



Office of the Governor

STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

ROBERT D. RAY
GOVERNOR

YOUNG PEOPLE OF TROY--PRESENT AND YET TO COME:

I send you greetings from the people of Iowa and their government.

Many are the historical ties which unite our state with yours.

Iowa's first two counties were organized--way back in 1834--by the Sixth Legislative Assembly of Michigan Territory, to which they were attached. The last Delegate to Congress from Michigan Territory--George Wallace Jones--was later to become one of Iowa's first two United States Senators. The capital of Iowa in those far-off days was Detroit, six hundred miles from the straggling settlements on the west bank of the Mississippi. In terms of time, they were much farther away from their capital city than we are, today, from the moon.

The twenty-sixth Governor of the State of Iowa, Clyde L. Herring, was a native of Michigan who came farther west to become a successful business executive and then to direct our government with great vigor in the difficult depression era of the 1930's. From the Governorship he went on to serve in the United States Senate.

Iowa is one of the twenty-two states which have sister communities to yours--named Troy. In fact, Iowa has not only a Troy but also a Troy Mills. They are, however, small rural communities, which would seem--at first glance--quite unlike your Metropolitan Detroit municipality, which has doubled in population during the past ten years. Basically, though, Troy and Troy Mills, Iowa, are very much like Troy, Michigan, because all three communities are inhabited by families committed to making the American Dream come true.

Your library is the place where you can learn the richness and the glory of that Dream. Use your library. By using it, you will come to cherish it and what it stands for; and you will become resolute in protecting it from all assaults upon its freedom. Freedom cannot falter where libraries flourish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert D. Ray".
Robert D. Ray
Governor