

operate under a single board of trustees, of Morgan State College and of St. Mary's College.

Before we depart from the subject of education, I have these observations to make. The first is with regard to the institution of a program of educational television. It is most essential that we move ahead without further delay with the development of a state-wide educational television network to serve the educational and cultural needs of the people of our State. And then, because of an increase of nearly \$1 million in Federal funds, under 1965 amendments to the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act, the State will be able to step up its rehabilitation services to the mentally ill and retarded, to disabled children in schools and to disabled persons in correctional institutions.

HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

The good health of the people is of major concern of government at all levels, and our State Department of Health will continue next year, as it has in the years of the past, to broaden and keep up to date the numerous functions it performs. To finance adequately the department's program for the protection of the public health, I am recommending that the appropriations for the department next year be boosted by approximately \$11.5 million.

Time does not permit a recitation of all the activities in public health, but I should like to bring to your attention the fact that provision has been made in the program for fiscal 1967 to implement fully the Federal Medicare program which offers extensive medical care for older people and indigent persons whose income and resources are inadequate to meet the cost of medical services. To meet Federal requirements for participation in this program, I am recommending certain changes in our State medical care program, most of the cost of which will be borne by the Federal government.

I have observed with deep gratification over the years since I have been Governor the steady progress that we have been making in Maryland to provide better care and better treatment of the mentally ill and mentally retarded of our State. Although we may rejoice that progress has been made, there is no justification for complacency on our part so long as there remains any hope or any prospect for the betterment of the lot of this unfortunate segment of our population. And so, to assure the continued advancement of our program of mental health, I am recommending substantial increases in both operational and capital funds for our Department of Mental Hygiene.