

This is the picture of the future for Maryland that my advisors have offered me. The State Roads Commission, in a recent study, foresees a 50 per cent increase in population over the next 20 years—from 3,221,770 to 4,808,200. The number of motor vehicles registered will increase over the same period by 69 per cent—from 1,193,000 vehicles to 2,015,700 vehicles. And by 1983, I am advised, the number of miles traveled annually on the public roads of our State will increase by 120 per cent—from 14.2 billion miles to 31 billion miles. If we calculate our highways accidents proportionately on the number of drivers and vehicles and the miles they travel, it can be seen what unspeakable carnage the people of the next generation will face if strong and effective measures are not taken to control the traffic accident problem.

Those of us in government, responsible for making and administering the laws, understand that we must rely heavily upon persons like yourselves—men of experience, training and an understanding of the problem—for guidance over this perilous course. I have enough confidence in the intelligence, the sound judgment and the integrity of the American people to believe that means will be found to escape the awful consequences which the figures I have cited would imply. But I am also convinced that this cannot be accomplished unless, united in our misfortune, we work tirelessly and ceaselessly to that end.

Again, let me say that I deeply appreciate this opportunity to be with you at this banquet. I welcome warmly those of you who have come here from other states to attend this Conference. And you have my best wishes—all of you—for rich rewards and great enjoyment from this gathering.

---

ADDRESS, MARYLAND HIGHWAYS  
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

BALTIMORE

February 10, 1964

It is again my privilege both as Governor and as a personal friend of many of you here today to extend to the Maryland Highways Contractors Association warm greetings on the occasion of its annual meeting. Besides giving us all the opportunity to discuss the role of highways in the growth of our State, this meeting gives me the opportunity to talk informally with many of you.

Whenever I think of public highways and the traffic they carry, I