

State, I frequently reflect upon decisions I have made and the effect they have had, or will have, upon the lives of the people of Maryland. Being human, I cannot be comforted by concluding that all of these effects will be beneficial. On the contrary, I am keenly aware of the fact that I have made my share of mistakes and errors. I would like to think, however, that my record of judicial appointments, including the appointment of trial magistrates, will be adjudged a good one.

Hammurabi, the king of Babylon, writing about 2100 years before Christ, said of himself, "I established law and justice in the land." This was the great king's proudest accomplishment. I hope that in its judgment of me posterity will be able to say that in a small way at least I improved law and justice in this State. If so, credit must go to persons like yourselves into whose hands fell the responsibility of the administration of justice.

I am indeed grateful to the officers and members of this Association for inviting me to attend this banquet. It has been most enjoyable. This is the last of your annual banquets that I shall attend as Governor of the State. By way of a swan song, let me say that I deeply appreciate the help you have given me—that I have greatly enjoyed my association with you—that you have my best wishes for the fullest measure of happiness and success in the years ahead.

STATEMENT, "LAW DAY, U.S.A."

ANNAPOLIS

May 1, 1966

In all the annals of recorded history, no nation has ever achieved the prosperity and the strength which is America's today. Our unprecedented wealth and power are, of course, attributable to many things, but none more than to its system of laws, which has made this nation the acknowledged leader of the free world.

In founding the nation and framing its Constitution, Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Hamilton, the Carrolls, and Madison all drew on the systems of law which man had created from the earliest civilization. They forged for American the greatest document ever devised by a people for governing itself, and quickly added to that a chronicle of the rights of man that will forever ring out, as long as man aspires to liberty and freedom: the Bill of Rights.