

Time will not permit a detailed report in this message of the activities and programs of the many other departments and agencies of State Government — Motor Vehicles, Correction, Chesapeake Bay Affairs, State Police, and so on. In an examination of the detailed budget you will see that funds have been allotted to them in amounts sufficient to allow them to carry on the important functions which they now perform.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Aware of the importance to the people of a strong economy, efforts will continue unabated to attract new industry to our State and to develop the ever-growing tourist trade. You will be asked during the session to appropriate on a contingent basis \$2 million as the State's share in the construction of a science center of the Maryland Academy of Science in Baltimore, a project to be financed jointly by the State, the City of Baltimore and private interests. Having within its confines or on its borders the great research centers of the Federal Government and some of the country's most renowned educational institutions, Maryland has become one of the most attractive areas in the entire country for science-based industry. It is essential that we hold that position. The creation of the science center is one of the means by which we hope to do this.

Finally in the budget, I would point out to you that a sum of \$7,600,000 is earmarked to increase the pay of some 25,000 State employees. Government cannot operate successfully without competent personnel, and competent personnel cannot be recruited and retained unless they are paid salaries commensurate with the work they are asked to perform. I would recommend that you grant these pay increases at this session.

Before I depart from the subject of finances, I should like to make an observation about the problem of the State's financial relationship with Baltimore City and the twenty-three counties. I have been advised by its Chairman that the Commission on State and County Finance expects to submit a preliminary report of its studies and recommendations early in this session. The report is being submitted at this time in order that it may be studied thoroughly by the Committee on Taxation and Fiscal Matters of the Legislative Council and all others concerned. And now we turn from finances to the subject of legislation "for the general melioration," or if you prefer, the general betterment of the condition of the people.