

a steady, continuing improvement in the quality and caliber of State personnel under the merit system. This has been accompanied, as we all would expect, by a constantly increasing efficiency in the operations of State departments, agencies and institutions. It has been quite gratifying to me to observe that the merit system, which has been in operation in the State government and in the government of Baltimore City for many years, is being extended to other jurisdictions of Maryland. This, to me, is a most encouraging trend and one I hope will continue.

The two organizations represented at this joint conference — the Public Personnel Association and the Society for Public Administration — have established for themselves high aims and high purposes. The former proclaims its devotion to fostering and developing sound personnel administration in the public service based on the principles of the merit system. The latter hopes to improve management in the public service through the exchange, development and dissemination of information about the public service. These are lofty goals, the attainment of which will result in better government for the people we serve.

I note with interest and approval that the theme of this joint conference is "Achieving Excellence in the Public Service Through Improved Personnel Administration." I hope that each person here will leave this conference today with more skills and a better knowledge of how the agency which he represents may attain the highest possible excellence in public service. May I conclude by saying once more that I deeply appreciate your cordiality and your hospitality and that I wish each of you the fullest measure of success and happiness in the jobs you perform for the people.

REMARKS ON ACCEPTANCE OF 1964 SIMCHA AWARD
BY LODGE NO. 771, B'NAI B'RITH

STEVENSON

October 27, 1964

Thank you, Dr. Elkins, Mr. Liss, Mr. Moss, Mr. Potts, other officers, members and friends of Menorah Lodge No. 771, B'nai B'rith, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I have no words which would adequately express the profound