

purposes of the organization would be assigned to various sub-committees of the Counsel. This was done to enable the work to proceed expeditiously and to enable specially qualified members to devote exclusive attention to their particular subjects. Continuously throughout the year, the Council and its committees have functioned. For obvious reasons, the work of the committees was not at all times widely publicized but it can be said that, in every development where the National Council and other Federal agencies have required the cooperation of the various States, the Maryland Commission has been active in response and has carried on steadily and with increasing participation in national efforts.

How well we have kept our word to allow no outside consideration to hamper the Council's effort for the general good may be known to all. Suffice it to say that not one move has been made, not one dollar has been spent, not a job created, and nothing has been done which was based upon political or other ulterior consideration. Such a policy will always be maintained.

At the recent session of the General Assembly, the elected representatives of the people sanctioned this organization. A statute was passed legalizing the Council and writing in the law the names of every member who had agreed to serve on the Council. Under the recent act of the Legislature, provision was made for the creation of District Councils to "act as coordinating agencies under the supervision and direction of the Council and in cooperation with local governmental agencies." I have undertaken to name these District Councils and, in doing so, have invited outstanding men and women from every county of the State and the City of Baltimore, without regard to affiliation, to enter into this State-wide undertaking. How patriotic is the attitude of our people can best be understood from the wholehearted and general acceptance of this assignment by the busily-engaged persons, many of whom reside and have their places of business at points far distant from the seat of the State government.

Today's is the first general meeting of the District Councils. Washington now urges that the organization of the District Councils be completed and that they be put upon an active working basis. In order that the District Councils may exercise their own judgment as to organization, the choice of the respective chairmen will be left entirely to the members. However, in order that a start may be made, I will immediately request one of the members of each District Council to call a meeting although I do not wish it understood that the person thus requested is favored for the chairmanship. Mayor Howard W. Jackson of Baltimore, with whom I conferred yesterday, has shown his sincere desire to cooperate and stated that he will call a meeting of the Baltimore City members in the very near future.

Mention might be made of only a few of the matters to be considered by the District Councils although more detailed advices will be forwarded from the State Council. These matters might be grouped under two heads:—

1. Those things that are immediate and pressing.
2. Those things that though immediate need only planning and call for possible training.