

Maryland reflects the diversity that gave to America its greatness. We are many people. We are many races, religions and national origins. We are a tidewater people and a mountain people. We are a people born to rich farmlands and a people reared in the teeming tempo of city streets. We are different kinds of people, each individual and unique, *but united in our common love of freedom, our common respect for human liberty, our common passion for law and order, and our common faith in the future.* A constitution for the State of Maryland is in every respect a constitution for each of the State's united citizens.

So now begin the great work knowing that what you attempt has been tried before and that what you will accomplish must serve as law and letter to a society yet to come. Let principle be chapter and verse of the new constitution and let brevity attest to the clarity of its pronouncement.

Let every political passion be expressed, but let logic, compromise and principle prevail.

Let remembrance of the past give direction, let understanding of the present provide confidence, and let vision of the future offer inspiration.

Lay shoulder to the great points, knowing as did Thomas Jefferson that the little ones will follow.

Let the wisdom of our nation's enduring Constitution be your example.

And let these Biblical proverbs be your creed:

"Behold, a good doctrine has been given unto you; forsake it not.

"It is a tree of life to them that hold fast to it, and its supporters are happy.

"Its ways are ways of pleasantness and all its paths are peace."

NEWS CONFERENCE

July 13, 1967

There was no opening statement by the Governor.

Q. Were you happy with the organization of the Constitutional Convention?