

cock, Cambridge and many other cities and towns. The "Bootstrap Operation" in Cambridge has been acclaimed widely—by Secretary of Commerce Luther H. Hodges, among others—as one of the finest examples of federal, state and local cooperation to cure the ills of economic distress. The Cambridge area not only has four new industries, but is well on the way to acquiring a deep-water port which will be financed by federal, state, county and city funds. Hagerstown, through the resourcefulness of its citizens and with assistance from our State Department of Economic Development, has acquired a new industry—Mack Trucks, Inc., which is now employing 1,600 persons who were without jobs before. Its president tells me that the plant will employ between 1,800 and 2,000 persons this summer, and, if present plans materialize, 4,000 persons will be working there within a few years. These are only a few examples of what is being done to bring these less fortunate communities in line with the general prosperity of our State.

On frequent occasions I am called on to take part in ceremonies opening new businesses attracted by State and local economic development agencies or financed by the Development Credit Corporation which began operations a little more than a year ago. Just last week, I was advised that a \$500,000 loan made by the Development Credit Corporation had prevented the shutdown of Maryland's largest coal producer in Garrett County, saving the jobs of some 250 miners and 200 to 300 other persons whose employment was indirectly affected by the operation of the mining corporation. Now, what can we say of our future?

A short time ago, the National Planning Association published an article—a twenty-year projection—in which it predicted that the areas of major growth in the years immediately ahead will be in the Southwest and on the West Coast. Very grudgingly, the Association conceded that our Middle Atlantic states stand a moderate chance of survival, but it warned us not to expect any splurging—any sustained and dynamic growth. With such prospectus, our first impulse might possibly be to head southwestward or westward to follow the course of progress. But on sober reflection I think we would conclude that it would be wise to stay where we are. Certainly, I have no intention of migrating. For, while the spectacular growth has been in recent years, and probably will continue to be, in the West and the Southwest, these gains only show a "catching-up" with other parts of the country such as ours. The fact is, from all the advice and information I can obtain, the Middle Atlantic states are in a strong position to continue, as they have for nearly a century, to develop economically at a much higher rate than the nation