

noted for its production and distribution of seafood, including oysters, clams and crabmeat. It is also a major producer of milk and dairy products and agricultural commodities and has one of the largest canning industries in the country. And so, we in Maryland have a deep appreciation of the value of the food and drug laws and of the agency which enforces them—the Food and Drug Administration.

The vigilance the Agency exercises to assure the purity of the food we consume and the drugs we use is a service of great value not only to the consuming public but to the producers as well. None of us could conceive of a society in which the processing and distribution of food and drugs is left unregulated and uncontrolled.

The Food and Drug Administration, which is now a part of the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has worked very closely over the years with departments and agencies of the State and local governments in protecting our people against adulterated or misbranded food, drugs, cosmetics and devices. For example, our State Department of Health is also concerned with the adequate protection of the public from the sale of impure or misbranded foods. From all the accounts I have received, our Department and the Food and Drug Administration enjoy the very closest relationship in their joint undertaking. Likewise, in the examination of farm products for quality and purity, the Food and Drug Administration works closely with our State agricultural authorities. And in a joint effort to curb the illegal sale of dangerous and habit forming drugs, this district of the Food and Drug Administration operates in concert with our State Police and with the police in the local communities.

There are many other examples of the active cooperation of federal, State and local agencies for the public protection, such as providing training in laboratory techniques for the determination of pesticide residue and food additives and in maintaining joint training schools for sanitarians. And the Food and Drug Administration also maintains a close cooperation with State and local Civil Defense agencies in preparing plans and taking part in exercises for public protection in case of emergency attacks or natural disasters. Following the devastating storm of March, 1962, I recall having received a report of the cooperation of agents of the Food and Drug Administration in the efforts of State and Local authorities to clean up the damage to food stocks in the coastal areas of Maryland.

We of Maryland of course are most grateful for the assistance and the advice we have received in the past from the Food and Drug