of industrialism. Individuals have not determined it; there have merely been varying degrees of recognition, among individuals, of a trend that was inevitable.



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National Archives and Records Service
WILLIAM F. HOPKINS, DIRECTOR
WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

From the Pages of
Samuel I. Horenstein

At one stage in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by New England housewives to the houses down below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. A group of small town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets, could attend to the distribution of available jobs, or create them, so that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

But when the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Joad family to California, there was a problem that could not be handled by baskets of bread and meat. When American industry went onto a mass production basis, and decreed that men over forty or fifty lacked the physical stamina and the swift muscular movement needed for the assembly line, it created a problem in the unemployment of elderly men too great to

be solved by the goodwill of individual business men on a street corner.

It also created a problem in old age security too great to be solved by the family, by the individual, or by either public or private charity.

New methods were needed to meet an ancient need, the need of a democratic society to protect its members against misfortune due to no fault of their own. These problems could be handled only by the joint and common endeavors of the government of the United States, the governments of our states and counties and towns, plus the cooperation of men and women bonded together in organizations such as those you represent, which bring the kindly touch of human sympathy to the tragedies of dislocated, broken families.

[^{After} Other social and economic forces intensified these problems. The farm tractor pulling a plow, the harvester, ~~gumboots~~ driven by gasoline, led to consolidation of grain farms and the elimination of farm labor. Landless farmers and farm laborers swarmed to the cities looking for work. Added to that, the automobile and the paved automobile highway completed a process which the railway had begun. There resulted regional concentration of industry, also a regional concentration of special forms of agriculture, which made it more difficult to shift from one form of employment to another.]



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WPA PAPER, No. 1

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

[But along with this concentration and specialization of industry and agriculture, tending to fix it solidly in this place or that, there was a contrary tendency in the population. Ease of transportation, in a \$50 third hand automobile, sent American families traveling over the country, looking for a better place, a better opportunity. Families no longer lived among old neighbors, and families no longer were units in themselves. Joe went this way, Tom went that way, Anna and her husband crossed the continent.]

The wealth of the nation, the taxable income of the nation, no longer existed in units corresponding to the local communities. The problems of the local community, even the problems of a great many of the 48 states, no longer corresponded in magnitude to the resources locally available for their solution.

That is why the problem of social security has become primarily one for the national government to handle. That is why unemployment insurance must be organized on a national pattern, though administered under state law, and employment agencies must be national in scope. That is why the federal



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

government must concern itself with old-age pensions and retirement funds, and must organize an employment system that will prevent a man of fifty from graduating into permanent idleness.

Only through the medium of federal action is it possible to make the region of concentrated wealth share in the responsibilities which it has helped to create in the region of concentrated poverty. Only through the federal tax system is it possible to make the family with vastly more than enough to live on share in the responsibility for the family which has reached old age with less than enough to live on.

I feel more concern lest, in the increasing emphasis necessarily placed upon the agencies of government, we tend to forget the very intimate and human side of our problem of caring for the unfortunate. In the enforcement of general laws -- for example, in dealing with immigration and citizenship -- we find many instances in which regulations that are necessary to the country's protection work injustice in individual cases. It is necessary that the administrative agency have latitude in applying the law, to prevent the breaking up of families, or to save some refugee from being



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Special Agent
FBI
Washington, D.C.

sent back to a concentration camp or having his head cut off because he prefers democracy to tyranny.

But only in a limited measure can administration temper the impersonal quality of general rules of law. It must remain the function of private charity to personalize and humanize the task of relieving suffering. The government cannot, and should not, employ the vast number of workers that would be necessary to pass on case histories, and distinguish the individual families that are entitled to exemption from the limitations of general rules. That task cannot even be performed, to the full extent needed, by the employees of city and county relief organizations. In all public undertakings involving the expenditure of large sums of money, there must be adherence to general rules; otherwise the way is open to widespread irregularities. But general rules cannot cover human needs, because human needs are affected by a thousand matters which do not fit into pigeonholes.

As long as there is illness in the world, as long as there is poverty, as long as families are stricken with personal misfortune, it will be necessary for the good-hearted men and women of America to mobilize for human needs.



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From the Department of
Samuel I. Rosenman

This year as never before there is need for an intensification of your efforts. Events abroad have warned us not only of the need of planes and tanks, and ships and guns; they have also warned us of the need of grit and sacrifices, of daring and devotion, and all those intangible things which go to make up a nation's morale. Force may break it but force cannot create or sustain it. Morale springs from the inner convictions not of the nation's leaders, not of the nation's elite, but of the great mass of humble men and women that they have a stake in preserving the independence and way of life of the nation to which they feel they belong and are a part.

And so it becomes the task of our Community Chests this year to redouble our efforts to see to it that our neighbors and our neighbors' children, most of all those in need or in trouble, feel that they have a genuine stake in preserving our democratic way of life. If we care about our neighbors, they will care about us.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

DRAFT #1

RADIO SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT
THE MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

OCTOBER 13, 1940.

The Mobilization for Human Needs this year is more than ever an expression of our national community spirit. It is, as it always has been, a good cause, participated in by good Americans who represent all sections of our country, all walks of life, all shades of political opinion, all races and creeds.

But in this critical moment of our history, we must be more than ever conscious of the true meaning of the "community spirit" which it expresses. It is a spirit which comes from our community of interests, our community of faith in the democratic ideal, our community of devotion to God.

Wherever men and women of good will gather together to serve their community, there is America. It was true in the first little town meetings in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, when the good folk assembled to decide measures of defense against the Indians, and how to build their first school, and how to care for their aged and sick. It is still true in this great national drive, across our continent, for the Community Chest Funds.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

Even in the early days when our society centered in the village community, and when dwellers in cities knew all their neighbors, the care of the poor was in some measure a public undertaking. In colonial America the church vestry was part of our system of government, and money raised through taxation was distributed by the vestrymen among the poor.

Later the county government and the city council took over these duties, operating under state law. Then the state itself saw its direct duty. And finally, in our own day, the national government was obliged to assume a definite responsibility in this field.

At one time in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by New England housewives to the houses down below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. In those days a group of town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets, could attend to the distribution of available jobs, or create them, so that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

When, however, American industry went onto a mass production basis, it became increasingly difficult for men



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AND PARK, N. Y.

From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

to find employment on the assembly line, it created a problem in the unemployment of elderly men too great to be solved by the good will of individual business men on a street corner.

When the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Joad family to California, there was a problem of unemployment and suffering that could not be handled by baskets of bread and meat.

All through the industrial era there were created problems of old age, of middle age, of mass unemployment, of occupational diseases, of industrial accidents, of child labor and sweatshops -- too great to be solved by the individual or the family, or by friends or private charity.

These were problems which could be handled only by the joint and common endeavors of the Government of the United States, the governments of our states and counties and towns. They always have required, however, the cooperation of men and women banded together in organizations such as those you represent, to bring the kindly touch of human sympathy to the tragedies of dislocated, broken families.



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WPA PAPERSFrom the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

The problems in this field of government responsibility are no different in that respect from the problems in all fields of government.

In the increasing emphasis now placed upon all agencies of government, it is necessary to remember the very intimate and human side of these problems. For example, in the enforcement of general laws dealing with immigration and citizenship -- we find many instances in which the general regulations that are necessary to the country's protection might work injustice in individual cases. It is necessary that the administrative agency have some latitude in applying the law, to prevent the breaking up of families, or other particular injustices.

Only in a limited measure, however, can flexibility of administration temper the impersonal quality of general rules of law. Private charity is essential to personalize and humanize the task of relieving suffering. For general rules cannot cover the wide range of ever-varying human needs, because human needs are affected by a thousand matters which do not fit into pigeon-holes.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

As long as there is illness in the world, as long as there is poverty, as long as families are stricken with personal misfortune, it will be necessary for the good-hearted men and women of America to mobilize for human needs.

This year as never before there is need for an intensification of our efforts. Events abroad have warned us not only of the need of planes and tanks, and ships and guns; they have also warned us of the need of grit and sacrifice, of daring and devotion, and all those intangible things which go to make up a nation's morale.

When we join together in serving our local community, we add strength to our national community, we help to fortify the structure of our whole Union. That form of fortification -- that spiritual fortification -- is not to be dismissed lightly by those in other lands who believe that nations can live by force alone. Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fibre of a free people. A people do not have to be cruel in order to be tough. The vigorous expression of our American community spirit is no less important than the mobilization of our vast military power.



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DRAFT #1

-6-

The ancient injunction to love thy neighbor as thyself
is still the force that animates our faith -- a faith that
we are determined shall live and conquer in a world poisoned
by hatred and ravaged by war.

My friends -- I ask for your enlistment in the Mobilization
for Human Needs, for your whole-hearted devotion to the
American community spirit.



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Mar 13



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From the Papers of

Samuel I. Rosenman

From Address of Elihu Root

President of the New York State Bar Association

January 19, 1912

The real difficulty appears to be that the new conditions incident to the extraordinary industrial development of the last half-century are continuously and progressively demanding the readjustment of the relations between great bodies of men and the establishment of new legal rights and obligations not contemplated when existing laws were passed or existing limitations upon the powers of government were prescribed in our Constitution. In place of the old individual independence of life in which every intelligent and healthy citizen was competent to take care of himself and his family we have come to a high degree of interdependence in which the greater part of our people have to rely for all the necessities of life upon the systematized cooperation of a vast number of other men working through complicated industrial and commercial machinery. Instead of the completeness of individual effort working out its own results in obtaining food and clothing and shelter we have specialization and division of labor which leaves each individual unable to apply his industry and intelligence except in co-operation with a great number of others whose activity conjoined to his is necessary to produce any useful result. Instead of the give and take of free individual contract, the tremendous power of organization has combined great aggregations of capital in enormous industrial establishments working through vast agencies of commerce and employing great masses of men in movements of production and transportation and trade, so great in the mass that each individual concerned in them is quite helpless by himself. The relations between

the employer and the employed, between the owners of aggregated capital and the units of organized labor, between the small producer, the small trader, the consumer, and the great transporting and manufacturing and distributing agencies, all present now questions for the solution of which the old reliance upon the free action of individual wills appears quite inadequate. And in many directions the intervention of that organized control which we call government seems necessary to produce the same result of justice and right conduct which obtained through the attrition of individuals before the new conditions arose.



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From the Papers of
Samuel I. Rosenman

Addresses on Government and Citizenship
by Eliza Root - Harvard Univ. Press, 1916
pp 448-449

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I had occasion, some time ago, to read a newspaper published in our country during the colonial period, in the year 1769. In it I found a little item far more interesting and more significant than the article I was looking for. I wish to read it to you:

"It is really shocking to see the number of miserable people who have lost the use of their reason, that are daily wandering about, for want of a proper house to keep them confined in." (Virginia Gazette,

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That presents a picture of everyday life in America, nearly 200 years ago, vastly different from anything we learn in our histories. Visualize the condition of the insane in 1769, wandering here and there, helpless and friendless, suffering in mind and starving in body, and then compare it with the great psychiatric hospitals maintained by the forty-eight states and by private endowment, in this day in which we are living. Compare the hopeless outlook of those who were called lunatics two centuries ago, and were given up to suffer and die, with the fair prospect of recovery which modern medical science offers them today, when it has been found



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From the Papers of
Harry L. Hopkins

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But let me point out that the germ of all this humanitarian progress may be found in the little newspaper item which I read you. Notice the words that were used, "It is really shocking to see the number of miserable people." The man who saw those poor sufferers did not take their unhappy condition for granted. He saw their misery, and it was shocking to him. He wanted to do something about it. He was not content to let nature take its toll. He did not fear that human kindness would weaken the stamina or soften the fibre of a free people.



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1941 VOL. 1, P. 1

HARRY L. HOPKINS

From the Papers of

As we assemble this year in our annual Conference on the Mobilization for Human Needs, we are very conscious of the dangers from abroad which threaten our well-cherished way of life. We are conscious that out of human misery too long neglected have arisen cruel barbaric forces which are wholly indifferent to human misery, which exult physical strength and material power alone and which regard as decadent and inferior those who have compassion for their fellow-men.

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From the Report of
Harry L. Hopkins

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Henry F. Holt

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This development has come about because of the growing complexity of our social system, and the rise of industrialism. Individuals have not determined it; there have merely been varying degrees of recognition, among individuals, of a trend that was inevitable.

At one stage in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by New England housewives to the houses down below the railroad trucks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. A group of small town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets, could attend to the distribution of available jobs, or create them, so that Jim Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

But when the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Jeas family to California, there was a problem that could not be handled by baskets of bread and meat. When American industry went onto a mass production basis, and decreed that men over forty or fifty lacked the physical stamina and the swift muscular movement needed for the assembly line, it created a problem in the unemployment of elderly men too great to



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HARRY L. HOPKINS

From the Papers of



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From the Papers of
Harry L. Hopkins

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HARRY S. TRUMAN
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WITH PLATE NO. 2

But along with this concentration and specialization of industry and agriculture, tending to fix it solidly in this place or that, there was a contrary tendency in the population. Ease of transportation, in a \$50 third hand automobile, sent American families traveling over the country, looking for a better place, a better opportunity. Families no longer lived among old neighbors, and families no longer were units in themselves. Joe went this way, Tom went that way, Anna and her husband crossed the continent.]

The wealth of the nation, the taxable income of the nation, no longer existed in units corresponding to the local communities. The problems of the local community, even the problems of a great many of the 48 states, no longer corresponded in magnitude to the resources locally available for their solution.

That is why the problem of social security has become primarily one for the national government to handle. That is why unemployment insurance must be organized on a national pattern, though administered under state law, and employment agencies must be national in scope. That is why the federal



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-8-

government must concern itself with old-age pensions and retirement funds, -
and must organize an employment system that will prevent a man of fifty from
graduating into permanent idleness.

Only through the medium of federal action is it possible to make the
region of concentrated wealth share in the responsibilities which it has helped
to create in the region of concentrated poverty. Only through the federal tax
system is it possible to make the family with vastly more than enough to
live on share in the responsibility for the family which has reached old age
with less than enough to live on.

looseleaf
X form 26.

I feel more concern lest, in the increasing emphasis necessarily
placed upon the agencies of government, we tend to forget the very intimate
and human side of our problem of caring for the unfortunate. In the en-
forcement of general laws — for example, in dealing with immigration and
citizenship -- we find many instances in which regulations that are necessary
to the country's protection work injustice in individual cases. It is
necessary that the administrative agency have latitude in applying the law,
to prevent the breaking up of families, or to save some refugees from being

sent back to a concentration camp or having his hand cut off because he prefers democracy to tyranny.

But only in a limited measure can administration temper the impersonal quality of general rules of law. It must remain the function of private charity to personalize and humanize the task of relieving suffering. The government cannot, and should not, employ the vast number of workers that would be necessary to pass on case histories, and distinguish the individual families that are entitled to exemption from the limitations of general rules. That task cannot even be performed, to the full extent needed, by the employees of city and county relief organizations. In all public undertakings involving the expenditure of large sums of money, there must be adherence to general rules; otherwise the way is open to widespread irregularities. But general rules cannot cover human needs, because human needs are affected by a thousand matters which do not fit into pigeonholes.

As long as there is illness in the world, as long as there is poverty, as long as families are stricken with personal misfortune, it will be necessary for the good-hearted men and women of America to mobilize for human needs.



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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John T. Hopkins

This year as never before there is need for an intensification of your efforts. Events abroad have warned us not only of the need of planes and tanks, and ships and guns; they have also warned us of the need of grit and sacrifice, of daring and devotion, and all those intangible things which go to make up a nation's morale. Force may break it but force cannot create or sustain it. Morale springs from the inner convictions not of the nation's leaders, not of the nation's elite, but of the great mass of humble men and women that they have a stake in preserving the independence and way of life of the nation to which they feel they belong and are a part.

And so it becomes the task of our Community Chests this year to redouble our efforts to see to it that our neighbors and our neighbors' children, most of all those in need or in trouble, feel that they have a genuine stake in preserving our democratic way of life. If we care about our neighbors, they will care about us.

From greater importance than the mobilization of our military strength is the mobilization of our essential American community spirit.



GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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October 13, 1940

This address of the President, delivered in behalf of the 1940 Mobilization for Human Needs, is for release in editions of all newspapers appearing on the streets NOT EARLIER THAN 10:35 P.M., E.S.T., today, October 13, 1940. The same release of the text of the address also applies to radio announcers and news commentators.

CAUTION: Please safeguard against premature release.

STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

CHAIRMAN ADAMS, COMMUNITY CHEST WORKERS, FRIENDS OF HUMAN NEEDS:

The Mobilization for Human Needs this year is more than ever an expression of our national community spirit. It is, as it always has been, a good cause, participated in by good Americans who represent all sections of our country, all walks of life, all shades of political opinion, all races and creeds.

But in this critical moment of our history, we must be more than ever conscious of the true meaning of the "community spirit" which it expresses. It is a spirit which comes from our community of interests, our community of faith in the democratic ideal, our community of devotion to God.

Wherever men and women of good will gather together to serve their community, there is America. It was true in the first little town meetings in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, when the good folk assembled to decide measures of defense against the Indians, and how to build their first school, and how to care for their aged and sick. It is still true in this great national drive, all the way across our continent, for the Community Chest Funds.

Even in the early days when our society centered in the village community, and when every neighbor knew all the neighbors, the care of the poor was in some measure a public undertaking. In colonial America money raised through taxation was often distributed by the churches among the poor. Later the county government and the city council assumed a part of these duties. Then the state itself began taking care of some of the sick. And finally, in our own day, the national government was obliged to assume a definite responsibility in giving work to able-bodied needy unemployed.

At one stage in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by housewives to the houses down below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. In those days a group of town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the chief corner of Main Street, could devise some method so that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

Then, however, American industry went on a mass production basis, it became increasingly difficult for men to find employment on the assembly line; it created a problem in the unemployment of elderly men and middle-aged men too great to be solved by the good will of individual business men on a street corner.

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This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

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When the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Jead family to California, there was a problem of unemployment and suffering that could no longer be handled by baskets of bread and meat.

Through the industrial era there were created problems of old age, of mass unemployment, of occupational diseases, of industrial accidents, of child labor and sweatshops -- too great to be solved by the individual or the family, or by friends or private charity.

These were problems which could be handled only by the joint and common endeavors of the Government of the United States, the governments of our states, our counties, our towns, and of the organized charities and social service agencies run by private methods. Government authorities have always required the cooperation of men and women bonded together in organizations such as those you represent, to bring the kindly touch of human sympathy to the tragedies of dislocated, broken families.

It is necessary for us to remember the very intimate and human side of these problems. Only in a limited measure can flexibility of administration temper the impersonal quality of general rules of law. Private charity is essential to personalize and humanize the task of relieving suffering. For general rules cannot cover the wide range of ever-varying human needs, because human needs are affected by a thousand matters which do not fit into pigeon-holes.

As long as there is illness in the world, as long as there is poverty, as long as families are stricken with personal misfortune, it will be necessary for the good-hearted men and women of America to mobilize for human needs.

This year as never before there is need for an intensification of our efforts. Events abroad have warned us not only of the need of planes and tanks, and ships and guns; they have also warned us of the need of grit and sacrifice, of daring and devotion, and all those intangible things which go to make up a nation's morale.

When we join together in serving our local community, we add strength to our national community, we help to fortify the structure of our whole Union. That form of fortification -- that spiritual fortification -- is not to be dismissed lightly by those in other lands who believe that nations can live by force alone.

Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fibres of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel in order to be tough. The vigorous expression of our American community spirit is truly important.

The ancient injunction to love thy neighbor as thyself is still the force that animates our faith -- a faith that we are determined shall live and conquer in a world poisoned by hatred and ravaged by war.

I ask for your enlistment in the Mobilization for Human Needs, for your whole-hearted devotion to the American community spirit. I ask you to prove your good faith in good works.

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October 15, 1940

1651

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STEPHEN EARLY
Secretary to the President

CHAIRMAN ADAMS, COMMUNITY CHEST WORKERS, FRIENDS OF HUMAN NEEDS:

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Wherever men and women of good will gather together to serve their community, there is America. It was true in the first little town meetings in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, when the good folk assembled to decide measures of defense against the Indians, and how to build their first school, and how to care for their aged and sick. It is still true in this great national drive, all the way across our continent, for the Community Chest funds.

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At one stage in our national history, the baskets of bread and meat carried by housewives to the houses down below the railroad tracks were adequate to temper the suffering of the victims of industrial depression. In those days a group of town business men, gathered on the sidewalk at the chief corner of Main Street, could devise some method so that Joe Smith and Tom Jones would be able to buy shoes for their children.

When, however, American industry went on a mass production basis, it became increasingly difficult for men to find employment on the assembly line; it created a problem in the unemployment of elderly men and middle-aged men too great to be solved by the good will of individual business men on a street corner.

When the World War caused the great plains to be plowed up for wheat, and the wheat fields turned into dust storms that drove 200,000 members of the Joad family to California, there was a problem of unemployment and suffering that could no longer be handled by baskets of bread and meat.

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