

out with his profit. He can still survive, since he does not hold great acreage of land for years at a time. The result will be the worst kind of haphazard development devoid of the planning necessary for a large modern integrated community.

The problem is indeed a difficult one. There is no doubt in my mind that the Committee on Taxation and Fiscal Matters looked long and hard for a solution before settling on this bill. I am equally certain that the members of this Committee, as well as many other members of the Legislature, realize that this bill is not the complete answer to the problem. And until we have that answer, I feel strongly that a piecemeal attack will only create additional difficulties which will require further legislation.

There are alternatives which have been suggested. The Committee on Taxation and Fiscal Matters in its report of 1963 recommended a roll-back procedure which is more equitable in operation and deserves further study. That Committee also saw as an alternative a capital gains tax which was instituted as part of the tax reform program last year. Likewise, the Commission on Agricultural Land Preservation has recognized the defects in Senate Bill 1 and has made several suggestions worth consideration in this area. The Commission was appointed pursuant to House Joint Resolution 20 of the 1967 session, and it seems only logical that they should have an opportunity to fully review the problems and solutions before a bill as far reaching as this one is enacted. I pledge that this administration will work with the Legislature and any other group interested in finding a complete solution to the problem. In my opinion, Senate Bill 1 is not that solution.

LETTER ANNOUNCING MARYLAND RETENTION OF
ASSATEAGUE STATE PARK*

May 7, 1968

The Honorable Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D. C.
Dear Secretary Udall:

Your reply to my letter requesting clarification on the future development of Assateague Island has been reviewed with interest, and the proposals you made at the meeting in your office have been studied in depth.