

The success of Tate Industries justifies admiration at any time, in any place — the fact that it has happened here in Maryland merits special acclaim. For Tate Industries is Maryland in origin and orientation and has remained loyal to Maryland in its development. Today, in presenting four State flags to fly over Tate Industries divisions, Maryland is symbolically saying “thank you” for your continued confidence and investment in our State’s economy.

While economic development is a primary goal of state government, we too often tend to stress the importance of attracting industry to Maryland. Naturally, we both seek and welcome new industry but Maryland’s bread-and-butter economic development still remains within our borders. It emanates from the steady success of Maryland’s industries and products which make internal expansion profitable. The fact that Maryland’s G.S.P. like G.N.P. is at an all time high — and that Maryland’s average personal income and civilian labor force have grown at a rate even exceeding the national average — is to the credit of our State’s industries. Certainly, Tate Industries has contributed appreciably to this expansive record and, in so doing, has proved two favorite Tate premises: private industry is important to our way of life and private industry — like the individual — can be a good citizen.

In its pace-setting contribution to Maryland’s economic development and in its progressive policies, Tate Industries reflects the character, philosophy and commitment of its guiding genius, Bob Tate. The French writer Flaubert once wrote; “Success, as I see it, is a result, not a goal” and I think this observation offers insight into Bob Tate’s achievements. Bob has always taken the time to care and do things right. He has served his community as well as his business, and his talents have benefited the public interest, as well as his private ones.

When I was County Executive of Baltimore County, I became convinced that a fresh viewpoint was urgently needed to guide and advise county government. A new era was upon us, bringing problems that defied old answers and parochial attitudes. I formed a committee called HEP (Help Evaluate Problems) which brought together some of the county’s best and brightest young minds to analyze critical county issues — a political perspective. Bob was chosen by me to be a member and by the Committee to be its chairman. One night each month HEP assembled to suggest modern policies to shape a modern, metropolitan county.

Planning a course is the key to assure model development. Without set plans, the best policies can be ineffectual. Bob Tate realized this