

popular subject of taxes, I know that a corporation of this size and this importance will freely assume its share of the responsibility of financing government, — at local, state and federal levels.

Within five years, as I have indicated, the industry will inject, through its payroll alone, \$2,250,000 into the economies of Brandywine, Prince George's County and the State of Maryland. Moreover, it will create new markets for some of Maryland's natural resources, as well as for the semi-finished products of other Maryland industries. The products of the Eastern Schokcrete Corporation will add refinement and decorative qualities to the architecture of the Baltimore, Washington and Richmond areas.

It is a clean industry, polluting neither the air we breathe nor the water we drink or use for recreation and sanitation. Its products fill the needs of new development in modern architecture and building construction. For all these reasons — and many more perhaps — the people of Maryland rejoice that the Eastern Schokcrete Corporation has decided to build this plant here.

Since it began its operation, the Department of Economic Development played a direct role in persuading 36 new plants to find a home in Maryland. This, I understand, is the 72nd meeting of the Commission, and thus, by calculation, we see that at every other meeting the Commission has been able to announce that it has played a part in the location of another industrial plant in our State. These 36 industries collectively have created more than 8,000 jobs, with annual payrolls of more than \$72 million and an investment in buildings and equipment of \$37 million. I can say to the members of the Commission, and to the representatives of the Department of Economic Development, that I can think of no investment that has been made in State Government during my term that has paid higher dividends than the investment we have made in the development of the economy of our State.

It is the erection of plants such as this that fortifies our conviction that Maryland's economic future is assured. Some time ago, the Department of Economic Development began the practice of presenting our black-and-gold flag of Maryland to industries opening new plants such as this.

On behalf of the people of Maryland, Mr. Rothenhaus, it is my pleasure to present to you, as the President of the Eastern Schokcrete Corporation, this emblem of our State. It bears the Arms of the Lord Baltimore and thus symbolizes the rich tradition and the glorious history of our State.