

the laws governing the industry. I believe that Virginia has taken similar action, and that a meeting between the two groups is planned for October 6.

4. We are cooperating with the Coast and Geodetic Survey in a resurvey of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries so that oyster bottoms may be classified intelligently. We are operating under a survey conducted in 1906-1912 and made obsolete by silt, tides and hurricanes.

5. We are reorganizing our law-enforcement program. Through a policy of education, we are trying to impress upon watermen the simple truth that their own best interests are served by observance of the laws.

6. Gradually we are developing a state-wide management plan, looking upon the industry as a unit, with proper consideration for local interests in the Tidewater counties.

7. Cooperatives for watermen to achieve a better farming of bottoms are being considered, under plans that will enable the watermen to develop the very advantages of production they have been fearful others might monopolize. Such cooperatives would be on a voluntary basis.

This, as I have said, purports to be no more than a partial list of what we have undertaken here in Maryland.

I should like to add that I think we are engendering a better spirit of cooperation between groups within the industry. The bars which for so many years have divided packers and watermen are being lowered. These two groups have begun to understand that their interests are intertwined and that a prosperous industry means prosperity for individuals. Like people in other areas of business endeavor, the watermen are beginning to learn that, while they may argue vehemently, and sometimes bitterly, with one another about matters affecting their industry, they must, to be successful, present a united front when the industry itself is threatened.

And I want to mention, with real satisfaction, the better relations that have come about between Maryland and Virginia. We have agreed on a compact to govern age-old controversies over the Potomac River, which I am sure the voters of Maryland will approve in the election this year. Commissions of the two states are now holding meetings on problems of Chesapeake waters, and I am confident they will eliminate the main source of three hundred years of bickering, to the mutual profit of the two states.

May I conclude by saying that Maryland is realistic in assessing its needs and is determined to take whatever action is necessary to recon-