

connects with the Delaware Memorial Bridge and the New Jersey Turnpike. Originally dedicated as the Northeastern Expressway by the late President on November 14, 1963, only a few days before his tragic death, it was subsequently renamed by joint action of both Maryland and Delaware. The Blue Star Highway (Route 301), extending from the Eastern Shore end of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge to the Delaware State line, makes similar connections.

Friendship International Airport, constructed to connect Baltimore with all parts of the globe, began operating on June 24, 1950. A 3,200-acre field, it was designed to accommodate the largest planes of the jet age and is still one of the largest airports in the country. The volume of traffic has grown steadily, but at a rate considerably below expectations, due largely to the presence of Dulles International Airport near Washington.

The Maryland Port Authority was established in 1956 to promote and develop the ports of Maryland. It endeavors to persuade private operators of port facilities to make needed improvements, but if necessary, the Authority may construct and operate supplementary facilities.

Health and Mental Hygiene

Spurred by a series of shocking revelations about the care of the mentally ill which was published in one of Baltimore's leading newspapers in 1949, the General Assembly established the Department of Mental Hygiene and gave it full supervision over all matters pertaining to the custody, care and treatment of persons who are mentally ill or mentally retarded. Since then, the State has spent millions of dollars erecting new buildings and improving existing facilities. More important, there has been a change in concept which regards such institutions as treatment centers rather than as custodial areas. Increasing emphasis is being placed on research in this field.

At Rosewood State Hospital, the Esther Loring Richards and the Jacob E. Finesinger Children's Centers were opened in 1958 and 1961, respectively, to provide psychiatric treatment for children with serious emotional, psychiatric and neurotic illnesses as distinct from those who are mentally retarded.

The Clifton T. Perkins State Hospital, a 300-bed facility, costing nearly three million dollars, began operating in 1960. It inaugurated in Maryland a program of psychiatric therapies combined with rehabilitative procedures for all adult male patients who require maximum security.