

The John Hanson Highway also completes a transportation triangle joining Washington, Annapolis and Baltimore. It has been predicted that by the year 2,000, a total of 10,000,000 people will live within this Triangle or regions surrounding it. By proper land use, by wise location of industry and commerce, by sensible development of water and sewerage systems, by intelligent reservation of land for park areas and recreation facilities, by sound and adequate school construction and by well-planned establishment of a transportation network—functions which this Administration has actively supported and will continue to support with vigor—this area will realize its full potential as a Golden Triangle. It will become an even better place to work, to live and to raise future generations of Marylanders. It will possess a magnetism that will encourage orderly growth in all fields of human endeavor.

This morning, we are concerned with the transportation phase of this picture. The corridor between Annapolis and Washington always has been of great importance. It has been important since the days when colonial travelers, contemporaries of John Hanson for whom this highway is named, made the trip between the two capitals on horseback or in carriages. Today, it is still a bustling corridor. The design of the roadway and the types of vehicles have changed. Basically, this road will perform the same function it did in colonial days, that of transporting people and goods between the two cities. There is, however, more involved in the job today's road will accomplish.

When notices were sent out advising the people that this stretch of highway was to be opened today, the State Roads Commission received a letter from a lady commuter who works in Washington and lives in this part of Maryland. She said she has been counting the days until this final section would be open to traffic. She is not alone. Many Marylanders who commute regularly into Washington have looked forward to the time when their trip back and forth to work would be safer and less time-consuming.

Other Marylanders living in this great suburban region and their neighbors across the District line have been counting the days for a different reason. Completion of this highway offers them a direct expressway link to some of the beach and recreation areas of Anne Arundel County, other parts of Southern Maryland and across the Bay Bridge to the Eastern Shore. While these travelers think of it as a holiday highway, its importance as an artery through which the bloodstream of industry and commerce can flow freely and vigorously cannot be over-emphasized.

So, Marylanders have been counting the days until this section of