

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TAWES ADMINISTRATION

1963 - 1967

Governor J. Millard Tawes did not decide to run for a second term until late in November, 1961, only a few months before the date of the primary election, and a main factor in his decision to seek re-election was his feeling that he had only partially accomplished the objectives he had established for his Administration.

Although substantial advances had been made in public education during the first years of his term, teachers, school administrators and others were dissatisfied with the effort the State was making. Yet to be accomplished was a plan and program to meet the ever-increasing enrollment demands in public higher education. The Governor had appointed a commission to study higher education needs and recommend a plan, but that commission had not yet made its report. The construction of arterial highways moved ahead rapidly, but yet to be completed were such thoroughfares as the Baltimore Belway, the Capital Beltway and the Northeastern Expressway, later to be named the John F. Kennedy Memorial Expressway.

After his re-election (again by substantial majorities in both the primary and the general election), Governor Tawes moved promptly to attain these and other goals he had set.

At the 1964 session, the General Assembly approved an Administration plan to increase the amount of state aid to education and to revise the formula for its distribution, a move hailed by educators as the greatest single educational achievement in Maryland in forty years.

The commission studying higher education reported in June, 1962, and at the regular session the following year the General Assembly adopted the "tripartite system" of public higher education, the three parts being: (1) the University of Maryland, with its main campus in College Park, its branches and its professional schools in Baltimore, as a "capstone" of the system; (2) a State College division, comprised of Morgan State College and the teacher-training institutions which were converted into full-fledged colleges of the arts and sciences, and, (3) the community colleges, operated by local governments, with liberal assistance from the State government.

The gigantic road building program continued, with expenditures during the eight years of the Tawes Administration tripling that of the previous eight years. With the roads built, under construction