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Thomas MTC - May 1, 1982

For all of you, it is a pleasure to welcome you all to this meeting of alumni on May Day

1982. ~~But~~ For me, it's a bit early to discuss whether there are red banners ^{only} or red caps

out there - ~~whatever~~ it is (I think) it is a pleasure to welcome you at ~~the~~ ^{this} alumni

~~breakfast~~ ^{though} why we as alumni always meet at breakfast is something which I have

yet to discover. But - from the "top of the top" - a hearty welcome

to you all but with special thanks to the Committee who worked so diligently

to make this possible -

Dr. Ferris - chm.

Drs. Forney, Friedman, Johnson, Knicker, MacCrix, Lagan, Boulton & Wells.
and to Mrs. Maria Pines, my special assistant & the school's most dedicated
non-alumna.

A special welcome to those from afar -

from Norway, Germany, Colombia & Canada
and even from Berkeley California - Dr. Ruyter.

And - as special ~~guests~~ ^{alumni} members of the family - three persons who ~~the~~
in 1932 - 50 years ago - graduated from the School of Hygiene
and Public Health Health -

Dr. Gerald Winsfeld - ^{a dedicated and distinguished internationalist}
~~who~~

Dr. Leroy Boney - former Surgeon General of the U.S. -

Dr. Ernest Stebbins -

I know there are many more whom I should introduce to you but let me
stop with but one more introduction - the recipient of the ~~the~~ "Distinguished
Alumna Award for Outstanding Service in Public Health" - Dr. Myron Wagon,
A national & international statesman, former Secretary General of WHO and
former ^{Dean Emeritus} of the U. of Mich. S. of M. - Dr. Myron Wagon.

selected by the alumni organizing
committee from among numerous applicants
and who presented the banquet addresses
this night "A world of Health"

What may be said today of the SHPH, The present & future of P.H. and even perhaps of the state of the world ^{health} today? Personally, ~~To do this adequately, I need the best of the morning and part of the afternoon if I include slides.~~ To do justice to this I need the best of the morning and part of the afternoon if I include slides. ~~Rehearsal - I left out the slides, all of the quotations and all of the slides.~~ ^{most}

On the surface and to some, the present status of public health ^{admirable future} appears grim. The darkness, however, is never darker than just before the dawn - The dawn, ^{in the country}

Budgets are superficially the main concern

~~We all agree there is a need to contain inflation & reduce interest rates and unemployment. This has led the administration to undertake a drastic series of budget cuts - Among the most seriously impacted are a whole series of programs which we in public health have been most concerned.~~

- ^{most of these} Programs have been funded in the range of a few million dollars to tens of millions of dollars
- Most have had an impact on the health & well-being of tens & hundreds of thousands of people.

~~Regrettably, ^{in my opinion,} we have acquired the ^{propaganda} belief that ~~we all must fight~~ our battles in the greater national interest. ~~whereas~~ There is a problem, however, if ~~we are saving one red cent~~ a budget by $\$1 \times 10^6$ if our budget is $\$2 \times 10^6$ and less of a problem if our budget is conserving 1×10^6 if our budget is one billion dollars.~~

^{until recently} There has been a curious acquiescence ^{on the part of the public and perhaps the P.H. profession} that each of the federal budget pieces must be made smaller and that this is in the long term national interest. Some pieces, however, are larger than others and have more serious implications than others. Health programs are ^{a special case in part} ~~paramount~~ ^{that we have been arguing} as to whether the immigration program will or will not receive ~~the same~~ $\$3$ or $\$5$ million over the President's budget or whether we will or will not increase NIH budgets by $\$100$ million to maintain the existing level of biomedical research.

^{for example,} These are small pieces - they are larger pieces.

At the same time the federal price support to the dairy industry has exceeded ~~its~~ its $\$1$ billion dollar budget this year by just $\$1$ billion. Last year it was expected to increase from $\$2$ billion to $\$4$ billion. The Comptroller General reports, the total NIH budget is ~~not~~ under $\$2$ billion. The C-G in reports to Congress, has ~~said~~ ^{pointed out} that the Defense Dept could readily save $\$6$ to $\$12$

Most important - concern we all feel re: need for a more active program
in the professional practice of p.h., and the need to ^{work} ~~work~~ more closely with
our alumni who are engaged in the prof. practice of p.h. in the
country and abroad. for us - ~~research~~ teaching, research,
practical prof. practice.

& before we are now engaged in the most challenging phase of our
entire history - the reformation of the profession of public health -
at a time when we are needed no more before.

We need your help - your counsel - your advice - your financial support

Beginning the fund - Alumni Loan Fund - for ~~donated~~ ^{donated} giving
Alumni Visiting Professors - Dr. Paul Fine & Dr. Valerie Buehl.

This you have made possible - but - today we want you to tell us
what your school should be in the future. We're serious about
this - as Hopkins goes, so goes the country.