

hate, who spew forth exhortations to burn and kill, must bear the responsibility for the deranged few who cross the line from talk to action.

If our nation is to live in freedom, we must firmly resolve to put down violence in all the forms in which it exists and overcome the attitudes which have allowed it to flourish.

My deepest sympathy goes out to the courageous Kennedy family. It is unbelievable that one staunch group should be again asked to bear the pain of the ultimate loss — violent death to one of its own.

I also sent a personal telegram of condolence to Mrs. Kennedy and I notice the President has declared that Sunday will be a national day of mourning. I would like to call the attention of the citizens of Maryland to the fine statement in that respect and add my entreaty to the President's that we do observe a national day of mourning which will also automatically become a State day of mourning, this Sunday.

I have one other statement to make concerning the terrible tragedy that has befallen us. The Republican State Convention was scheduled to go into session this Saturday. Because of the death of Senator Kennedy, Mr. Dukert, the State Chairman, will announce shortly that a new date for the convening has been set. The Convention will not be held on Saturday nor will the dinner originally scheduled for that date.

If we are ready to move to another subject: Concerning the recent fiscal emergency, at my instruction, Mr. Slicher, the State Budget Director, has issued the following letter to all department heads:

To All Department Heads:

In accordance with the instructions of the Governor, all positions currently vacant as well as those that become vacant and including new positions allowed in the 1969 fiscal year, which are supported by General Funds, are to remain unfilled until further notice.

Each department head is to take appropriate steps to completely eliminate or drastically curtail attendance at out-of-State conventions and meetings.

The replacement or purchase of additional equipment is to be screened thoroughly and only those items of an emergency nature should be bought.