

have today—and this Model Legislature in which you are taking part—are as old in tradition as the English system of legislative government which dates back to the Magna Charta of 1213.

I hope that meetings here in this old State House, itself so rich in history, will be an inspiration to all of you to work diligently for the preservation of a heritage so noble and glorious. But so much for things of the past. Let us talk about the present and the future.

It is most encouraging to me to see young people like yourselves manifesting such a keen interest in the processes of government. You have been chosen to come here to this Youth Model Legislature on the strength of your leadership, and thus you have already demonstrated your capacity to become responsible citizens of your local communities, your State and your nation. I know that you will derive lasting benefits from your experience in these halls. Benjamin D'Israeli, the nineteenth century British statesman, called the youth of his nation the "trustees of posterity." May I enjoin you to consider yourselves as just that—to think of yourselves as the guardians of the future of Maryland and of this Republic. Upon your shoulders, within a very few years, will fall the heavy responsibility of enacting, enforcing and administering the laws under which your State is governed.

The rewards you receive from your training here at this Model Legislature will be bountiful. You will learn by experience the machinery of government, and from that experience you will equip yourselves to handle the problems and bear the responsibilities of the future. You will, in short, prepare yourselves for good citizenship, and, since good citizenship produces good government, your communities and the State as a whole will benefit from your activities here.

REMARKS ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE FREEDOM SHRINE FROM THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF BALTIMORE

April 18, 1961

I accept with great pleasure, on behalf of the people of the State of Maryland, this "Freedom Shrine" so generously donated by the Exchange Club of Baltimore.

The people of the State will be most grateful to this great organization for these authentic reproductions of the most hallowed docu-