

A great deal of educational work must be done with the general public and employers of labor to remove the resistance to the employment of older persons. That is why much fruitful labor can be accomplished at a conference such as this.

Let us all resolve here that no citizen of this great State will be cast off in his old age, nor forsaken when his strength fails him.

ADDRESS, DEDICATION OF CHILDREN'S CENTER

CATONSVILLE

November 2, 1959

This is a day to be remembered in Maryland. We are here to dedicate a new institution which is intended to serve thousands of children in the near and distant future. These children, legally wards of the state, are children who will appear before the courts of the state and for whom the courts order detention for study prior to final disposition.

Since the 1952 fiscal year, admissions to the four state training schools of the state have increased approximately 60 per cent. Admitted to the state training schools during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959, were 2,306 children. Of this number 1,244 were committed by the courts of the state for long term institutional care and rehabilitation, while 1,062 were detained by the courts pending final disposition. The training schools in recent years have been placed under tremendous pressures of overcrowding, some of which has been caused by the presence in the school populations of many children on a detained basis. Because of the concern of the boards of managers of the training schools, the State Board and the Department of Welfare, various commissions, experts and the courts, a great deal of thought and effort has been expended in evaluating the Maryland program and in deciding upon a plan of action to deal with the problem.

In 1953, the Administrative Organization Commission, studying the state government, reported on delinquency control and strongly recommended to the state that the courts of the state be provided with adequate detention and study facilities. The Commission was particularly concerned that the State training schools were being used to provide institutional service for both committed and detained children. The Commission found that "the constant passage of detained children in and out of the training schools; children without the same motivation