

THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION

Emerson Hotel
September 18, 1942
Baltimore

My first reaction to the notification of nomination by this Convention is one of sincere appreciation. It would be appreciation of a pleasant assignment for which my personal thanks would be extended were it not for the seriousness of the entire situation.

However, before making any observation of my own, commendation must be expressed as to the manner which this Convention has functioned. The keynote address of the temporary Chairman, F. Murray Benson, was of such a high order that the Democratic Party can point to it proudly as a re-statement of ideals and purposes which justify the support of the public.

The able administration by Mr. James Clark of his duties as permanent Chairman also deserves our thanks. Mr. Edgar Allen Poe, as on previous occasions, has generously placed my name in nomination. In view of the fact that his predictions of success were borne out in the prior instances, I consider it particularly fortunate that the nomination was advanced by this outstanding citizen. Those who in making the seconding speeches indicated their approval of the record thus far have our lasting gratitude.

I desire to pay added tribute to those acknowledged leaders of our Party who have graced this occasion by their presence and participation. Included among these is the war-time Governor of Maryland, the Honorable Emerson C. Harrington. Another is the leading Party members are our two United States Senators, Millard E. Tydings and George L. Radcliffe.

The Party Platform adopted by the Delegates to this Convention is a statesmanlike document which is a challenge to our best efforts. While it is gratifying to us of the present Administration, that approval is expressed of the past, the Platform is more significant in its clarion call to duty in the trying times which lie ahead. To the Delegates and to all citizens I express my readiness to stand upon this Platform and to strive conscientiously, if elected, to carry out its various pledges.

Realizing as we do that the accomplishments of such a Platform require much more than the action of one man, it is most encouraging to have as my running mates two such well-qualified and proven officials as Attorney General William C. Walsh and Comptroller J. Millard Tawes. The exemplary record of the Attorney General and the competent administration of the Comptroller combine to give assurance of their continued success after they are elected to another term.