

the actions were mine exclusively — for they certainly were not — I am proud that your State spearheaded a movement which in the years ahead surely will enhance the lives of all who are privileged to live in the mountains of the eastern part of our great country.

Let me quote from the final paragraphs of the leaflet, having to do with the Appalachian Regional Act. "It is not a pie-in-the-sky measure," it states. "It is not the product of dreamers, but the product of men and women who have looked carefully at the difficulties this region has faced for more than a century. It contains hard practical solutions to these difficulties."

As pleased as we are with the federal help we have received, and will receive in the future, these bounties are not to be used as an excuse for relaxing our own efforts. On the contrary, the keen interest which the federal government is showing for the well-being of the people of this area, and other areas in the Appalachian region, offers us the incentive to work harder to make Appalachia a better place in which to live. As we said in Annapolis five year ago, the task is too heavy for the communities or the individual states to bear alone. With the regional approach to the problem, and with the invaluable assistance we are receiving from the federal government, we will be able, I believe, to accomplish more in five years than we otherwise would have been able to accomplish over many decades.

As for your State government, I can assure you that this Administration intends to intensify its efforts in behalf of Appalachian prosperity — in the building of roads, in the expansion and development of forests and parks, in promoting tourism, in industrial development. Your State, of course, has its own obligation, financial and otherwise, in the highway construction program that is a part of the Appalachian regional development. Think of what the construction of four and six-lane limited-access superhighways over these mountains will mean to your county and the other counties here in Western Maryland. Think of what it will mean in terms not only of convenience to yourselves but in terms also of the development of these surroundings as an economically viable community and as a playland and recreation area for the countless others who will want to come here and share with you the pleasures of being in such a wonderful land.

I have been told of some of the difficulties your own economic development officials and our State Department of Economic Development have encountered in the efforts they have made to spur on industrial development in this country. The relative inaccessibility, I am told, has been a major deterrent to these efforts. This difficulty will