

grateful, too, to the National Wildlife Federation and to the Sears-Roebuck Foundation for sponsoring this banquet and these awards.

Once again, let me offer my congratulations and commendations to those of you who are receiving these awards for the contributions you have made to conservation in Maryland.

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ADDRESS, MARYLAND SCENIC BEAUTY COMMISSION

ANNAPOLIS

February 8, 1966

Mr. Anderson, members of the Maryland Scenic Beauty Commission, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

The public interest in beauty and the public acceptance of the role of government in the creation and preservation of the things that appeal to our esthetic sense are among the remarkable occurrences of the age in which we live. Government no longer confines its activities to the health, the safety, the education, the general welfare of the people it serves. It must plan and execute projects with the purpose of ministering to the needs of the people for that which possesses beauty. It is recognition of the Biblical maxim that man does not live by bread alone, and it proceeds a step beyond that maxim to hold that society itself is obligated to make it possible for individuals to have that which transcends the ordinary and the useful.

Your presence here at this luncheon today is an example of this changed attitude of the public toward the part government is to play in the creation and the preservation of beauty. The scope of the activities of this Commission is impressive. As the agenda for this meeting shows, your interest encompasses highway beautification, design and construction, urban, suburban and rural esthetics, scenic land and rest areas, open space and recreational facilities, and so on. You oppose, as ugly and objectionable, such things as unsightly junkyards and road signs, air and water pollution, litter and waste and weeds and noxious plants.

Although this concept of beauty as another function of government represents, in a sense, a departure from the traditional concept of government's role, it is not difficult to see that ugliness — or the absence of beauty — does in a very direct way affect the health, the safety and the general welfare of the people. The cluttering of our