RECONVERSION GROUP WILL AID EMPLOYMENT

Annapolis, Aug. 8 — Declaring his intention to utilize every possible avenue of effort towards preparing the State for any unemployment problem that may follow V-J Day, Governor Herbert R. O'Conor today made known his intention of establishing a Committee on Reconversion Problems to develop a program that will assure the fullest possible employment in the post-war era.

The Committee would function under the Maryland Commission on Post-War Reconstruction and Development, the Governor revealed, and would supplement the work of the Commission's present Employment Committee, while devoting its efforts towards the formulation of a program for utilizing the full possibilities of private industry in the provision of employment opportunities in the reconversion period.

Pointing out that the State's post-war program of public construction has about reached its goal, with nearly $20,000,000 of new hospitals and other capital improvements either fully planned or well under way in this respect, and a State highway and bridge construction and improvement schedule that may well exceed $60,000,000, with plans and specifications completed or in various stages of advancement, Governor O'Conor predicted that projected city, county and municipal construction projects will swell the grand total of planned construction close to the $200,000,000 mark.

"This vast pool of projects, many of which can be initiated immediately the war ends and priorities granted, if the economic situation at that time requires, will provide a substantial stop-gap in any employment crisis that might conceivably develop," Governor O'Conor made plain. "Recognizing, however, that under the American system of free enterprise we must always look to private industry to shoulder the bulk of the employment responsibility, the State Administration is most anxious to see, and is prepared to lend every assistance to the development of, a carefully considered program under which Maryland's great industrial capacity can be channeled into peacetime production progressively and without undue disturbance to the State's economy or the well-being of its citizens.

"With the latest induction figures showing more than 200,000 Maryland men and women inducted into the various Armed Services, and a steady stream of these patriotic persons already returning to civilian life, there will be added to this great volume of potential workers those many other thousands who will be displaced after V-J Day, when the war production of the State will be curtailed to but a small percentage of its present huge volume. Both of these groups have contributed mightly to the successful conduct of the war, both must be guaranteed employment —the kind of employment that will assure maintenance of American standards of living.

"It is with the expectation and confidence that sound plans, thoughtfully conceived and deveoped through the one hundred percent cooperation of capital and labor, can bring about a satisfactory employment situation after the war that I am going forward with the establishment of this Reconversion Committee. The personnel of the group is not ready for announcement at this time, because several who have been asked to serve have not yet signified their willingness. However, I expect to have the list compelte within the next few days, so that the Committee may have time to organize and get down to work within the next several weeks."

—V—

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WOMENS' AUXILIARY OF THE KENT AND QUEEN ANNES HOSPITAL—At the last meeting of the Womens' Auxiliary it was decided that henceforth the Auxiliary would meet only quarterly, in January, April, July and October. This plan was adopted with the hope that by meeting only four times a year, a large attendance could be expected. You will be notified by card a few days in advance of these meetings, which will be held on the third Tuesday of this month, promptly at 2:30, in the American Legion Home on Maple Avenue. Important business will be discussed and voted upon and every effort will be made by the officers to make the meetings interesting and to keep the auxiliary members informed of the work of the hospital. The first of these quarterly meetings will be held next Tuesday, July 17, at 2:30, at the American Legion Home.

—V—

BUY MORE BONDS!

FERRY TRAFFIC UP DURING THE MONTH OF JULY

Annapolis, Aug. 8 — Automobile traffic on the Chesapeake Bay Ferry System showed an increase of 4584 for the month of July 1945, as compared to July 1944, (or in the case of the Romancoke-Claiborne Ferry to July 1943, as this branch did not operate last summer) Governor Herbert R. O'Conor made known today, following a report by Ferry Manager B. Frank Sherman.

On the Sandy Point-Matapeake Ferry, the Governor made known, automobile traffic increased from 30,125 in 1944 to 33,726, an increase of 12%. On the Romancoke-Claiborne branch, the number of automobiles almost doubled, the month's total reaching 2,046, an increase of 92% over the July 1943 figure of 1,063.

The number of passengers, excluding drivers, increased from 90,952 in 1944 to 97,156 on the Sandy Point-Matapeake Ferry, an increase of 6,204 or 7%, the Governor pointed out. Between Romancoke and Claiborne, he said, 5,394 passengerss, excluding drivers, were carried, an increased of 1,197 or 28.5%. Truck traffic, however, showed a slight decline of 275 or 5% between Sandy Point and Matapeake, while 86 less trucks were carried between Romancoke and Claiborne.

All told, persons using the two branches, including drivers, reached a grand total of 143,869, the Governor said.

—V—

THE WAY

By Mrs. Clyde Robe Meredith

Now, traveller, through this vale of tears,
Set forth to find the Blessed Isles;
Love waits to vanquish all your fears:
Your hand in that of Love's the miles
Of space will quickly traversed be,
While waves of joy rise on life's sea:

Now, traveller, gird your loins with hope;
Your sword of faith will lead you on;
Trust and courage will help you cope
With ogres on the way that fawn
With sun and dark and light and shade
To make you miss the upward grade:

Now, traveller, you and I can find
A way across the rugged miles
Of space. With testings it is lined,
But lit, above, with sunny smiles;
And, at the end, without alloy,
The fullest peace, the truest joy.

—V—

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