

fact of inter-dependency, of the fact that common problems, common needs and common goals dictate cooperative efforts, that makes the formation of the tri-county council for Southern Maryland so logical and commendable, and makes it not merely desirable, but necessary, that we on the state level support its program, and that you on the local level cooperate in its activities and whole-heartedly endorse its aims and purposes.

It is apparent to all of you here tonight that the counties of Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's form a unit in terms of economic geography. Your terrain, your people, and your economies are similar. You share common problems and, most importantly, common opportunities. It is in order to cooperatively solve these problems and take advantage of these opportunities that you have formed this regional organization. In doing this you are demonstrating that you are alert to the realities of the modern world, for regionalism is the most rapidly emerging force in economic development in our nation.

Here in Maryland we are exhibiting this trend towards regionalism at a rapid pace. Within a few weeks, every non-metropolitan area in Maryland will be represented by some sort of a regional development organization. Last year the Delmarva Advisory Council was formed, with the participation and support of the Governors of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, at the request of the leading citizens of the Delmarva Peninsula. Very shortly we will announce the formation of a Western Maryland Development Organization, to insure that area's effective and continuing participation in the new federal-state Appalachian Regional Program — an effort which, as I am sure you know, began here in Maryland a little over five years ago. Central Maryland — the vast and densely populated Baltimore-Washington area, stretching in a broadspan more or less from the Susquehanna River all the way down to the Charles County line and the Annapolis area — has been engaged in regional development for many years, although perhaps not always in a formal and organized fashion.

But now that area's chief concern has shifted from "development" to "orderly growth". It has entered into the second phase of economic development, where concern over attracting new sources of wealth becomes subordinate to the problems created by rapidly increasing and shifting economic activity and the population growth it brings with it. In other words, Central Maryland is now confronted by a problem which may seem ironic — they are trying to avoid becoming the victims of their own success. And their best hope for effectively resolving this crisis lies in two organizations which, like your own