

One of the most promising new projects in Maryland is the Maritime Industrial Park proposed for the waterfront at Crisfield. Urban renewal funds, Economic Development Administration money, and assistance from the State through the Maryland Port Authority will be combined both to renew and create over 100 acres of industrial land which will be served by a new 25 foot deepwater channel. Governor Tawes, I am sure that you, as a resident of Crisfield, are very proud of this exciting new project which should mean much to the region's economy.

While diversification of the Shore's economy is being sought, the future importance of those two former mainstays — agriculture and seafood — are not being overlooked. The Maryland Department of Economic Development is now cooperating with the Economic Development Administration, the Department of Food Technology of the University of Maryland, the Somerset County Redevelopment Corporation and a private corporation in Montgomery County in exploring the possibility of obtaining Federal assistance for experiments in the irradiation of seafood and poultry. The objective is to increase the shelf life of these products and thereby increase their marketability. Soft shell clams would be studied initially, with further experiments in other seafoods and poultry if the clam experiment is successful.

An increasingly bright spot in the overall economy of Maryland is the tourist and travel business — and the Eastern Shore represents one of our major attractions from the oceanfront to the Chesapeake Bay.

It has long been recognized that the entire Delmarva Peninsula is a "delightful land" for outdoor recreation and travel, but in my opinion its tourist potential has barely been tapped. The Peninsula has great appeal for the sightseer, the sport fisherman, the hunter, the camper, the boating enthusiast, the antiques collector, in fact just about everyone.

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge and the Bridge-Tunnel, as well as our improved highway system, have served to stimulate travel to this area. But roads and bridges alone do not bring visitors here. In fact, modern highways tend to speed the traveler through our states to other destinations. It is imperative therefore that in order to overcome this we, first, make Delmarva a *destination* for more people, and second, encourage the traveler passing through to linger awhile.

Working together through such organizations as the newly-organized Delmarva Hospitality Incorporated and the travel councils of the