

Books in the News

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WASHINGTON BOWED. By Theodore R. McKeldin.

Published by Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore.

Not so long ago Governor Theodore R. McKeldin, of Maryland, was discussing the fundamentals of American government with President Eisenhower. The subject of George Washington came up. The President told Mr. McKeldin that, in his opinion, the greatest hour of Washington's life came at Valley Forge. The President remarked that Washington must be thought of as a leader sent by God to the young American nation in its self-creative, life or death war.

That conversation set Mr. McKeldin to thinking. In his book, "Washington Bowed", he writes:

"A civilian may with profit turn his eyes on Washington's civil career, to see if he may discern similar evidences of Divine inspirations there."

MR. MCKELDIN then tells of Washington's resignation of his command. As Washington approached the State House in Annapolis he was told that members of Congress would remain seated and keep their hats on.

The Governor writes:

"When, however, General Washington had become Mr. Washington, then the Congressmen were to rise and lift their hats. But even then, the rule reads curiously, they were not to bow."

WASHINGTON read his historic address. It was brief. He handed his commission to the president of Congress. Then, as Mr. McKeldin writes:

"Washington bowed."

The enlightening foreword to

the book was written by Ex-Senator George L. Radcliffe, president of the Maryland Historical Society.

MR. MCKELDIN writes well. His book belongs in every school room in the nation and in every public library.

The book contains photographs of the old Senate chamber, where Washington resigned; the State House in Annapolis as it appears today, Mr. McKeldin presenting a small Maryland flag to President Eisenhower and a reproduction of the painting showing Washington resigning his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.