

ordained that they can settle down to the enjoyment of the fruits of Victory—to the achievements of their aims in life, free from the aftermaths of war that plagued humanity as a result of World War No. 1.

To accomplish this desirable end, reasoned thought must be given now to plans for that post-Victory period, to insure that the millions here in America and in the United Nations do not lose the Peace, after they have sacrificed so much to win the War.

Many considerations must enter into such planning. Nationally, and internationally, the United Nations must see to it that the threat of military despotism, once broken, must not be permitted to raise its head again, in Germany or anywhere.

Internal chaos and strife must be averted in the beaten Axis nations, by international policing; and the economy of these peoples must be managed until stability of Government is restored, lest starvation and despair there spread their cankers or unrest throughout the world. International trade must be world-managed, in the interest of all nations, for we have learned only too well that the world cannot go forward in peace and hope while any of its parts are desperately ill.

If ever there was an undertaking that called for local handling, by States and cities, to support and round out international and National efforts, this program of post-Victory planning does. Fortunately, Maryland is well prepared. Our house is in order, financially and in other ways. If and when cessation of war industry production threatens dislocation of Maryland's economy, and the spectre of unemployment once again hangs over our people, there are media at hand with which this threat can be met effectively.

Comparably, we believe, no State in the Union will be better prepared to undertake, immediately after the war if necessary, a major program of capital construction for the State's institutions, as well as a further extension of a great road-building program. Such programs have already been formulated, under the six-year Capital Improvement Plan inaugurated by our State two years ago, under the direction of the State Planning Commission and the Department of Budget and Procurement, in which regard Maryland was the first State to initiate such long-range planning.

Of the utmost importance, too, if there should ever result a drastic curtailment of employment, is the trust fund to Maryland's credit of \$47,500,000 at the Unemployment Compensation Board. This huge amount, built up over the years, and reserved for the benefit of Maryland's workers in every field, will go far, indeed, to alleviate the demands of any period of recession.

I mention these items because I feel that business and professional men in the times ahead will be called upon to play a much more active part in the functioning of government than before. Officials can plan and direct but the controlling power of public opinion will be the final Judge of what must be done.