

this infant country, the right to live in peace and to work out their program of life in freedom. Never forget the hundreds of thousands of people from practically every country of the world who have come to us for the opportunities not open to them in their own lands, and who have joined hands with our forefathers to build up this country into the greatest nation on the face of the world.

Take away with you today, along with your diploma, the full appreciation of the fact that you were educated at Maryland, that you have been privileged to drink at the fountain of Maryland education and tradition. Let it stand for something important in your life, something of transcending importance, that you have inherited a tradition of education, and of thought, that is none too prevalent throughout the world. Keep alive this tradition, that can be preserved to posterity only as it is guarded zealously and put into everyday practice, by the now relatively few on the face of the earth who still hold to the principle that man has been given certain inalienable rights, among them the right to the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness.

As Governor of the State of Maryland, and as one who appreciates deeply the problems that face you as you prepare to set out along your various paths through life, I can only emphasize again the importance of holding fast to first principles. After all, there are certain ways of life, and only these certain ways, open to men and women of principle, such as you who are being graduated. There will be times when many if not all of you will be faced with decisions that will affect vitally your way of life, opportunities will be presented to you to benefit by sacrificing one or more of the principles that you know to be right.

Your professors here, those at home who have worked along with you, and possibly sacrificed much that you might have the advantage of this education, will not be at your side forever, to help you or to advise you. Henceforth, you are on your own. Your decisions are your own, and you are the one who will have to abide by them.

If you remember your days here at Maryland, if you keep sacred in your minds the things for which Maryland stands, and always has stood, then you need have no fear for your future. You may not be financial successes, or business or professional successes, as the world counts success. But if you are true to your own principles, if you can preserve unsullied the tenets of decency, of toleration, of fair play and of loyalty to man and country that you have received here at Maryland, you will enjoy the kind of success that after all is the most important success. And with this I say, God speed you, and may you all be the credit to yourselves, your families and your State that at this moment Maryland wants you to be.