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To: Jeffrey A. Shesol/WHO/EOP, Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP, Jordan Tamagni/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: did you know that?

**In the year 2000, older people will outnumber children in the world for the first time in history.**

December 16, 198

MEMORANDUM FOR MICHAEL WALDMAN

FROM: JOSH GOTTHEIMER

SUBJECT: SOTU "NOW AND THEN" HIGHLIGHTS

Michael, I know that you asked for 5 facts, but I think these are all worth reviewing...

### **Economy**

GNP expanded 467% between 1900 and 1998 (based on 3rd quarter numbers)

#### GDP per man-hour

1900: \$1.29

1996: \$13.50

#### Personal Income

1900 - average annual income \$412/yr

1998 - average annual income \$520/week

### **Population**

We could emphasize the domestic population explosion over the last century -- either for DC, the region, or the West Coast...

#### Mid-Atlantic Region -- more than doubled:

1900 - 15,454,678

1990 - 37,602,286

#### Washington, DC -- nearly tripled:

1900 - 278,718

1990 - 606,900

#### Pacific Division -- nearly twenty times:

1900 - 2,634,285

1990 - 39,127,306

### **Cause of Death**

Approximately the same number of Americans died of influenza in 1900 as die of cancer today...

### Causes of death, 1900

*Major cardiovascular renal diseases - 345/100,000*

*Influenza, pneumonia - 202.2*

*TB - 194.4 (1997 - 16,237 deaths total = 6/100,000)*

*Gastritis, duodenitis, colitis - 142.7*

*Diphtheria - 40.3*

*Measles - 13.3*

### Causes of death, 1990

*Heart disease - 281.3/100,000*

*Cancer - 205.2*

*Cerebrovascular disease - 58.9*

*Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease - 39*

*HIV - 16.2*

*Homicide - 9.6*

### Life Expectancy

1900 - 47.3 yrs

1994 - 75.7 yrs

### **Transportation/Freedom to Move -- No Longer Constrained by Our Borders**

Today we have the freedom to travel beyond our place of birth to settle, to see family, or to attend a meeting...

### Travel Time - California to New York

1900 - 4 days by train

1998 - 6 hours by plane

### Changing Residence

1900 - 79 percent of population lived in the state in which they were born

1998 - today the average American will move 12 times in a lifetime

[Today, there are no borders...global commerce (the web), the concorde, etc.]

“We are on the eve of a great development of centrifugal possibilities...a city of pedestrians is ...limited by a radius of about four miles, and that a horse-using city may grow out to seven or eight...And is it too much, therefore, to expect that the available area for even the common daily toilers of the great city of the year 2000, or earlier, will have a radius very much larger even than that?” -- HG Wells, c. 1901.

## **Immigration/Diversity**

Immigration -- numbers have increased slightly -- but the composition has changed.

1900 - 95% of the immigrants were from Europe. 9 people were from India -- 4% from Asia.

1996 - 16% of the immigrants were from Europe. 5% were from India -- 34% were from Asia.

Exposure to different cultures/people...

Today in Wichita, KA, there are 137 ethnic restaurants. We could compare this number to 1900 -  
- or do the same for any major city.

## **Poverty**

New York

1900 - 1/2 people under poverty level

1990 - 19.3 percent under poverty level

## **Innovation**

“The world, they say, changed more [technologically] between the year 1800 and the year 1900 than it had done in the previous 500 years...” -- H.G. Wells, June 1899

We could say: There's been more innovation in each decade of the twentieth century than in the entire nineteenth century [ck].