

that a large percentage of new drivers applying for licenses thereafter will have a thorough knowledge of car driving principles and attitudes.

National organizations with years of experience in the safety field have highly complimented the Maryland Committee on the solid, intelligent approach made to the traffic problem. I am convinced that continuation and intensification of the sound practices and procedure adopted by the Maryland Traffic Safety Committee will go far towards making our streets and highways safer, and towards preventing the very regrettable accidents that are occurring daily.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS

*State Comptroller's Office*—Under the able direction of Mr. J. Millard Tawes the outstanding work in this department during the past two years has been the administration of the State Income Tax Law passed by your body at the 1937 and 1939 Sessions. It was necessary, of course, to create a division to take care of the work involved in the administration of that law. It is felt that the law has been successfully administered.

The administration of the Alcoholic Beverages Tax Laws of the State has added considerably to the work of this department but that work, too, is being handled efficiently.

The Gasoline Tax work has been progressing in a steady manner. There have been no material changes in the law during the past several years but the changes which have been made have enabled this department to tighten up so that it is felt the State is collecting all the revenue possible, and that refunds are well under control.

*State Treasurer's Office*—As a member of the Board of Public Works, the controlling body of the State with regard to fiscal matters, the State Treasurer plays a most important part in the administration of our affairs. In addition, his office is charged with responsibility for the placing of adequate insurance on all State properties, a function which has been discharged under the present Treasurer, Mr. Hooper S. Miles, with outstanding diligence and with increasingly beneficial results to the State.

All large State Institutions are now insured under 90% blanket coverage, and in practically every instance the premium cost has, during the past five or six years, been reduced. The State Institutions are inspected periodically, and detailed reports covering each inspection made. From such reports recommendations are made to the respective Boards or Department heads, looking towards further reduction in premium cost and the removal of hazards to human life.

In addition to the buildings of the State, all automobiles and boats owned by the State are insured under blanket policies, which the State Treasurer effected several years ago at considerably reduced cost to the State.

*Department of Budget and Procurement*—This department was created by Act of your body in 1939 for the purpose of establishing continuous service in budget preparation and control. The budget-making function was combined with the purchasing so that the budget officer would be familiar with the material needs and costs of all State Agencies. During the year and a half the new department has been in existence, detailed studies have been made of the functioning of the various State Agencies and more information than ever was available before has been accumulated for the budget-making process.