



HARRY HUGHES
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21404

'AN ARTICULATE, AUDIBLE VOICE'

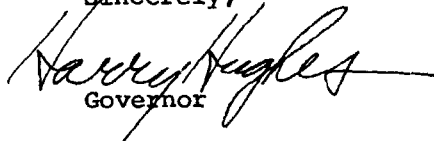
"In books," Thomas Carlyle reminded us more than a century ago, "lies the soul of the whole past time: the articulate, audible voice of the past, when the body and material substance of it has altogether vanished like a dream."

In this book, A Review of the Meetings of Presidential Electors in Maryland 1789-1980, lies much of the soul of that glorious past shaped by those who founded and perpetuated this Nation. The material substance of their past has, indeed, vanished like a dream. But their basic dream of a place where all citizens are free and where government derives its powers from the consent of the governed is now reality and remains a beacon of hope for oppressed peoples throughout the world.

An essential part of our noble past has been the quadrennial assemblage of electors chosen by their fellow citizens to cast ballots formalizing the election of the President of the United States. This remarkable book preserves that chapter of our glorious past by capturing the essence of every meeting of those electors from the first to the last. Through it runs the golden thread of continuity, from the birth of our Nation to its most recent past.

It is, in the truest sense, an "articulate, audible voice," and we are deeply indebted to those diligent historians who have enabled us to hear its clear and inspirational voice ring throughout the following pages.

Sincerely,


Governor