

Jaycees Cheer Nixon Talk on 'What Is Right' in U.S.



United Press International

Secret Service man rushes to protect President Nixon after spectators breached police line in St. Louis, where Mr. Nixon was on his way to address the Jaycees organization.

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ST. LOUIS, June 25—President Nixon came to Middle America today and appealed to young businessmen to help him bridge the generation gap and bring racial peace to the nation. Facing an audience of 12,000 delegates in

Kiel Auditorium at the 50th annual meeting of the Jaycees, Mr. Nixon received the most enthusiastic reception of his presidency to date. The seven-minute ear-splitting, standing ovation came from whistle-blowing Indiana delegates dressed as referees, Alabamians waving Ameri-

can flags, Oklahomans in Indian war dress, young entrepreneurs from Colorado in buckskin coats, staid Virginians in coats and ties. It was the kind of audience modern Presidents can confront without fear, but to which this

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Jaycees Cheer an Address by the President on 'What Is Right About America'

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Republican President, a former Jaycee, offers special appeal.

No demonstrators and few blacks were present, and what the audience seemed to want to hear was that the country was in pretty good shape and the economy was sound.

Mr. Nixon satisfied them on both counts. He said at the outset that he would speak about "what is right about America."

He called attention to the nation's "enormous productive capacity." He called attention to his own efforts to reform the welfare system. And he said that, after five years of increasing war in Indochina, he had started bringing the men home.

The President, who was in-

errupted 27 times by applause, first spoke in phrases and in a cadence reminiscent of his campaign oratory.

He called for moving people "off the welfare rolls and onto payrolls," for preserving free enterprise against those who would "restrict" it with wage and price controls. He spoke of the danger of government spending and the duty to vote against candidates who would assist special interest groups at the expense of the purchasing power of all Americans.

Then he adopted a quieter tone and spoke of national problems that he said required for their solution "an extra element that can only come from the hearts and the minds of the people."

Mr. Nixon turned first to civ-

il rights, telling his listeners — less responsive now than they had been in the early parts of his address — that government could pass laws and enforce them but could do little to combat or control human prejudice.

"There is one thing that government cannot provide," he said, "the healing power of mutual respect for the individual dignity of every person in this country."

He then called in the Jaycees to help, declaring:

"I believe in the American dream. I have seen it come true in my own life. But, speaking in broader terms, we can fulfill the American dream only when every American has an equal opportunity to fulfill his own dream."

Similarly, he suggested that

the Jaycees, whose average age is 29 years, could play a special role in bringing together the generations.

"We must bridge the gap," he said. "You can do better than we can because the bridge you have to build is not as long as the bridge we have to build. You are closer to the younger generation."

Then, in a tone stronger even than the one he used in his news conference after the antiwar rallies against his Cambodian policies, he added:

"I charge you, I urge you, to do everything that you can, not to make the gap bigger, not to set up a hostile confrontation, but to give to young people the understanding of our system that they need."

Whether the young entrepreneurs and civic leaders were

much closer to the young generation than Mr. Nixon himself was unclear. They applauded his reference to troop withdrawals, but they cheered with equal gusto his hints that he would stand fast in Vietnam until an honorable bargain could be struck with the enemy.

Pledge Is Recalled

"I pledged to end this war," he said at one point. But he recalled that he had also pledged to end it in a way that their younger brothers and their sons would not have to fight in another Vietnam sometime in the future."

The President indicated that he thought his audience could play a significant role as a force for law and order and against the rapid rise of crime. He suggested that more im-

portant than new laws and new means of enforcement was the integrity of the law itself and the understanding of those who administered it.

"I believe in obedience to the law and I know that you do. But let our proud claim be that we ask Americans to obey the law, not because they fear it but because they respect it."

The audience rose in standing ovations several times — at the President's entry, at the mention that he had been named an honorary Jaycee "senator" at the introduction of Mrs. Nixon and their daughter Tricia, at Mr. Nixon's appearance behind the lectern. At his disclosure that Tricia had to him moments before, "Why, Daddy, this is better than our convention in Miami," and at his leaving the lectern.