

world today, surely there can be but one answer to their appeal. And, knowing the generosity with which the Jewish people of Maryland ever have responded to calls of distress, no matter from what source they come, I know that the appeal that is being presented here today will find a magnificent response.

And this is as it should be. For, unless we who are more fortunate come to the aid of those who are so much less fortunate than we, to whom shall they turn? Our three centuries of tradition in Maryland call aloud to the people of Maryland today, as these appeals for aid come to us from one persecuted source and another. We must not, we cannot discriminate. We cannot sanction the oppression of any minority group, we cannot attempt to justify persecution of race, or creed. For, such is the ideal upon which our nation is founded, while any one group is oppressed, no other group is safe.

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## LEAGUE OF LAYMEN'S RETREAT—ANNUAL BANQUET

Lord Baltimore Hotel, January 31, 1940

Baltimore

SEVERAL circumstances combine to make our slight participation in this interesting event a most welcome one to us. Doubtless, against his wishes, but necessarily in view of his unsurpassed leadership and great inspiration, we are here to do honor to the shepherd of our flock. Not only is it fitting that this year's assemblage should be signalized by a tribute to the spiritual head of this Archdiocese but, marking as this year does his Silver Episcopal Jubilee as well as of his elevation to the new Archdiocese of Washington, everyone grasps the opportunity to accord him deserved tribute.

Just recently this city witnessed one of the greatest demonstrations of affection and loyalty which any man could receive. I use the term "man" advisedly, although upon reflection it will be obvious to the analytical observer that the recipient of such a tribute is more than a man. In every undertaking and movement, interrelated with the furtherance of different phases of religious effort, his genuine and inspirational guidance and leadership have commanded the respect and love of all committed to his spiritual care.

In the near future, our Archbishop will be installed as the head of the youngest archdiocese in the Country, the Archdiocese of Washington. But he will continue as the head of the oldest archdiocese in the Country, that of Baltimore, which because of its premiership enjoys prerogative of place in the Catholic Church of the United States. The approbation that this dual honor carries is patent to all. It is a recognition of a life devoted to the supernatural. Near to his heart, along with the many urgent requirements of his position, is the Layman's Retreat movement and his helpful efforts for Manresa and its followers. Therefore, no more fitting occasion could be imagined than this and no more natural expression could be voiced than that which we seek to give utterance to by our presence in tribute to our guest of honor, His Excellency, Archbishop Michael J. Curley.

In this presence I consider that it would be presumptuous in me to undertake the emphasis of the value of the Retreat movement from the spiritual side alone. I might be privileged to express the sincere conviction that, while