

News Release

GRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER OF THE SOUTHWEST

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RELEASE ON DELIVERY - SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EXECUTIVES MEETING - MARCH 21, 1966

SOUTH MUST BUILD NEXT 10 YEARS ON ABILITY TO GENERATE TREMENDOUS IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION,
SAYS PRESIDENT OF TEXAS POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH CENTER

NEW ORLEANS --

Continued prosperity and social growth of the South depends upon the ability to generate a tremendous improvement in education; men trained to the limit of their capacities to learn and to apply knowledge are the greatest and most precious asset.

So said President Gifford K. Johnson of Dallas' Graduate Research Center of the Southwest as he spoke here today at a conference of the Southern Association of Chamber of Commerce executives. Mr. Johnson last week entered his second year as president of the GRC, which combines advanced research with graduate teaching -- mostly beyond the doctor's degree -- in space and earth sciences, mathematics, biology and genetics, and materials sciences. GRC completed a five-day observance of its fifth anniversary since founding this past week-end (March 16-20).

A long-time industrial executive with deep interests in education, Mr. Johnson told the meeting "The next 10 years will be the hardest." The South has to play catch-up in a game that is well along, he said; and the whole nation is on the move to develop its education and the skills of its people as a source of economic strength.

Increased pace in graduate education, beyond that of the rest of the country -- and finding the money for allied research, the laboratories, and the faculty salaries that go with eminence are the tasks before business and industrial leaders, he said.

--3-19-66--al mitchell--TPSI-14--