

2. Improvement in the techniques and programs for the treatment of the patients.

Nevertheless, with all these generally favorable conditions, the State has continued the amount of money expended for mental health. The net result is that patients are being dismissed and returned to the communities at an accelerated rate, and those remaining in the institutions are receiving better care and treatment. With the construction that has been completed, or is nearing completion, it may be said, with one or two exceptions, that our physical plant may be described as adequate. Rehabilitation buildings have been completed and are in operation at Crownsville, Spring Grove and Rosewood. The Clifton T. Perkins Hospital for the care of maximum security type and serious court-committed patients was opened January 12, 1960. The geriatrics building at the Eastern Shore Hospital will be opened this year. The program for the replacement of the old Centre Building at Spring Grove is under way and should be finished within a few years.

Let me say, finally, just a few words about a new program we have started—a program for the establishment of day care centers for the mentally retarded and the mentally ill in several communities of the State. The decision was reached that this program should be financed on an equal sharing basis by the State and local governments. I have recommended in the next budget an appropriation as a State fund to match local funds in the construction of these day care centers in Baltimore and in the counties.

I believe the record of this Administration demonstrates its deep interest in the mental health of the people of this State. In the challenging task at hand, we need and we solicit the advice and help of groups of conscientious, responsible citizens such as we have assembled here this evening.

ADDRESS, ADVERTISING CLUB
NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK

BALTIMORE

May 10, 1961

The theme of Hospital Week, which we are observing here today, is "Your hospital—a community partnership." It is an appropriate theme, and particularly so in Maryland. For nearly a hundred years now, our small State has enjoyed a national and an international reputation for