

REMARKS AT FIRESTONE GROUNDBREAKING
CEREMONY, PERRYVILLE

April 3, 1967

Mr. Firestone, Commissioner Racine, Mayor Neff, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It is indeed a pleasure to welcome to Maryland an industry with the distinguished name of Firestone. This groundbreaking will be only the start, I trust, of a long and cordial relationship between the company, the community of Perryville, the County of Cecil and the State of Maryland.

In my opinion, it would be more appropriate if Governor Tawes were officially extending this particular welcome to this particular industry. For all of us are aware of the important role he played personally in helping persuade it to locate in Maryland. But by virtue of the office and the calendar and the Constitution, the honor falls to me, and I can only say that I wish Governor Tawes could be here to share this moment with us.

This new plastics plant, which will be the first large manufacturing operation in the Perryville area, will make an important contribution to the economic health and stability of this community and the north-eastern section of Maryland.

The Firestone Company is investing some \$12 million in a facility which will offer 150 well-paid jobs at the outset with a potential of some 400 within three years or so after starting production early next year.

Mr. Firestone, we are profoundly grateful to you and to the other officials of your company for this resounding vote of confidence in the State of Maryland and I want to assure you that you will continue to receive every possible form of cooperation and assistance from the State government to make certain that your future plans are realized.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the location of this particular plant in Maryland we have a prime example of how cooperative efforts at the city, county and state levels can play a vital role in attracting industry. The contribution of many individuals to this effort is borne out in the highlights of a case history furnished to me by the Maryland Department of Economic Development.