

3,200 acre field providing for air travel to all parts of the globe. At a cost of \$15,000,000, Baltimore had one of the largest airports in the United States.

A great road and bridge building program began with the end of World War II. Agreements reached in 1947 to survey ground and water for a bridge over the Chesapeake made probable an ambitious scheme, talked of for over forty years. On November 3, 1949, the first actual work on such a bridge began, culminating in its opening July 30, 1952. The result is a four-mile structure (over seven if approach roads are considered) with suspension spans allowing for craft to a height of 187 feet. Nearly two thousand vehicles an hour can cover the six-minute trip. A year after opening over \$3,500,000 had been paid in tolls; the cost, covered by a bond issue, was \$45,000,000. By December 1952, the Washington-Annapolis Freeway was opened between Annapolis and Route 301; the new bridge across the Severn was opened in June 1953, to provide a direct link between the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and the freeway. The Baltimore-Washington Express Way was opened in its entirety early in 1954. Eventually dual highways will run between the Delaware State line and the District of Columbia and Virginia. Another fine road, connecting the District and Frederick, will replace Route 240. To further facilitate traffic, an under-harbor tunnel from Fairfield to Canton to cost \$130,000,000 (including approach roads) is under construction.

Various State institutions, particularly those for medical and mental care, have undergone great improvements. Two of the three authorized units of the chronic disease hospitals have been opened, one in Wicomico County and the other in Baltimore. The third unit, which will provide facilities for the care of the chronically ill as well as tubercular patients, is under construction in Washington County. A 300-bed hospital for tubercular patients has also been provided at Mt. Wilson. A twenty-six-bed maternity ward has been opened at Miners Hospital. The University of Maryland has opened a 100-bed psychiatric institute in Baltimore. Patuxent Institution, for the custody of psychopathic delinquents, was opened in 1955, and an institution for the criminally insane is in the planning stages. At Green Ridge State Forest, the first rehabilitation camp for delinquent youth was opened in 1955.