

The time will soon come when there will have to be reviewed and eliminated, or certainly simplified, much of the administrative procedure surrounding the activities of these bodies.

I have not attempted to cover all of the possible uses to which this group might be put. Doubtless other questions have already suggested themselves to the members or will in the future suggest themselves. If so, that will serve only to demonstrate the worthwhileness of this set-up. I want to invite and encourage the greatest number of suggestions and recommendations, from the consideration and discussion of which I am certain we can find for the functioning of the State Government.

I conclude by stating that we can use this mechanism for the betterment of the State. That, undoubtedly, was the reason for its creation. With it available to us, it would seem apparent that there is an obligation and a duty resting upon us to employ to the fullest extent this available means of giving the public a better product, without additional expense. If we can accomplish this desired result, I am sure our time will have been well spent.

COMMEMORATION OF SIDNEY LANIER

February 13, 1940

Baltimore

MARYLAND honors itself in doing honor to the memory of one who, though not a Marylander by birth, is claimed to be a part of our State by adoption and by affection.

In giving evidence of a desire that Sidney Lanier received deserved recognition by inclusion in the Hall of Fame, we are motivated by an inclination to have the rest of the Country, and indeed the world, share the pleasure and satisfaction which flow from the understanding and appreciation of a true genius and his works. Free acknowledgment is made that our sister State of Georgia can claim justly that it was the scene of the birth of the poet. Maryland desires modestly but emphatically to register its tribute, which can be expressed most fittingly by a people under whose eyes he has displayed his talents, for Maryland's culture bears the indelible impress of his outstanding ability and noted accomplishments.

While Georgia and Maryland have special claims upon the memory of Sidney Lanier, he belongs, in the widest sense, to the whole continent wherein he was born. His place among the "Major American Poets" is acclaimed as heartily in Canada as it is in Texas and memorials to him have been established in more than twenty cities throughout the length and breadth of America, from Florida to California.

In nominating Sidney Lanier as a worthy addition to the Hall of Fame, Maryland feels that it is not asking favor, but is discharging its duty, in seeking to perpetuate further the noble sentiments and worthwhile pursuits which the higher arts cultivate for mankind.

Any student of the poet's works must admit that Lanier's standing cannot be improved or disproved by this or any other similar assemblage. His record is written and it speaks for itself. In other words, I mean to say that Sidney