

FOR RELEASE AT 2:00 P. M.  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1966

Office of the Press Secretary  
to Mrs. Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE

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REMARKS OF MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON  
ON THE OCCASION OF TULIP AND DAFFODIL PLANTINGS  
CHARLES YOUNG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Ambassador, Mrs. Schurmann, Dr. Hansen, and Young Friends:

One of my most pleasant memories is of a visit my husband and I made to the Netherlands in 1963. As you young students have learned from your geography books, our world is made to sparkle with the gay and vivid colors of the Netherlands tulips. For the tulip is the flower emblem of the Netherlands -- and one of its glories.

The Netherlands is a country of flowers. One sees them in abundance in window boxes in the front of practically every home, in gardens, in the streets, and the roads approaching the towns. We have much to learn from the people of the Netherlands.

Like the people of your country, Mr. Ambassador, Americans are great admirers of tulips and daffodils. Here in Washington, we are planting over one-half million bulbs in our parks this fall -- more than ten times as many as we did two years ago. Visitors from all over the world -- and residents alike -- will receive much pleasure from their color and cheery beauty.

The gift we are accepting today gives me much pleasure. I know it does the same for you -- and the best part of it is that it will be continuing.

Four schools in this area and the adjoining Langston Public Housing are sharing this gift of bulbs from the Netherlands Flower Bulb Institute. I can think of nothing more neighborly than this.

Fall plantings of tulips and daffodils, like April showers, bring spring flowers. What we are beginning here today is an investment in spring beauty for years to come!

For one of the wonderful bonuses of daffodils is that they are remarkably permanent and stay with us and multiply. Year after year they remain in the ground, increasing, and producing more and more blooms.

The tulip bulbs will multiply too -- particularly after the first year -- and I know the tender care you students give them will make them thrive and last for many years to come.

Gardening is a world full of interesting things. Many of the joys of gardening -- and the rewards -- come from planting with one's hands. I hope that many hands will take part in these plantings so that you will discover how fulfilling this can be.

Flowers give life to one's dream of a better world. I know that the joy and beauty these bulbs will bring you next spring will lift and delight you -- and provoke a gleam in your eye.

This is my hope for each one of you. Thank you.

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