

quickly as possible to set up a permanent State Democratic Headquarters. This headquarters will be staffed with full-time personnel, who will be available to help Democratic workers from all over the State This headquarters will serve as an information center, a clearing house for ideas, and a permanent place for Democrats from all over Maryland to meet and to work I hope before too long that the headquarters will be able to send out useful material on a regular basis—material that will be helpful in organizational work, in dispensing information among party members, and in previewing the issues of the 1960 campaign.

With the establishment of a staffed headquarters, we can begin well in advance to lay the ground-work for an impressive victory in 1960. And let me emphasize to you that Maryland Democrats have a tremendous responsibility in the 1960 campaign.

We have now had eight years of Republican control of the national administration Eight years of typical Republican policies—policies characterized by foot-dragging on things that help the little fellow and crashing ahead with things that are favorable to the big boys While the administration vetoes Democratic efforts to provide adequate housing and urban renewal programs, they callously ask for higher and higher interest rates which pile debts on the back of the average citizens while fattening the coffers of the already well-to-do.

Remember, too, my fellow Democrats, that the Republicans in recent times have always come to power by putting a quasi-Republican at the head of their ticket Then, in the shelter of this front man, the old Neanderthal wing of their party continues its hatchet work in the Congress and in the federal agencies. . . . Yes, there is no doubt about it, we Democrats are facing a most important and a very tough 1960 campaign We did well in the off-year elections; but the real test of our ability can only occur in a Presidential election year If we Democrats in Maryland want to feel secure in our 1958 election victory; if we want to be sure that our Party's position in this State rests on a truly solid foundation—then we have got to go out and bring back a triumph in November, 1960.

This election year, in particular, the American people are going to be glued to their television sets in fascination as the Democratic Convention at Los Angeles goes about the business of picking our Presidential candidate This year the Democratic presidential nomination is more wide open than it has been at any time in the recent past A number of very able men, who have risen high in our Party are already either openly or unofficially seeking the nomination