

have been aware of this and have taken measures to meet the problem. They have realized that its economic base for taxation must be broadened by the attraction of industry, but industrial zoning has been carefully programmed to avoid injury to residential areas. Here again the county is most fortunate in that, situated as it is near the seat of our national government, it is peculiarly suited to the more desirable types of industrial plants—the light, scientific industries. The federal government has established some of its finest and largest research establishments here, including the National Institutes of Health, the Naval Ordnance Laboratory and the Naval Medical Center. Some of the world's greatest scientists are doing research in these laboratories. This, of course, affords a great attraction to the kind of industry Montgomery County needs to expand its economy without changing its basic characteristic as a pleasant place in which to live.

In constructing this new generating station and in planning its enlargement in the future, the Potomac Electric Power Company has envisioned this industrial growth, along with the general growth in population, and is making provisions for the increased use of electric power in the area. That is what I had in mind in the beginning when I offered my commendations to the company for its foresight. I know we can expect it to grow along with this great community and provide the public with the electric power that is needed. I alluded earlier to the cooperation between PEPCO and the governmental authorities of this county in the construction of this project, and I should like to say a little more about this.

The handsome printed program for these dedicatory ceremonies graciously acknowledges the help that was extended by these public officials, stating that “without their understanding assistance, our (that is, PEPCO's) complex and multifarious tasks could not have proceeded as rapidly as they did.” As Governor of the State, I should like to pay a personal tribute to these county officers and agencies for working closely with this private corporation in the construction of a project that will be of enormous benefit to both. Montgomery County's representatives in the General Assembly, its County Council, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and others were very helpful in what was a gigantic task, I have been told. The advice and the assistance given by Melvin Reese, the County Manager, was of inestimable value, a company official told me. It is quite apparent to all of us that the Potomac Electric Power Company will be required to expand its generating facilities if it keeps pace with the growth of this community and fulfills its responsibility as a public utility.