

that should Senator Kennedy feel that to enter the Maryland primary would enhance his prospects as a presidential candidate, I certainly would defer to his analysis of his own personal situation and, despite my expressed views, would welcome him as a candidate in our primary. I hope to explore this matter further with the Senator after he has given public affirmation of his candidacy, which he tells me will be done shortly after the first of the year.

I have no desire and no intention of entering such a primary myself. I feel that Senator Kennedy and I share common views on **many important subjects which concern our Party and our nation.**

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ADDRESS, NATIONAL WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB

WASHINGTON

October 29, 1959

It is to me, as I am sure it is to others, a great delight to come here to talk public affairs and political matters, with the members of the National Women's Democratic Club and their guests. You have paid me a high honor by asking me to be present and speak to you today. Politically speaking, let me say at the outset, the year of 1958 was one of the most eventful ones in the history of the Democratic Party in Maryland.

When your Board of Governors assigned a topic for me to discuss at this meeting, I was pleased that it thought I should talk about "Maryland's Heritage and Objectives," but I must confess it also frightened me a little. I was pleased because it offered me the opportunity to speak proudly of Maryland's past and present and confidently of its future; I was frightened because of the magnitude of the task of treating properly a subject so broad and all-embracing. Your chairman of Regional Events offered me a certain amount of what she termed "free range" on points to be covered under the topic and hinted that this assemblage of Democratic women might not be averse to hearing a little politics. I am practical enough to believe that Maryland's past has been affected by its politics and that its future will continue to be influenced by the political affiliation of the men and women it chooses for public office.

I, therefore, do not believe that I may be accused justly of blind partisanship if I attempt to identify our Democratic Party with some of the finest of Maryland traditions and assert that in my belief my