

ment for processing income tax returns, and our experience in this area has served as a model for many other states, including the much larger *and much richer* New York. These are matters about which you read or hear little. But they are matters which should be of interest and satisfaction to you, as good citizens.

*I can report*, also, that you have a strong, stable—and, yes, progressive—governmental program in Annapolis, supported by a sound and sane fiscal policy. You hear and read too little about this, and I know that as citizens and taxpayers you have an acute interest in the knowledge that the money you pay in taxes is being spent wisely. *In our broad purpose* to give Marylanders the kind of governmental services they require, we have attempted to streamline for efficiency many State agencies responsible for providing these services.

*Let me list some of them :*

A reorganized State Roads Commission, which, with a change in policy inaugurated during the first year of my term, is building more *miles of new highway than have ever been built before* in the history of the State, and which, to my own certain knowledge, is keeping abreast of the severe motor transportation requirements of our time.

A reconstituted *Department of Tidewater Fisheries*, which, the best authorities tell me, has done more already for the conservation of our vital marine resources than had been done for the preceding fifty years.

A new *State Planning Department*, which for the first time provides the State with an agency staffed and equipped to give recognition to the urgent need of up-to-date planning practices in a State beset by the problems of unparalleled growth and unprecedented urbanization.

The creation of a new *State Tax Court* and a new *Department of Assessments and Taxation*, separating the administrative and quasi-judicial functions of the old State Tax Commission, a move which students of good government have said was long overdue.

When it has become evident that additional services for the people were needed, we have set up the agencies to provide them.

*Let me list some of them :*

A new *Department of Economic Development*, which, for the first time, places Maryland on an equal, or nearly equal, footing with other states in the fierce competition for new industry and new business, and which is attempting to exploit to the advantage of all our citizens the *neglected resource, tourism*.