FRIENDS, FRIENDS ALL--

The first thing I want to do is to read a letter, addressed to the president by the Governor of Ohio, who regrettably is not with us today in person but assured me yesterday that he would be with us in spirit and sent this letter addressed to President Enarson, which the president has authorized me to read.

The letter reads:

"As Governor of the State of Ohio, it is a great pleasure for me to congratulate you on your inauguration as President of Ohio's largest university. On behalf of all citizens, I extend my best wishes for a long and successful term in office. Sincerely, John J. Gilligan, Governor of Ohio."

And now again, my friends--

I am addressing no one as a distinguished guest nor as a very important person, no one more distinguished or more important, than anyone else here today. We are all here today as members of a family, the great family of The Ohio State University, and we are all distinguished, we are all distingushed by our relationship within that family. Some of us are students about to be graduated as bachelors, others are
graduates of this and other universities about to enter the sacred precincts of higher learning as masters and doctors, while others are members of the natural families of those men and women -- fathers, mothers, grandfathers, grandmothers, aunts, uncles, cousins, brothers, sisters, boyfriends, girlfriends and just people of good will and affection, all of whom come together as our University family today. We come together just as families do everywhere in the world for weddings, funerals, Bar Mitzvahs, christenings, confirmations and other familial events, because this is a day of a special moment to our University family. Only eight times before has there been such a day. Today will be the ninth time when the University family comes together for such a meaningful family occasion. I stand before you to officiate at this occasion on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as the immediate past chairman of that Board, whose high honor it was to serve as chairman of the Board when our president was chosen after a long and agonizing search for a successor to a beloved man who served as president for many years and decided then that he wanted to retire. The Board promptly named a Search Committee, representative of every constituency of this University, to help the Board to seek a new president.

On the platform today is a man who served as chairman of the Search Committee when it completed its work and made its recommendation to the Board of Trustees, Mr. Jacob Davis, himself a former chairman of the Board, who as chairman of
the Search Committee succeeded in that office another former chairman of the Board, Mr. John G. Ketterer, who had resigned. Also on the platform today are Dr. Margaret Mordy and Dean Lloyd Parks, of the Search Committee, and in the audience are other members of the Committee. The Search Committee presented the Board with a final panel of recommendations after days and nights of searing analysis, interviews and conscientious exercise of judgment. The Board then unanimously chose as president the man whom we will formally induct into office today. Our choice of him over the others, with all due respect to them, was made on the basis of credentials and considerations which recommended him above the others. They include scholarly attainments, commitment to public service, even as an assistant to a President of the United States, and as an assistant to other high public officials. He has also a great richness of experience in university administration, including a notable period as president of Cleveland State University. And probably without admitting it even to ourselves, the Board considered also that his wife would lend special grace and service to our great university. Boards of Trustees of universities and colleges are among the very few employers who, for the payment of one salary, get two employees likely to render comparable service.

After receiving an indication of willingness to accept the office of president of this University from Harold Enarson, the Board adopted a formal resolution conferring upon him the
authority to perform the duties of the office, and conferring also the rights, privileges, and perquisites of the office, which he then assumed on September first, under that civil license granted by the Board, and since then he has performed the duties expected of him. In the time intervening since September, we have come to know him, not merely from the credentials which the Search Committee and the Board examined, but we have come to know him from his private and public acts as president as a compassionate and devoted human being, devoted not merely to those to whom he has been given a responsibility in education, but devoted to his fellows to whom he recognizes responsibility as children of God. So today on this occasion when our University family is together we solemnize his civil appointment with a modest ritual of commitment to the presidency of our Alma Mater, our Alma Mater as the natural mother of some of us, and as the adopted mother of others, like me, loving her all the more. Without any reservation, therefore, and with confidence that the choice our Board made in April is right in December, I now ask Mr. Davis, Dr. Mordy, Mr. Pappas, Mr. Riffe and Mr. Zedick as representatives of the several constituencies of this University, to bring Harold L. Enarson forward for induction into the office of president —

Dr. Enarson, by virtue of authority vested by law in the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University as its governing body, on behalf of the Chairman of the Board and the Vice
Chairman of the Board who are unable to be here today, and on behalf of all the members of the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University and in accordance with the by-laws and statutes of The Ohio State University and on behalf of the people of Ohio, I declare you, Harold L. Enarson, are now the ninth president of The Ohio State University with all the duties and responsibilities incumbent upon you in that high office and with all the rights, privileges, perquisites and prerogatives of that office. The Board of Trustees, speaking for the people of Ohio and for the Governor of Ohio and for the General Assembly of Ohio, installs you today with utmost confidence in your ability to lead every constituency of this University family and this Board assures you of its unstinting support. It would be hoped that, in addition to leading your associates in fulfilling their aspirations for scholarship and inculcating the knowledge of the arts and sciences, that in so far as you can conscientiously and lawfully do so, you will instill the wholesome and homely virtues which have abided with this University and made it great -- love of God, love of country, love of family, love of one another, and respect for self and respect for law and order, and it will be expected of you, Harold Enarson, that you will give an accounting of your stewardship from time to time.

Now, in witness of your succession to the office of the president of The Ohio State University I shall confer upon you the medallion of that high office.
Harold, this is a personal satisfaction to me. And in conclusion, I say --

MAY GOD SPEED!