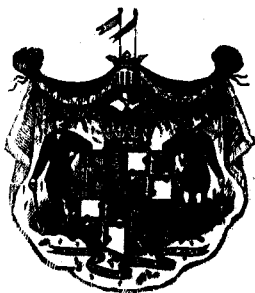


MESSAGE
OF
EMERSON C. HARRINGTON
GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND
TO THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND
AT ITS
REGULAR SESSION, JANUARY, 1900



PRESS OF
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ANNAPOLIS, MD.



MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Delegates of Maryland:

I am well aware that the message of an outgoing Governor may not be expected to dwell at much length upon the important matters which may come before you, and, therefore, in compliance with Constitutional requirements, and with usual precedent in communicating with your Body, I shall not trespass upon your time farther than may be necessary to call to your attention some things which it seems to me may be of some service.

When you last met, the world war was still raging and our State was fulfilling every patriotic obligation and doing its very utmost in upholding and supporting our National Government along all lines towards the successful prosecution of the war. The Special Session of the General Assembly of 1917, and the Regular Session of 1918, passed all measures advocated by the State Administration which we thought would help Maryland perform its duty to the Government in full keeping with our traditions and history, in the great crisis which arose from the world war.

We recall with pride that the Legislature of 1917 placed with the State Council of Defense, appointed by the Governor, the sum of \$1,000,000.00, or as much thereof as might be necessary, to be spent for war work and war emergencies within our State. And the Legislature of 1918 voted an additional \$1,000,000, to the same Body, if in its discretion the money should be needed. The expenditure of this money, as called for in said Acts, was entrusted to an Executive Committee of five members appointed by the State Council of Defense, to which was added the State Comptroller and Treasurer or a Committee of seven. All expenditures were subject to the approval of the Governor. The full report of the Council of Defense will be placed before your Honorable Bodies. It will show a total expenditure for all purposes of some \$840,000.00, leaving to revert to the State Treasury, the

sum of about \$160,000.00 out of the first Million Dollar Loan, the second \$1,000,000.00 bond issue authorized not having **been utilized.**

The war came to a successful end sooner than any of us had hardly dared to hope for, but American arms and American resources were so over-powering, the hope of further successful resistance soon vanished from the enemy. From the time the American Marines stepped into the breach at Chateau Thierry and drove back the enemy, the advance of the American soldiers was only stopped by the signing of the Armistice on November 11th, 1918. And in helping to win this victory, the troops from Maryland played a glorious part and added new lustre to the fair fame of our State. Some 1,800 of our brave men made the supreme sacrifice. The Council of Defense did all within their power to aid the cause for which they fought, and on the return of our soldiers from across the seas, **gave our officers and soldiers**, regardless of their branch of service, such a welcome as was worthy of the State.

The expenditures of the Council of Defense in detail will be found in the Council's report.

It will be seen that some \$292,852.00 expended were for permanent assets to the State. The items are given below:

State Prison Farm	\$ 57,000.00
Sewerage at House of Correction	5,171.00
Water Supply at Maryland State College.....	23,000.00
State Armories	45,000.00
Cumberland Armory Site	15,000.00
Finishing and furnishing Spring Grove Buildings.	25,000.00
Equipping Maryland's 2nd Reg't.....	114,181.00
Fish Hatcheries	8,500.00

Or a total of.....\$292,852.00

and about \$200,000.00 for clearing Camp Meade which will prove to be an asset to our State. The balance of expenditures are fully shown in their report.

The work of the Council is practically at an end. The Council was appointed for the duration of the war and for such reasonable time thereafter as the Governor may determine. I presume technically the war is not yet over, but the necessity for the continuation of the legal existence of the Council of

Defense seems to me important. They have arranged for getting the data of all war activities in Maryland and the history of every officer or soldier, to be filed with the State, or to be placed with the Maryland Historical Society for preservation, so that the future historian may have full and complete material for Maryland's part in the world war. We have been sadly wanting in this respect as to our history in the past. This work is about one-half completed. I, therefore, have requested all expense of every kind, other than for this compilation, to be stopped, and will continue the legal existence of the Council of Defense until the completion of the above work, or until such time as my successor in office may consider it proper by proclamation, or otherwise, to dissolve this organization.

The part that Maryland took during the war, along all lines of war work and war activities, will forever live in history. We were the first to have a Council of Defense. Our State Compulsory Work Law was highly praised and formed the basis of action for other States. The work of the Council, both the men and the women's section, received the highest encomium from the National Council of Defense and from the Departments at Washington. The work entrusted to the Council was splendidly done, and the great service rendered by the Executive Committee, consisting of General Carl R. Gray, first chairman, and afterwards General Francis E. Waters, Chairman, and Mr. Frank A. Furst, Judge Hammond Urner, Hon. S. A. Williams, Hon. John M. Dennis, Hon. Hugh A. McMullen, and later Hon. William P. Jackson, the members of the Executive Committee, and by Mrs. Edward Shoemaker, Chairman of the Women's Section, and her Committee, as well as by all the members and committees, including the Colored Section under Dr. Ernest Lyon, Chairman, should be especially recognized. The work done in the Counties also was of the very highest order. No State ever had more loyal and patriotic service than Maryland. And as Chief Executive of our fair Commonwealth during the war, and whose dearest hope is to have history place Maryland among the foremost of all the States in her service, I shall ever hold in fondest memory the names of all those noble men and women throughout Maryland who responded to every call of duty and worked so incessantly and intelligently in honor

of our State and Country, in behalf of our soldier boys and of the ideals for which we fought.

We are proud also of the work done by the Draft Boards of the State, by the Doctors, the Attorneys, and all others who rendered service. Maryland's fame comes from every quarter and from all professions. We were called upon to recommend to the President the different Draft Boards and other War Boards. In doing so, we had but one object in view, and that was the highest service. The draft was completed in Maryland without a suspicion of scandal, and without any resort to the strong arm of the law. The administration of this law in Maryland was with Adjutant General Henry M. Warfield and his Department, and no State ever received any better service, and no Governor more loyal and intelligent aid and support than I from Adjutant General Warfield during these critical years.

And now that the war is over, the question may arise what is Maryland going to do for our boys and what kind of a memorial shall be built in memory of our dead, and in honor of those who have returned from service. I would recommend that the memorial should be expressive of our great gratitude and pride rather than to be of a utilitarian or commercial character. I am confident this Legislature will not adjourn without some suitable action.

THE STATE'S FINANCES.

The war has brought many problems and the solution of many of them, so far as the Legislature is concerned, will depend upon the State's finances.

At the time of the meeting of the Legislature of 1916, my first Legislature, the State had to face a deficit, which at the end of the fiscal year, amounted practically to two million dollars. This deficit was provided for by a two million dollar bond issue. I had been elected upon a platform of economy and efficiency, and of fiscal reform, the Budget system being specifically promised. The Budget system required a Constitutional Amendment, and, therefore, the Budget system could only be inaugurated at the Legislature of 1918, after the adoption of the Budget Amendment by the people. But the Legislature of 1916 put itself on record in favor of economy by reducing its own expenses from \$210,000.00 to \$128,-

000.00, and by wiping out continuing appropriations and passing two appropriation bills, one for each fiscal year, and also by passing other economic measures. Perhaps figures will speak more plainly. From a depleted Treasury, and a deficiency of two million dollars, we find at the end of the two fiscal years for which the Legislature of 1916 provided, as the Comptroller's report shows, with all outstanding debts paid, that were payable from the General Treasury, we had a surplus of some \$397,517.79, and this was done without any increase of the State Tax, except what was specifically caused by the Legislature of 1914.

The Budget system became effective at the Legislature of 1918, and the appropriations for the two fiscal years, 1918-19 and 1919-20, were under the Budget plan.

The Comptroller's report (Statement B and Comptroller's remarks) show that at the end of the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1919, after all outstanding obligations of every kind, both special and general payable during the fiscal year are paid, that there will be in the Treasury to the credit of the State the sum of \$775,692.33, and according to the estimate of the Comptroller, as will be shown in his report (Statement D) there will be an estimated surplus of \$1,543,416.00 at the end of the fiscal year 1920, but from this there would have to be deducted some \$515,375.77, which has been carried down and is payable out of the surplus carried forward in the Comptroller's report, thus leaving a surplus of \$1,028,040.33, notwithstanding the public schools received for both 1919 and 1920 \$250,000.00 more than ever before as a regular appropriation, and \$150,000.00 as a special appropriation out of the General Treasury, and \$400,000.00 or \$100,000.00 additional was appropriated for State-aided roads, and still another \$100,000.00 additional out of the General Treasury for helping to meet the upkeep or maintenance of the State roads. And this was done without any increase in the State tax, the rate, as a matter of fact, being just a little lower. This speaks well for the Budget system.

The study of the Budget estimates will show that the difference in the surplus estimated for 1919 is due largely to the reversion of some \$125,000.00 into the State Treasury from the State departments. I have, perhaps, been more than liberal in permitting the budget items to be adjusted. But in the

first place, I believe the flexibility of the Maryland Budget system is one of its strongest points. Secondly, the changes became imperative owing to war conditions, and, thirdly, it being the first Budget, the Departments and Institutions had not fully learned to estimate carefully in detail as to items in making their Budget requests. Only in two or three instances have any of the Institutions gone beyond the Budget appropriation. I am glad to report, none of the State departments have done so. In the few instances, the cause has been twofold. First, the war conditions. Second, the inadequacy of the appropriation, due largely to oversight on part of applicant or misinformation.

I am glad to report that all of the Departments, Institutions, with rare exceptions, have faithfully endeavored to comply with all Budget requirements. But in order to make the Budget system fully adequate to do the work intended, it is of the highest importance that all revenue from whatever source received by any State Department, or State Institution, shall be turned into the State's Treasury, and that the produce raised should be paid for by the Institution at market prices and the money turned into the State Treasury, and the money received for labor should likewise be turned into the State Treasury, so that the appropriation in the Budget for any State Department or State Institution shall be the full allowance and be spent according to the Budget items. This was done in regard to a number of the Departments and Institutions, such as the Insurance Commissioner's office, the State Accident Commission and others, and in those Departments and Institutions in which it was not done, the revenue coming to the different Departments or Institutions were taken into the Budget calculation, and the salaries and expenses allowed were specifically stated as payable a part from the State Treasury direct, and the other part as directed by the Budget Bill from the revenues received by the Institution from other sources. Or in other words, both in the Budget and in the Budget Bill, it was our intention, regardless of the source of the revenue, as all of the money from whatever source is the State's in trust to control the whole expenditures according to the items of the Budget, subject, of course, to any amendment that might afterwards be allowed by the Governor within the provisions of the Budget Bill. And I thought we

had done so, but in the case of the Maryland Penitentiary and the Maryland House of Correction, while the Budget itself was intended to do so, the Budget Bill unfortunately failed to do so. There can be no effective Budget except by making all revenues payable to the State Treasury, or there must be a law passed making all revenues received by any State Department or Institution amenable to the Budget.

Maryland's Budget system is the model for most of the State Budgets, and its main principles are proposed for the National Budget. It should be strengthened, not weakened. The abolishing of continuing appropriations and the adoption of the Executive Budget system has been vital in Maryland's fiscal system.

I would suggest a proper fund be given the Governor for the employment of someone permanently to make such investigations as the Governor may desire as to any Department or Institution, or as to the necessity for any amendment to the original Budget.

The State Auditor, in the examination of each Department or Institution, ought to have a copy of the Budget before him and report all departures from the Budget allowances.

AUDITOR'S DEPARTMENT.

I wish to commend the Auditor's Department. Under it, there is being completed, if not already complete, a uniform accounting system. In special Auditor's fees, and, the moneys recovered, apart from other benefits, it has more than paid for its cost to the State. In my opinion an independent Auditor's Department, one that really audits, is highly important. The amount of work done by the Auditor's Department is hardly known to the State. Every State Department, every State Institution, every State-aided Institution, every office reporting to the Comptroller is audited by the State Auditor, and in addition thereto he makes any special examinations that may be required by the Comptroller.

THE PAROLE SYSTEM.

My experience has taught me to believe more strongly than ever in the Parole System. In the case of offenders the longer they are on parole the better it would seem to be, for if they go straight doing parole, the easier it will be to continue. Dur-

ing my administration, I have paroled some 410 cases, and I am glad to say only about five per cent have gone wrong or broken their parole, and without exception the offenders have been re-arrested and returned.

The Board of Parole as now composed, in my opinion, is inclined to leniency, and this meets with my approval. It gives the Governor an opportunity to examine the greater number of papers, and to consider the doubtful cases. I have only paroled one not recommended by the Board, while there have been quite a few which I did not see my way clear to parole after examination and hearing. I want to commend the Board and its officers for their care and efficiency in the preparation of the cases that have been presented to the Governor. The passage of the law requiring every case to be investigated, whether asked for or not, after two years imprisonment, guarantees to every one an investigation and a hearing if desired. I would extend it farther and have the Board investigate every case where one-third of the time has been served, regardless of the two-year limit.

It is needless to say, that each case ought to be decided strictly on its merits. The more I have seen of prison life, and the more I have investigated applications for parole, the more I am convinced that the main object and purposes of imprisonment ought to be with a sympathetic aim and purpose for the reformation of the offender, and on his restoration to society. And that the circumstances surrounding the prison ought to be such as would tend to soften and not harden. There should be around every institution the proper viewpoint. It used to be that offenders, after release, found it difficult, on account of their record, to obtain suitable work. There has been a marked change in this respect. They are now placed before parole, and there is public sentiment for another chance.

THE EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL.

War conditions that practically stopped all consideration of building, prevented the proper consideration of the Eastern Shore State Hospital necessities at the legislature of 1918. The necessity for an Administration Building is imperative, and is only a part of the plan, which has been delayed for the proper service of this hospital.

All of the State hospitals for the insane are doing excellent work, and are efficiently and economically run, and especially have the farming interest connected with the institutions been especially cared for.

While the Maryland Tuberculosis Hospital at Sabillasville, under its present management, is achieving such splendid results for the white people, afflicted with tuberculosis, so far, no satisfactory arrangements have been made for those afflicted with tuberculosis among the colored race. This is highly important, not only for their own protection, but for the protection of the white race, on account of their intimate domestic relation. Some seventy-five thousand dollars is now available; but a larger appropriation will be needed to render proper service.

MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR BOYS

AND

MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

I wish to commend to your attention the Maryland School for Boys, and also the Maryland Training School for Girls.

The Maryland Training School for Boys, and the St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, are the two schools to which boys may be sent or committed for offences by the Magistrates, or by the Courts. St. Mary's Industrial School for boys is a most excellently conducted school, and no better place of confinement could be selected for boys who have to be restrained, and it should be liberally aided. But there ought to be some State School to which young offenders could be sent. And, therefore, the Maryland School for Boys ought to be placed upon a solid financial basis. This property is and now belongs entirely to the State. The same can be said of the Maryland Training School for Girls. Their property also has been conveyed to the State, and the Institution is strictly a State Institution. It is doing fine work. The best consensus of thought is that the Institution should be removed to the Country, where, for obvious reasons, reform work for this class of girls could be far more effective.

The time has come when the State ought to endeavor to get at the causes of existing misfortunes and evils; and remove, if possible, the causes. The causes of insanity, the cause of

tuberculosis, and the causes of poverty should receive careful consideration. Only by removing these causes will these evils be finally lessened, and the cost to the State reduced.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

. Especially do I recommend, that the State make appropriations sufficient to obtain the government appropriations, for the treatment of venereal diseases. Doubtless the war has increased the prevalence of this evil, which now practically amounts to an epidemic. The time has arrived when we should set aside all prudery and speak out in the plainest terms. If Doctors would make known the full effect of this evil, and the great percentage of many kinds of diseases directly attributable to this evil, the deformed, the cripple, the epileptic, the insane, the tubercular, even from generation to generation, the information would be startling. There is imperative demand, not only for the appropriation for treatment, but for proper education in reference thereto.

EDUCATION.

That the school teachers of the State should receive larger salaries seems to be conceded by every one. Never more than now, do we have need for the very best, and most intelligent and progressive teachers, for upon them largely depend the proper education and development of the future citizens of our Country.

They must be prepared to teach true Americanism and true citizenship, and their reward should be in some proportion, at least, to the great service rendered. I believe also, that arrangements ought to be made for proper athletics in our Public Schools, and especially would I recommend, that in the Elementary Public Schools, a physical examination ought to be made of every student upon entrance, by a competent doctor, in order to remedy, when possible, whatever defects can be remedied; or to advise properly as to the health and mental condition of each child.

COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

The expectation of the Automobile Commissioner as to the increase of revenues from his department seems to be fully realized, as there is every indication that the revenue this year will not be less than two million dollars.

While there is some discussion as to having the licenses issued by the County Clerks, I would respectfully recommend that the department be kept separate. There should be uniformity of enforcement and a uniformity of administration. The department is well and economically run and should require individual administration.

STATE ROADS.

During the war, the State has been put to it to maintain its Public Highways and to adjust itself after the war. The great wear upon our roads by the heavy war trucks has caused very heavy expense for maintenance. Many of our roads were not built to stand the wear of the very heavy trucks, and either the very heavy trucks must be stopped, or our roads will have to be rebuilt or go to destruction.

We must continue our good road system. It is the pride of our State. We have today in Maryland about 1,200 miles of State Roads, about 463 miles of State-aided roads, and about 500 miles of improved or semi-improved County roads.

There is now under construction about 115 miles of State roads and about 56 miles of State-aided roads, so that approximately there will be about 1,700 miles of roads, which, under the law, will have to be upkept and maintained by the State.

The appropriation available from the Federal Government for State road purposes, under certain conditions, for next year is about \$850,000, and in my opinion, if the State and Counties when State-aided with proper ratios match the \$850,000.00, thus making some \$1,700,000.00 per year, and this sum probably increasing from Federal Government appropriation, the sum would constitute a permanent workable basis for the continuance of road building in Maryland, and it would be about as much as can be well constructed in one year, and this could be done without the necessity for a road bond issue at every Legislature.

There are, however, certain gaps in parts of our State road system, and especially certain bridges which will shortly have to be constructed. Otherwise the State road system will be localized and become no longer a workable State system.

FERRY FROM CLAIBORNE TO ANNAPOLIS.

The inauguration of the State Ferry, known as the Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry, Inc., has shown the visions of those who started this move. The amount of travel was more than expected.

The cost of coal and the high cost of everything, together with the cost of wages, has made the running of the Ferry very high. Also, the condition of the road between Claiborne and Easton in the winter months practically prevents travel.

The present ferry boat is being put into first class condition and arrangements have been made for an extra boat for summer traffic and for emergency purposes.

This line will connect up the Eastern and Western Shores by the quickest route, and the Eastern Shore with Baltimore City and with Washington and will prove highly advantageous. I recommend the building or the completion of the road from Claiborne to Easton as a State proposition, and one of the highest importance, as a part of our State Road System.

MARYLAND STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

I shall always look back to the passing of the bill for reorganizing the Maryland Agricultural College as being one of the very best things ever done for the benefit of the agricultural interests of Maryland.

It has absolutely taken the college and the agricultural department out of politics. And now under the management of Doctor A. F. Woods, this college and the agricultural department have the absolute confidence of the farmers of the State. Real live agents are in each county. Our farmers are becoming more and more progressive and interested and Maryland is rapidly advancing along all agricultural lines.

STATE BOARD OF LABOR AND STATISTICS.

I know of no radical legislation desired. Maryland is up to date in her laws and the laws well administered.

There should be no let up on the enforcement of the compulsory school attendance. The present educational law represents the highest and most progressive thought, and I have endeavored as far as possible in my appointments to have the object and aims of the law lived up to.

STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT COMMISSION.

The State Industrial Accident Commission is now no longer a liability to the State, but is fully self supporting. This department has been ably run and its success is beyond dispute.

Its good work should not be jeopardized. At the last session of the General Assembly a bill was offered to do away with all waiting time in case of accidents. We now have two weeks. The Commission was unanimous in opposition. While the time should be reduced, to do away with all time is rather radical legislation, and should be carefully considered.

STATE TAX COMMISSION.

The State Tax Commission, notwithstanding adverse criticism, has succeeded in giving the State a more uniform tax system than the State has ever before had, and a great increase in the value of all property ought to remove all objection to the present assessment. To obtain a reasonable uniformity of assessment for State purposes was a gigantic task though a proper and just one. The Commission has done fine work.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

The Public Service Commission should not be disturbed. In my opinion, the public will be fully protected by them, and the Public Service Corporations will be given a square deal. It should stand between unreasonable charges and unsatisfactory service on the one side and undue clamor on the other.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

The work of the Conservation Commission has been excellent, although under adverse circumstances. The Commission has worked solely for the benefit of the industry, and has tried hard to build up the industry by increasing the supply of oysters, fish and crabs. And at the same time fully preserving and guarding the natural rights of the oystermen.

The prospects along all lines are bright. The Commission is attempting to do all things from a highly intelligent scientific standpoint, and have availed themselves of all the obtainable help from the National Government. Likewise the

State Game Warden is planning wisely to produce more game. I predict, if the work of the Conservation Commission is wisely continued, a few years will fully demonstrate and prove that their work has not been in vain, but will result in greater production along all lines.

LARGER SALARIES.

That the salaried man has been mostly affected by the high cost of living cannot be denied, and that there should be a reasonable increase in salaries must be admitted. But I cannot let pass a word of warning that strict economy must yet be practiced, otherwise the tax rate will have to be materially raised. I particularly want to refute the assertion made in the newspapers and held by some persons in high authority that the taxable basis has been so increased that the increased annual revenue therefrom will reach over \$1,000,000. This statement is absolutely without foundation. The State is in an excellent financial condition, but the taxable basis for 1920, will be practically but little, if any, in excess of that of 1919, and it is the basis of 1919 upon which the revenue derived from direct taxation for the fiscal year of 1919-20 has been calculated. If you will note the Comptroller's report, the basis as given there for 1919 is practically the same as published in the papers.

I feel that I may justly be permitted in this final message to name some of the things that have been done in the last four years.

1. The cost of Legislative Expenses has been decreased by \$78,000.
2. Some offices have been consolidated and others abolished and some \$50,000 saved.
3. State Printing reduced by one-half.
4. All the labor bureaus consolidated.
5. State Tobacco Inspector, Live Stock Sanitary Board and State Veterinarian placed under the State Board of Agriculture.
6. The State Law Department created, reducing expenses \$8,000.
7. Uniform accounting system.
8. Uniform fiscal year arranged for.
9. The Conservation Commission formed.

10. Continuing appropriations abolished.
11. The executive Budget adopted.
12. Seventy-five thousand dollars appropriated for Colored Tuberculosis Patients.
13. Soldiers and Sailors right to vote while in military service.
14. State Armory Commission formed.
15. State Parole System created.
16. Maryland State College re-organized.
17. The Educational Survey Bill passed.
18. Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars more raised for Public School purposes than ever before.
19. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated to help teachers' salaries.
20. Home Rule Bill passed.
21. Baltimore City's limits extended.
22. State-Wide Dog Law passed.
23. State-Wide Game Law passed.
24. Up-to-date Child Labor Law passed.
25. Extending the 10-hour law for women.
26. Doing away with Contract Labor.
27. Making Maryland School for Boys a State Institution.
28. Making Maryland School for Girls a State Institution.
29. General revision of the Automobile Law.
30. Provide for Vocational Training.
31. Three Million Dollar Loan Issue for State Roads, &c.
32. One hundred thousand dollars additional per annum for State-Aided Roads.
33. New laws increasing revenue over \$150,000.
34. Increasing Revenue for Automobile Licenses, thus helping to maintain and up-keep the roads.
35. State Compulsory Work Law.
36. State Council of Defense.
37. All War Measures.
38. Starting the Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry.

And all this has been done without increasing the State Tax Rate.

Maryland is quite foremost in legislation of an up-to-date progressive character that has been placed upon our Statute books. Such as those in reference to

The Public Service Commission,

The State Industrial Accident Commission,
 The State Tax Commission,
 The Bureau of Labor and Statistics,
 The State Insurance Department,
 The State Educational Laws, with our Compulsory school attendance,
 Our excellent State Institutions,
 Our State College of Agriculture and the Agricultural Department,
 Our State Health Department,
 The State Law Department,
 Our State Auditing Department,
 Our State Board of Aid and Charities,
 Our Conservation Laws,
 Our State Board of Prison Control,
 Our Pardon and Parole System,
 Our laws protecting Child Labor and Women Workers,
 Our per capita system of appropriations to State-aided Institutions,
 Our State Road system, with its splendid system of road maintenance,
 Our Budget system of finance.

We point to these and many others with pride. There is little need in Maryland of radical legislation. But in the full co-ordination and enforcement and supervision of all these departments and institutions of State Government there is splendid opportunity for the finest service.

STATE TAX ON DIRECT INHERITANCES.

I recommend again, as a proper source of increased revenue, a moderate tax on Direct Inheritances.

THE NEW NATIONAL GUARD.

The organization of a new National Guard for Maryland is a matter of great importance. The National Guards of the different States were a wonderful asset to our Country in its preparation for war, and invaluable as a fighting force.

At the beginning of the war we felt secure in Maryland as long as we had with us the National Guard. The Special Session of 1917 authorized the organization of a State Guard for emergency purposes during the war. The State Guard so organized has been available for any State emergency. Fortu-

nately in Maryland, our people have been so loyal and patriotic that if there were with us any element of discord, it was afraid to raise its head. We are under deep obligation to the State Guard, but for many obvious reasons it is highly desirable to have again a National Guard, and I hope every aid may be rendered towards its reorganization.

I recommend also that there should be established a State College for the higher education of the colored youth, and their training along agricultural lines. The colored people in Maryland were thoroughly loyal during the war. I am glad to testify to the satisfactory relations between the races in Maryland. Towards their material prosperity, education and advancement we should hold out the ray of hope. The colored school or college at Bowie could readily be utilized for this purpose without great cost to the State.

I would like to commend the different Departments of the State Government for their efficiency and loyal support and co-operation during my Administration. Due to this co-operation in large part is the present excellent condition of the State's finances. I believe that our State Government has been not only honestly but economically administered. With fewer exceptions than ever before in the State's history the State officers and employees have been on the job.

The establishment of a lime plant in Southern Maryland has fully justified the expenditure. The farmers have become accustomed to using lime, and now that motor power has so developed with our good roads there is now no longer any difficulty in procuring lime in Southern Maryland. The State Lime Plant has, therefore, been closed, and I recommend that this Lime Plant be sold and its proceeds turned into the State Treasury.

There are many problems that may arise from war conditions. But on the whole our people are more prosperous than ever before in their history, and the conditions in Maryland are perhaps as fortunate as in any State of the Country. The future wonderful growth of Baltimore City seems well assured and with it will come increased prosperity to the State. The industrial and commercial advantages of our State are now being more fully recognized and appreciated. We are all proud of our State, and desire to advance her every interest.

It will be unnecessary for me to recall the promises made in

the platform upon which my successor was nominated and elected, as these matters can be better placed before you by the Governor-elect at the proper time for your consideration.

I feel that I may be permitted in closing this, my last message, to express the hope that your Session may not only be pleasant to each of you but highly profitable and advantageous to the whole State.

EMERSON C. HARRINGTON,
Governor of Maryland.