

The high quality of racing itself is the main consideration; the revenues derived therefrom, as important as they are, are of secondary significance.

As Governor of the State, I have a deep and abiding interest in maintaining racing of the highest calibre so that Maryland's relative position, always at or near the top, may not be sacrificed. We are most grateful, therefore, to the men who have operated the Laurel Race Course for the contributions they have made over five decades for the betterment of the sport. Particularly is this true of the past ten years, during which time the once-modest plant at Laurel was transformed into a race track which compares favorably with the best in the country. Credit for this, of course, must go to Mr. John D. Schapiro and to the group of enthusiastic far-sighted men associated with him in this bold enterprise.

It is impossible to exaggerate the tremendous impact of the Washington, D.C. International upon Maryland racing. This exciting, unique classic of international racing has made Laurel and Maryland bywords in the language of sportsmen in every nation of the world where the sport of horse racing is enjoyed. Its establishment ten years ago was the point of departure for real resurgence of interest in racing in Maryland. All of us, therefore, are much indebted to Mr. Schapiro and his associates at Laurel for this most successful venture, which was achieved, we know, not without a generous outlay of money, a tremendous expenditure of effort and a considerable amount of patience. And so, I am highly honored to be able to join with the members and guests of the National Press Club in paying tribute to the men who have guided the destinies of the Laurel Race Course over the past 50 years.

REMARKS, ADVERTISING CLUB,
COLT LUNCHEON

BALTIMORE

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I was delighted when, a few days ago, I received a letter from your program chairman inviting me here to join with the members of the Advertising Club of Baltimore and their guests to salute and pay tribute to a great professional athletic team. I am—as I assume everyone else here is—a loyal and ardent fan of the Baltimore Colts. I can say