

MESSAGE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS

January 9, 1963

Senator Radcliffe, Governor McKeldin, Reverend members of the clergy, members of that State Senate and House of Delegates, distinguished guests and ladies and gentlemen:

It is with a deep sense of pride and humility that again I accept the responsibilities of the Office of Governor of Maryland. I do so with a grateful heart—fully aware of the trust and confidence that the people of this State have reposed in me. During the past four years, I have devoted myself to the fulfillment of my obligations as Chief Executive of this State with dignity and with the full realization that my actions as Governor strongly influence the future as well as the present conduct of State affairs. I shall continue to be guided by this realization. For it is my belief that the task that lies before us during the next four years is to lay the groundwork for the development of all our natural and human resources.

I believe that Maryland is on the threshold of a new era—an era that will witness the greatest expansion of physical and natural resources that has ever been seen in the history of our State. In a very real sense, we are witnessing in Maryland and throughout the nation a major transformation—a transformation that requires our best efforts if we are to cope with the problems that will arise in this and succeeding decades.

Four years ago, in my first inaugural address, I outlined the problems that faced my three immediate predecessors when they occupied the chair that I now hold. Governor O'Connor's task was to insure that the State rendered a maximum contribution to the war effort. To Governor Lane fell the job of rebuilding our State's services that of necessity, had taken second place to the major task of fighting and winning a world war. To Governor McKeldin fell the task of guiding our State through a period of intensified growth.

Today, we are faced with a combination of all the problems that faced those distinguished men. Let us then recognize the tasks that lie before us for only by recognizing them can we hope to solve them. It is true, of course, that our country no longer is engaged in a global war. But it is equally true, that we have not yet attained the peace that has been so elusive since the conclusion of that great conflict.

The question naturally arises as to what we here in Maryland can