

land agriculture a broadened representation in policy determinations with regard to agricultural matters in the State.”

I supported the legislation in the belief that it would bring our agricultural activities at College Park and elsewhere closer to the thinking of the individual Maryland farmer. I have a strong conviction that it will do just this.

In the high office which I now hold, I have worked hard to bring about a greater prosperity for Maryland farmers. By emphasizing agricultural research, and by giving additional assistance to farmers in such fields as water conservation, disease and insect control, drainage, irrigation and a wide variety of other services, I feel that we have improved the lot of the farmer in our State.

Here on the Shore, for example, we have been successful in improving the varieties of vegetables. Economic studies have been conducted to devise improved methods of marketing. Our University of Maryland has been collaborating with the University of Delaware to find ways and means of strengthening the total poultry industry on the Delmarva peninsula, the third greatest poultry producing area of the country and a bulwark of our agricultural economy here on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. I am advised by our experts that tremendous progress has been made in the corn and soybean improvement program, which is closely allied to our poultry production. In animal disease control, brucellosis in cattle has been virtually eliminated. Good progress has been made in the control of hog cholera. Diagnostic laboratories have been established for the study of poultry diseases, the one in Salisbury being, as I am informed, one of the outstanding laboratories in the entire country.

In other words, your State government is active and vigilant in promoting the interests and the welfare of the Maryland farmer and of Maryland agriculture.

We are interested in Maryland in preserving our social and economic diversity—in maintaining a balance among the various phases of our economy. We have tried to intensify and expand our industry and our commerce. Agriculture must be given equal stimulation and equal support if we are to achieve the balance we seek.