

The economic theory of whether to spend for guns or butter must be applied to the operations of State government. We must remember that appropriations for one agency have a direct bearing on appropriations for other functions of government. To devote all our energies to one specific project means a delay or possible scrapping of another equally worthy project. To be more specific, as Chief Executive of Maryland, I cannot, in good conscience, promote higher teachers salaries if it means that it would divert funds from a mental health program which has begun to erase the blot once referred to as "Maryland's shame." I cannot neglect to take immediate corrective measures providing adequate treatment facilities for mental patients formerly bedded down in the hallways of century old buildings. I cannot call for disproportionate increases in capital expenditures for education, when at the same time, additional facilities are also desperately needed to care for the ill and the aged. You must also bear in mind that a Chief Executive cannot burden the people of his State with a tax program that would stifle the very economy upon which we thrive.

It is these facts which must be considered when those charged with charting a course for our State's future decide the relative merits of various programs. And, if a Chief Executive is well grounded in the art of politics, he realizes that when he makes decisions such as these, he makes them with the full knowledge that many groups interested in specific projects will be dissatisfied.

To make a bold, if somewhat immodest statement, let me say that I am not dissatisfied with the progress made under my Administration in the field of education. There is not a single county in Maryland where teachers salaries do not exceed the State supported minimums. There is but one county (Garrett) which does not exceed the \$4,000 minimum salary scale which your organization favors. The Maryland salary schedules for the 1961-62 school year are outlined in the October issue of your magazine "The Maryland Teacher." The last report I had indicated that Maryland ranked seventh in the Nation in teacher salary levels, first in the South and \$465 higher than the national average.

At the last session of the General Assembly, the Committee on Taxation and Fiscal Matters recommended and I endorsed legislation providing more than \$14,750,000 in additional State aid to local education and welfare programs. All but a very small portion of these funds were available for education and were designed to raise teachers salaries and spur the construction of schools throughout the State but particularly in the fast growing urban regions. To finance this program, I recommended adjustments in the State sales, use and cigarette taxes. I recom-