

that 1,159 boys were sent home during the same period. This means that each one of you may look forward to an early return to your homes and communities, if you earn such privilege under the school's citizenship program, of course. This record also means that the school can provide more service to a larger number of boys.

I am deeply impressed by the appearance of the buildings and the total campus of the Maryland Training School for Boys. For this, I offer my sincere congratulations and commendations to you boys, as well as to the administration of the school. This is an institution in which the State of Maryland takes great pride, and I know that it is not without some considerable hard work on the part of the boys and the staff that it is kept in such excellent condition. As Governor, I feel a deep sense of pride in all that Maryland does well. You have done well here and are deserving of the very highest commendation for your successful efforts.

I am sure you all know that hard work has a purpose, and in a very large measure is its own reward. And hard work is good for everyone—for grown-ups and boys alike. In the months ahead, many of you in this audience will be returning to your communities. I am sure I need not tell you that it is never an easy task to make this transition—that it cannot, in fact, be done successfully without a great deal of preparation and without the fullest cooperation of the families, the courts and other agencies and, of course, of the individual boy himself. This, indeed, is the test of the Maryland Training School for Boys and its program. Each boy here will be given the opportunity to prove to the school, to the community and, most importantly, to himself that he has earned the right to take his place in the State as a young citizen.

Life can be difficult, it is true, for all of us. But it is consoling and encouraging to know that it has not difficulties which are unbearable, no obstacles which cannot be overcome and no problems which cannot be solved with sufficient willingness and determination. The records of this school will show that an overwhelming majority of the boys who have received training here have passed this test successfully. Is there any reason for us to think that all of you here cannot do as well? I am sure there is not. And so, it is my sincere hope, my fervent wish, that every boy in this audience will keep that fact in mind. I earnestly hope, also, that all of you will face the future with confidence and with the determination to be even more successful than the many thousands of boys who over the past forty years have left this campus to enrich their communities, their State and their nation as citizens in the business world, in industry, in the military and in the professional field.