

Our State has benefited appreciably from the fine contributions of principle, idealism and good citizenship made by citizens of Polish stock, and I wish to say that Maryland is proud of them.

Appropriate is it, too, that the ceremonies connected with the laying of the cornerstone of this monument should be held at this time. Because yesterday, May 3rd, was a day of historical and patriotic significance to people of Polish birth and descent throughout the world, celebrating, as it does, the anniversary of the establishment of the Polish Constitution of Independence and Freedom.

As Governor of Maryland it was my happy privilege to participate in the arrangements that necessarily preceded the beginning of this very laudable movement. It was my privilege too, to make available, and this I did most gladly, the appropriation of \$15,000 as the State's contribution to this memorial.

The Polish Colony of Maryland may well be proud of this first distinguished member of their race who gave his all in the cause of American liberty. This monument, so dear to their hearts, situated in their very midst, you might say, will serve as a continuing reminder to them as well as to all the residents of our State of the glorious part played in the history of our State and Nation by former citizens of Poland, and their many thousands of descendants now residents or former citizens of our State.

Finally, may I say that this monument will see the day when it will be the rallying point around which joyful Americans will assemble to celebrate the reestablishment and international recognition of Poland, the splendid record of which country has been one to inspire admiration and noble aspirations for not only other European nations, but even our own beloved United States.