

The original documents are located in Box D28, folder “Dedication of Pine Rest Sheltered Workshop, Grand Rapids, MI, January 15, 1970” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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I CONGRATULATE ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE ~~MADE~~ PLAYED EVEN THE SMALLEST ROLE IN HELPING TO PROMOTE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS SHELTERED WORKSHOP FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED. YOU HAVE MADE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD DEALING WITH ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS CONDITIONS OF OUR TIMES.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY I AM PROUD TO BE HERE WITH YOU TODAY, PROUD TO BE TAKING PART IN THIS DEDICATION CEREMONY.

ONE OF THOSE REASONS IS THAT THIS CEREMONY SYMBOLIZES FOR ME THE GREAT FORCE FOR GOOD THAT CAN FLOW FROM SOUND FEDERAL AND LOCAL COOPERATION...THE COMBINING OF FEDERAL AND LOCAL ENERGIES AND MONIES IN AN ~~ATTACKZ~~ ~~EMX~~ EFFORT TO BRING SOME LIGHT INTO THE BLIGHTED LIVES OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND THOSE ~~EXXXM~~ ~~NOXN~~ WHO LOVE THEM.

WE ALL KNOW THAT SCIENCE ~~NOO~~ HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES IN CONQUERING PHYSICAL DISEASES BUT THAT MENTAL RETARDATION REMAINS AN ALARMING PERPLEXITY.

BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT OF THE 240,000 ~~BEEXMCK~~ ~~ORE~~ MORE

3/

MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS IN MICHIGAN, 200,000 ~~ARE~~ ARE
MILDLY RETARDED, CAPABLE OF SOCIAL AND VOCATIONAL
ADEQUACY WITH PROPER EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND 32,000
ARE MODERATELY RETARDED, CAPABLE OF SELF-MAINTENANCE IN
UNSKILLED OR SEMI-SKILLED OCCUPATIONS.

WHAT A GREAT WORK YOU ARE DOING HERE! I KNOW THAT
THE ~~RETURN TO THE~~ REHABILITATION OF THE MENTALLY
HANDICAPPED IS A LONG AND ARDUOUS TASK. I CONGRATULATE
YOU ~~X~~ ON YOUR WONDERFUL ENDEAVORS. ~~MYXGLOXXX~~ GOD
SURELY HAS BLESSED YOU...EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.

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NOTES

GRAND RAPIDS

JAN. 15, 1970

Congress of the United States

Office of the Minority Leader

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Gerald R. Ford
M.C.

DEDICATION OF PINE REST SHELTERED
WORKSHOP

