

mental retardation are of primary concern to your State government, to local governments and to the public in general. Our main objective is to get as many retarded patients as possible out of institutional care and back into their homes and back into their communities. When this is accomplished, everyone benefits, and particularly the patient himself.

One of the most effective means of rehabilitation, we know, is to find suitable employment for these handicapped persons. A great many of them are quite capable of handling any number of jobs, and experience has proved that many of them show outstanding capabilities. In our program of rehabilitation, we are to a great extent dependent upon private employers to assist us in obtaining suitable employment for these handicapped. And may I say that for the most part we have received excellent cooperation from employers in Maryland.

The Maryland Association for Retarded Children deserves the applause and the gratitude of all of us for the strong and effective efforts it has made, and is making, to promote public interest in the well-being of the victims of mental retardation. This event, at which it gives recognition to outstanding individuals and organizations for their cooperation, is but one of the many projects it has undertaken to relieve the suffering of these people.

This morning it is my pleasant task, on behalf of the Association, to present awards to two organizations which have made exceptional contributions to this great cause. Hutzler Brothers Company, of Baltimore, is a true pioneer in the employment of mentally handicapped persons. For more than a quarter of a century, Hutzler's has employed retarded girls and young women as waitresses in the downtown store. This program is operated in connection with special classes for slow learners operated by the Department of Education of Baltimore. It is my pleasure now to present to Mr. Albert Hutzler, Jr., president of Hutzler Brothers Company of Baltimore, this award as "Employer of the Year" made by the Maryland Association for Retarded Children.

Another example of public-spirited interest in the problems of the mentally retarded is to be found in the Mifflin-McCambridge Company, of Riverdale, Maryland, a manufacturer of pharmaceuticals. Its executive vice-president, Mr. J. F. McCambridge, initiated a program in 1960 for the hiring of mentally retarded workers, trained in the occupational training center and sheltered workshop operated by the Prince George's County Association for Retarded Children. Nineteen retarded workers, I am informed, have been employed by Mifflin-