

will give me, more genuine pleasure and satisfaction than are attendant upon my presence here today. I feel that I am deeply indebted to your Board of Visitors, and to Mr. Ignatius Bjorlee, your Superintendent and Principal, for their consideration in suggesting my appearance before you today. An occasion such as this strikes a truly responsive chord in my nature.

One of the things about your school which impresses me most favorably is the high regard in which it is held unflinching by the citizens of this Country. This is due, undoubtedly, to the behavior of the pupils, to their fine morale and to the generally satisfactory atmosphere that prevails throughout the institution. Such county-wide approval, moreover, is a splendid tribute to those in charge of the school, and particularly to Professor Bjorlee, whose work among you for the past twenty years has attracted attention throughout the Country.

Under your splendid faculty the pupils have, for the past two decades, been the recipients of the most up-to-date education thought that has been developed for such schools as yours. I can truthfully say that the administrative officials of the State are particularly gratified at the way this institution is functioning, and that we have the utmost confidence that under the present staff the pupils of this school are receiving, and will continue to receive, the very finest education and training that could possibly be provided.

This is your graduation day, it is an important event in the lives of you young people. For some of you, no doubt, it is but a stepping stone to further educational opportunities. To others, however, it may mean the termination of your formal education, as a prelude to your entrance into the serious business of making a living.

Today, you are filled with ideals. Tomorrow, in the struggle for a living in which you will find yourself, it may be difficult at times to maintain unsullied the ideals which you cherish so fervently now.

You will find it an involved, uncertain world into which you will be entering. You will find confusion of thought. You will find, too, all sorts of new theories prevalent with regard to government. And you will have to be on your guard, because many of these new ideas are phrased so skillfully as to deceive you, if possible, into accepting them as panaces for all the ills that beset the world today. Many of the new doctrines flatly refute the American concept that government is for the people and that the State was created for its citizens and not the citizens for the State.

You will meet with people in the daily course of your lives who will try to convince you that the government owes you a living, and that you are foolish if you don't rely entirely on this promise, instead of striving vainly to carve out a place in the world for yourself. But there is no reason for pessimism; to the contrary the future can hold much of promise and attraction.

Fortunately, in your years here in Maryland School, the traditions of our State, and the doctrines of true democracy have been inculcated into you. As you go through life, it will be your duty not only to live according to these American principles, but it is also incumbent upon you to spread the knowledge of, and belief in, these principles, so that instead of falling before the onslaughts of disloyal people and subversive doctrines, our Country may, on the contrary, grow stronger and preserve for ages unborn, the salutary principles that have made it the wonderful land that it is.

In all the clamor abroad in the world today for more and more participation of government in all the activities of its people, and looking towards