

portance and should be of the greatest value in assuring permanent progress in the field of conservation.

Another interest represented on the Board of Natural Resources is the Maryland Publicity Commission, which is designated to assist in the preparation and spreading of information and educational matter put out by any of the Departments. In addition to the State agencies enumerated, provision was made for the appointment to the Board of six members from the State at large, with a provision that four of these, from the tidewater counties, shall have had practical experience in tidewater fisheries, but have no present financial interest in the fisheries industry.

Typical of the high caliber of men whom we have called into active service are the two members at large from Baltimore City, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President of the Johns Hopkins University, and Mr. Edwin G. Baetjer, of the Baltimore Bar. Certainly Maryland is fortunate to have men of such capabilities at her service. The Board of Natural Resources held its first meeting some weeks ago, at which time there was organized and set up a tentative program which will be further discussed at the second meeting scheduled for next week.

After this somewhat lengthy exposition of the new conservation setup and type of personnel represented on the Board and its various agencies, it need hardly be added, I believe, that the State is assured now of the most thoughtful attention to its conservation problems that has ever been possible at any time before in our history.

It is a regrettable fact that in the past our people have shamefully misused our rich heritage of natural wealth. It is equally true, however, I am certain, that Marylanders generally realize what has been done and are determined that all possible steps be taken to restore, as far as possible the wealth that once was ours in such profusion.

Maryland is fabulously rich in actual and potential natural resources. With the assistance of the public-spirited men who have accepted our call to service, men who have no selfish interests to serve, but only the long-range good of the State at heart, assurance can safely be given that we finally are headed in the right direction, and that the policies now in effect or to be initiated, will pay rich dividends that will redound to all the people of our State.