

out expense to the parties concerned in all controversies and disputes involving the proper administration of the public school system. He carries out the educational policies of the State Board of Education. He conducts conferences of school officials and teachers, issues teachers' certificates, passes upon proposals for the sale of school sites and buildings, and the plans for the construction of new buildings. He directs the taking of the bi-ennial school census, prepares courses of study and an annual report. He also issues bulletins from time to time on the conditions and needs of the schools.

Either in person, or through his assistants, he has general supervision over the education affairs of the counties, co-operates with county school officials in welding together school interests in a State system. He certifies to the Comptroller each year a list of schools entitled to receive State aid, and the amount due each county in part payment by the State of the salaries of superintendents, supervisors and attendance officers. He audits the accounts of the county boards of education and sees that their expenditures conform to the law. His approval is necessary in the appointment of county superintendents, supervisors, and attendance officers by the County Boards of Education. The State Superintendent is a member ex-officio of the Board of Trustees of the State Teachers' Retirement System, and also performs the duties formerly entrusted to the Maryland Public Library Commission, giving advice and counsel to all public and school libraries and organizing traveling libraries.

All communications pertaining to the supervision and administration of the State School System (Baltimore City not included) should be sent to him either as State Superintendent of Schools, or as secretary to the State Board of Education.

#### Work of the State Department of Education.

The twenty-three counties of the State in 1926-27 enrolled in school 157,000 pupils in nearly 2,200 schools in charge of over 4,700 teachers. Nearly 20,000 of these pupils were in the 171 high schools distributed in the twenty-three counties of the State. In the same year the counties expended on schools approximately \$7,517,000 for current expenses and \$1,023,000 for capital outlay. Of the former amount, nearly \$2,330,000, or 30.9 per cent, was received by the twenty-three counties from the State of Maryland and the federal vocational fund. Baltimore City received nearly \$2,000,000 from the State school funds.

White high school enrollment and attendance in the counties increased last year seven and eight per cent, respectively, necessitating sixty-two additions to the teaching staff. The larger amount of State aid provided annually merely takes care of this necessary and normal increase required by greater enrollment.

There were 9,306 graduates from county white elementary schools, and 2,887 from county white high schools in 1927. Of the white girl graduates from county high schools, 17.1 per cent entered the Towson, Frostburg, and Salisbury Normal Schools. These normal schools had an enrollment for 1926-27 of over 1,000 students. This enrollment includes 268 from Baltimore City, since the State Normal School at Towson has taken over the work of teacher training for the elementary schools of Baltimore City.

Over one-half of the high school graduates of 1926 continued their education beyond high school in colleges, universities, normal schools, hospitals, commercial schools, etc.

Towson, Frostburg, and Salisbury Normal Schools gave diplomas in 1927 to 516 young men and women, of whom 139 were from Baltimore City. Of the county normal school graduates, 65.5 per cent went out to teach in one and two-teacher schools in the fall of 1927. Nearly two-thirds of the county graduates returned to teach in their home