

Office of the President

April 13, 1972

[Remarks by President Donald D. O'Dowd at the dinner honoring the table tennis players from the Peoples' Republic of China.]

On behalf of all the members of Oakland University, it is a great pleasure to welcome to this house our most distinguished guests, the delegates from the Peoples' Republic of China, the members of the United States Host Committee, and the members of the press corps.

It is an honor for us to be part of the stage on which the opening ceremonies of welcome to the United States are taking place and to share with you part of our exciting, young university.

This home, Meadow Brook Hall, stands as a remarkable example of wealth and energy unselfishly donated to higher education. Our benefactors asked that this gracious home be transformed into a cultural and educational center to serve all the citizens of Michigan. I am most pleased that the cultural and historic significance of this moment fulfills the hopes of the donors.

I am proud that my words are being translated by David Johnson, an Oakland University student, for he is a member of the outstanding group of students and faculty that constitutes our exceptional China studies program.

April 13, 1972

We wish to take this opportunity to present to the members of the Chinese delegation a modest offering that contains some mementos of Meadow Brook Hall and Oakland University.

This is a collection of stationery and stamps that we hope will prove to be practical and, at the same time, symbolic of our new era of communication.

Once again, we thank you for visiting our university.

It is now my pleasure to introduce to you . . .

#

[DDO'D:bjg]