

proper psychiatric treatment — I plan to recommend a moderate across-the-board increase in alcoholic beverage taxes. The exact details will be formulated after consultation with representatives of the alcoholic beverages industry, but I would anticipate that the increases would be minimal and still leave Maryland's alcohol tax structure in a favorable position with other states. And I would sincerely hope that the alcoholic beverage industry will cooperate fully in order to show its recognition of the problem and its willingness to help solve it.

REMARKS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MID-ATLANTIC
ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS,
BALTIMORE

January 8, 1968

Gentlemen:

I thank you for having me as your guest today. I have long admired the work you do and want you to know that you have destroyed my confidence ever to break a hundred.

Six years ago, before I started to play golf, before I even knew I owned a natural slice, I was a peaceable man of reasonably sound mind and equilibrium, not subject to thoughts of self destruction, enjoying things much less complex than trying to plink a little white ball into a little green cup. There was a time when I thought relaxing was reading a book not written by Palmer or Nicklaus. There was even a time, and I can still remember it, when I would spend all of every Sunday with my wife and family.

I didn't think about golf. I figured it was something people did when they didn't have anything better to do. Besides, I was just becoming active in politics. And golf, my political instincts warned me, went out in 1960 at the end of its second term.

I think about my pre-golf days many times. I think about them when I am with people. I think about them when I am all alone — in the rough. I have walked parts of some courses their superintendents haven't even motored through. I even think about my pre-golf days on the few occasions my ball discovers a fairway. They were sane days. They were good days.