

The department has been credited with bringing many new industries to Maryland. Perhaps the single most spectacular of its activities was its sponsorship in 1960 of the Appalachian Conference in Annapolis, out of which grew the vast multi-billion-dollar Federal program for the economic and social rehabilitation of the Appalachian Region.

For the first time, also, the State acknowledged a responsibility for the co-ordination of programs designed to improve the lot of elderly citizens, and a new agency, the Commission on the Problems of the Aging, was created to handle that responsibility.

The long-established programs of education, health, mental hygiene, welfare, correctional institutions, etc., were continued, but at a greatly accelerated pace. Advances in public education were particularly noteworthy, with the State increasing in substantial amounts its appropriations for school construction and school operation.

As was noted, Governor Tawes at his first inauguration envisioned as his main task the operation of an expanding State government, capable of supplying the pressing needs of a growing, dynamic State, and preserving at the same time a sound and stable financial structure.

The "financial integrity" of which he spoke in that first message to the people was indeed maintained, and the Governor was able to meet the manifold demands for additional services, with correspondingly heavy annual increases in budgets, without increasing general-fund taxes for State purposes. In fact, the only change at all in the tax structure that occurred during these first four years was an adjustment in the sales tax base, and all the additional money derived therefrom went for the relief of the hard-pressed counties, cities and towns of the State.

In 1962, with his first term approaching an end, Governor Tawes campaigned for re-election on his record, citing these and other accomplishments of his Administration during this four-year period. He won handily in the primary and the general election, and in January, 1963, began his second term.

Governor Tawes spoke frequently and on a great variety of subjects during the period, averaging a little more than three speeches a week. Many of these are included in this first volume of his collected speeches and papers.

ODELL M. SMITH

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