

however, that despite the importance of the educational program, it is only one in a great variety of programs the institution must provide in its efforts to train and guide these girls. The programs of cottage life, religion, recreation and clinical services must be coordinated with the educational program, under the direction of the Superintendent and the respective department heads, to provide effective help for these girls. Thus, as we move into a new era of operation, with a modern, functionally designed physical plant, there is every reason for optimism. The Montrose School for Girls may be expected to continue to rank as one of the outstanding institutions of its kind in America.

Along with the Maryland Training School for Boys, the Boys Village of Maryland, the State forestry camps for boys, the Maryland Children's Center and the Thomas J. S. Waxter Children's Center, the Montrose School for Girls gives Maryland a constellation of juvenile institutions providing one of the finest systems for the care and treatment of children.

This does not mean, however, that we can stop here. Maryland's population is growing rapidly, and, unfortunately, the number of children requiring the assistance of our juvenile institutions is increasing at a rapid rate. We are mindful of this fact, and for this reason just recently we have worked out a plan for relieving the overcrowded conditions at the boys training school by providing a temporary additional facility. And we plan to establish still another facility to care for many more of our children.

Now, to come back to the Montrose School, we all know, of course, that buildings alone cannot guide boys and girls back to good citizenship. The thousands of boys and girls who are admitted to our State juvenile institutions present severe problems and needs that are more of a social and psychological nature than they are physical. These buildings, then, represent an essential element in the total rehabilitative process and must be safe and properly designed. But it is only through the creative use of these buildings, by the personnel of the Montrose School, that the girls who are committed here can be trained and prepared for return to their communities as responsible young Americans, ready to live in conformity with the laws and customs of our society and to make their contributions to a better Maryland.

I stated earlier that there is every reason for optimism as the Montrose School for Girls embarks upon a new and expanded program of service to the children of our State. I am sure that as you tour the grounds here today and inspect the new buildings on the campus you will understand more clearly the reasons for my optimism. In the years to come, many