

Q. You speak of this year and the good intentions of the officials right now. Do you think this will hold in subsequent years as the pressures continue for more services?

A. Well, I think unquestionably there will be pressures for more services. The recent report of the NEA in Baltimore gives evidence to the fact that the City is not going to be totally reclaimed in one year by any new tax program. I do feel that if we continue to attempt to rehabilitate the City, to put its property back in the most productive light — in other words, if we continue programs like Charles Center and we get the harbor program started — the base of the City in these decaying areas where the property tax itself is bringing in very little revenue will begin to reflect these improvements. Obviously, where you tear down a slum and put a piece of productive income-producing property in its stead, the assessments go up, and when the assessments go up the income of the yield goes up.

Q. Wouldn't you suspect in view of the new services, that old services may have outlived their use?

A. I think that's an interesting thought, and I think it's entirely possible, which brings me to another subject, that of the emphasis of this government, this executive branch, being shifted from spending to saving. Sometimes we have to provide ourselves with a framework to effect economies. I think we've done this in our new executive structure. And the Task Force on Modern Management, which has been created just this year, is being charged with a very serious responsibility, the responsibility of getting into the State programs and weeding out just what you are talking about, those who may have outlived their usefulness, of eliminating duplications. Sometimes the agencies may not duplicate each other, but sub-agencies within the agencies may have become obsolete or may be performing virtually the same function. I have asked Mr. Lauber and his group of people to exert every effort to bring down the duplications and the needless costs which undoubtedly do exist within the government. And we hope that by the end of the year we will be able to show some rather outstanding reductions based on the simple efficiency effort during the year.

Q. Do you think that local governments, in similar areas, might do likewise?

A. Well, I think that they should be doing likewise and doing it on a continuing basis. In this light, the trips that we have begun around