

Ritchie, alone among them all, declined to send troops to the mines and took the position that the situation should be met by mutual agreement and not by the bayonet. The strike was finally settled by mutual agreement.

Governor Ritchie was elected President of the Maryland State Bar Association for the year 1922-1923.

In September, 1923, Governor Ritchie was renominated without opposition for a second term as Governor, and in November, 1923, was re-elected by a plurality of over 40,000.

In September, 1926, Governor Ritchie was renominated for a third term, receiving a majority in the primary of over 81,500 and the unanimous vote of the Democratic State Convention. He was re-elected in November, 1926, by a majority of practically 60,000.

At the 1929 Session of the Legislature Governor Ritchie recommended and put through the most extensive program ever adopted in the State for highway construction, new bridges and the elimination of railroad grade crossings. At the same Session important legislation was enacted for vocational rehabilitation, safety in industry, the education of crippled children, and mothers' pensions.

In September, 1930, Governor Ritchie was renominated without opposition for a fourth term, and in November, 1930, he was re-elected by a majority of practically 66,000, the largest majority by far ever received by any candidate for Governor in the history of the State.

Maryland has elected her Governors by popular vote since 1838, and ever since the Constitution of 1864 there has been no prohibition against any Governor succeeding himself. But no Governor of either party ever did so, and no Democratic Governor was ever renominated, until Governor Ritchie broke both precedents by being nominated and elected for four successive terms, with majorities of 165 in 1919, 40,000 in 1923, 60,000 in 1926, and 66,000 in 1930.

Governor Ritchie was Delegate-at-Large to the Democratic National Convention in 1932.

At the 1933 Session of the Legislature, in addition to sponsoring legislation for the sale of beer and for a Constitutional Convention to act in the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, Governor Ritchie accomplished a drastic reduction in the State Budget, the savings from which were applied to financing a \$12,000,000 State bond issue for unemployment relief in Baltimore City, and to a very substantial reduction in local taxation in the counties. In addition to this, the Budget submitted by Governor Ritchie completed a reduction in the State tax rate during his ad-