

the Maryland-D.C. Broadcasters Association. At that time, I noted what I considered to be major improvements in the television and radio broadcasting of news. I did, however, lament the fact that, while the three major networks here were preparing and televising documentaries frequently, local television stations appeared reluctant to treat in depth news at the local level. I am confident you will agree with me that WJZ-TV's decision to broadcast two and one-half hours of this conference on prime television time this evening is an effective answer to this criticism. I am equally confident that the station will continue this far-sighted policy which is of enormous benefit to the citizens of Baltimore City and the State of Maryland.

I am particularly happy that the subject under discussion today will be "The Metropolis and its People." Those of us who have served in various public offices in recent years have come to recognize that the major problems affecting Maryland and many other states, particularly in the East and Far West, involve to a very large degree urban affairs. Decades ago, streams of our people were moving from the farms to our cities, partly due to the employment opportunities and the glitter of big-city life, and partly due to the mechanization taking place on our farms. The flood from the farm has long abated and has, in fact, been supplanted by a flow of city residents to the outlying suburbs. The movement of people to and from the city and the resultant effects on urban living is perhaps the major cause of the problems faced by our major urban centers. This is true despite the fact that the human resource is the main source of strength and vitality to any urban or rural area, to any state or nation.

Many of the cities of this nation have experienced a severe curtailment of tax sources. Those who choose suburban living usually are identified by experts with the upper or upper middle socio-economic bracket and their migration leaves a path of declining property values, slumping business conditions and an atmosphere of stagnation and deterioration. Nor is this outmigration accompanied by a corresponding decrease in the demand for services provided by the city. To the contrary, the demand increases. Business decline results in job losses. Unemployment and welfare roles grow and the demand for free medical services increases. Road construction has to be accelerated to accommodate the tremendous number of commuters. The worst of all possible economic squeezes is taking place—revenues are either declining or barely holding steady while the demand for more appropriations for expanded services rises sharply.

Add this to the fact that our cities have generally enjoyed less repre-