

It shall be my pleasure to be available and at the service of the Legislature and of its individual members and to assist it and them in every way within my power. My sincere desire is to be helpful. My only wish is to cooperate to the end that the session may be fruitful of constructive results for our beloved State.

And now is concluding this address, my fellow citizens, may I ask your confidence and support in exchange for which I can only dedicate myself to the public service which lies ahead. We stand today at the threshold of a new tomorrow for our State. God grant us all the vision to distinguish the great things, to do them in effective ways, and to maintain the courage to carry out what we know should be done even though it be difficult to do. Let us, together, so arrange the affairs of the great State of Maryland that never again will we need take second place in the Union. Let petty considerations be ignored while we, as fellow citizens, become interested in the continued progress of our State along every forward-looking line.

Let us grapple with our problems with steadfast purpose encouraged by the incentive that no difficulties are so great that the united efforts of well-intentioned people cannot solve them.

With reliance upon God and with the interests of our State at heart, may we now proceed in united activity, to effect worthy accomplishments for Maryland.

FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Governor O'Connor Presiding

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In these days, when so much comment is heard relative to the Federal Government's participation in matters formerly reserved to the States, it is timely to suggest that the States themselves might be to blame, in some degree, for not showing an ability to master the pressing problems of this age. Undoubtedly, the sovereignty of the States can be preserved and, at the same time, the States could keep abreast of the development of social needs, if the State Governments prove their capacity to measure up to present day obligations.

In other words, it seems apparent that the State Governments are on trial. They must prove that they are capable of meeting the complicated questions pressing forward for solution. The States ought not to content themselves with complaining about Federal intervention. Officials of State Governments will render greater service by showing that Federal intervention is not always necessary because the States can handle their own problems to the satisfaction of their own people.

One of the most important questions facing the States is that which forms the subject of today's conference under the auspices of the Council of State Governments. It concerns Interstate Trade Barriers. When many of the world's greatest problems are being properly or improperly laid at the doors