

of Schools was established to administer these regulations. And work was begun on the new multi-million-dollar Department of Motor Vehicles headquarters building—a project which is scheduled for completion within the next few months. As a final measure, I continually stressed the importance of harmony and close cooperation between the State agencies on all matters concerning the safety of the citizens of our State.

As a part of the second phase, or stage, of this program, we undertook to establish continuing safety plans—plans designed to improve record-keeping operations and also to improve the administration and enforcement of safety laws. As was the case with those plans falling under the first stage of the program, many of these operations required the passage of legislation.

During the 1960 session, the General Assembly passed laws calling for the inauguration of the point system for penalizing violators of motor vehicle laws and providing for the biennial renewal of driver's licenses. From all the reports I have received, and from all other indications, these programs proved their worth during the past year, providing the Department of Motor Vehicles with accurate and up-to-date information on all Maryland drivers.

At the 1960 session also, the legislators approved a measure establishing funds for driver education in the public schools of the State. Authority was further granted for chemical tests to be administered by the police to determine the sobriety of drivers. To further supplement this stage of the program, the penalty for hit-and-run drivers was stiffened, and we embarked upon a sign program for safety in cooperation with the State Roads Commission.

With the implementation of the State-wide driver rehabilitation clinics within the next month or so, our initial 14-point program for traffic safety will be completely operative. Under this rehabilitation program, problem drivers in Baltimore City and the 23 counties of the State will be required to attend clinics once a week for four weeks. These clinics will consist primarily of lectures, with such aids as slides, movies and so on—all designed to improve both the skills and the attitudes of persons classified as problem drivers We have great hope and great confidence that this plan of rehabilitation will be effective in our program of accident prevention.

As for the future, one such program under study for possible development is the establishment of a system for State inspection of motor vehicles. Recently, the Chairman of the Legislative Council appointed a committee to study the problem and make its recommendations to me